

**European Regional Preparatory meeting for the 7th UNEP Global Civil Society Forum
And Annual meeting of UNEP National Committees (NATCOMs) partner NGOs
Geneva, 31 October -2nd November 2005
International Environment House, 15 Chemin des Anémones, 1219 Chatelaine**

Draft Agenda

1. Opening of the meeting and welcoming remark by the Regional Director.
2. Tour de Table presentation of partner NGOs, adoption of the Agenda and election of co-chairs/facilitators.
3. Report on the outcome of the 6th Global Civil Society Forum and 23rd session of the UNEP Governing Council.
4. Briefing on the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Transfer and Capacity Building and its implementation in the ECE region, and preparations for the 9th Special Session of the Governing Council.
5. Discussion on the Ministerial Consultation themes for the 9th Special Session of the UNEP.GC/GMEF [(chemical Management/3rd PrepCom for the Development of a Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management/SAICM), Energy and environment, and tourism and environment)].
6. Briefings on international and regional processes (Environment for Europe/NGO update; Outcome of the World Summit (MDGs) implications and opportunities for NGOs; CSD 14 &15 as it relates to the thematic cluster of issues; Public Participation in the implementation of the Carpathian and Caspian Conventions (role of sub-regional cooperation); and the role of women and challenges for the implementation of the MDGs).
7. UNEP and Civil Society engagement (Follow up of civil society requests at the 6th GCSF and future perspectives and new possibilities of mutual engagement for CSOs/NGOs/UNEP national committees within the context of the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Transfer and Capacity Building; and Civil Society engagement [Lessons/Experiences from Regional NGO Partners]
8. Briefings/presentations on the work of Geneva-based UNEP Units.
9. Capacity building/experience sharing session (how to lobby in local, national, regional and international processes and the role of NGOs in influencing the preparations of Governments at the national and regional levels for the GMEF and CSD).
10. Civil society participation in and contribution to the 7th Global Civil Society Forum (elements for regional statement, election of two civil society representatives for the drafting group meeting to be held on 21 November 2005 in Dubai, and election of 4 civil society representatives for the 7th GCSF to be held on 5-6 February 2006 in Dubai);
11. Other business and concluding remarks by the Regional Director and closing of meeting.

Organization of Work

DAY ONE – Mon., 31st – October 2005:

- 09h15 - 09h30 Item 1 **Opening of the meeting**
- Welcoming remark by the Regional Director [*Frits Schlingemann (FS)*], and
 - Presentation of organization of work with background materials. *Documents/reports.*
- 09h30- 09h45 Item 2 **Tour de Table presentation of partner NGOs,**
- Adoption of the Agenda
 - Election of three co-chairs/facilitators.
- 09h45 - 10h45 Item 3 **Report on the outcome of the 6th Global Civil Society Forum and 23rd Session of the UNEP Governing Council.**
- UNEP/GC23 [*Mr. Gaetano Leone/UNEP/DRC*]; 10 min
 - NGO/CSO representative [*Mr. Jan-Gustav Strandenas*]; 10 min
 - UNEP National Committee Azerbaijan [*Mr. Rafiq Verdiyev*];
 - Youth representative [*Tomislav Tomasevic*].
- Question and answer session
- 10h45-11h00 **Coffee break** (*served in conference room*)
- 11h00 -12h30 Item 4 **Briefing on the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Transfer and Capacity Building and its implementation in the ECE region** [*FS*]
- Item 4 A. **Preparations for the 9th Special Session of the Governing Council** [*Mr. Gaetano Leone/UNEP/DRC*]
- 12h30 - 14h25 **Visits to UNEP/Geneva Units and lunch.**
- 14h30-16h00 Item 5 **Discussion on the Ministerial Consultation themes for the 9th Special Session of the UNEP.GC/GMEF**
- Chair introduces main points on Ministerial themes to set the stage for discussion, and co-chairs lead the participants through the discussion.*
- Chemical Management [*Matthew Gubb - UNEP/CHEMICALS*]
 - Energy and environment [*Daniel Puig -UNEP/DTIE*], and
 - Tourism and environment [*Daniel Puig - UNEP/DTIE*]
- Discussion and Q&A from the floor**
- 16h00-16h15 **Coffee break** (*served in conference room*)
- 16h15 -19h00 Item 5 **Ministerial Consultation themes (NGO perspectives)**
- Chemical Management [*Ms. Inger Schorling/ ChemSec and/ or Nathalie Bernasconi-Osterwalder/ CIEL*]
 - Energy and environment [*Gerald Knauf on behalf of Climate Action Network (CAN) International*]
 - Tourism and environment [*Ms. Christina Kamp/ Tourism Watch*]
 - Public Participation opportunities for safe chemical management [*Mr. Yves Lador/ Earthjustice*]
- Discussion and Q&A from the floor as well as establishment of working Groups.**
- 19h00 **Closure of day one**
- 19h30-21h30 **Working dinner** at Restaurant *La Terrasse* (1, av. Edmond-Vaucher, 1219 Chatelaine)

DAY TWO - Tue., 1st - November 2005:

- 09h15-09h25** *Brief round up on the discussions of previous day and introduction of themes for day two.*
- 09h25 - 10h45** **Items 6** **Briefings on International and Regional processes.**
- Outcome of the World Summit (MDGs) implications and opportunities for NGOs [*Gordon Shepberd/WWF International*];
 - The role of women and challenges for the implementation of the MDGs – adverse effect of chemicals on the health of children and women [*Ms. Sascha Gabizon*];
 - Public participation in the implementation of the Carpathian Convention (role of sub-regional cooperation); [*Frits Schlingemann and Andras Krolopp*],
 - Public participation in the implementation of the Caspian Convention (role of sub-regional cooperation); [*Frits Schlingemann and Danica V*]
 - Implementation of the Aarhus Convention, Guidelines on application of Aarhus principles, and Public Participation Fora (*Jeremy Wates, UNECE*);
 - Environment for Europe, NGO perspective and Education for Sustainable Development – opportunities and challenges for CSO (*Ms. Victoria Elias*);
- 10h45-11h00** **Coffee break** (*served in conference room*)
- 11h00 - 13h00** **Item 6** Continuation of **agenda items 6.**
- Current Challenges in UN-Civil Society Relations/UN Reform: Present and Future implications of the Cardo's Report on United Nations Relations with Civil Society [*Mr. Cyrill Ritchie , Chairman, ELCI*];
 - Preparations for CSD 14 and 15 [Climate, atmosphere, Energy and Industry] and key implementation challenges as it relates to the thematic cluster of issues, including Sustainable Production and Consumption and need for strong CSO voice (*by Jan-Gustav Strandenäs/ Ms. Jacqueline Coté - WBCSD*);
- 13h00 - 14h25** **Visits to UNEP/Geneva Units and lunch/Working Groups discussion on elements for Regional Statement.**
- 14h30-16h030** **Working Groups discussion on key policy issues.**
- 16h30** **Coffee break** (*served in conference room*)
- 16h30 - 17h00** **Item 7.A** **Civil Society engagement [Lessons/Experiences from Regional NGO Partners]**
- Experience of GEF NGOs focal points in CEE countries [*Andras Krolopp*];
 - Experience of the NCSD networks in Europe, (*Nobel Casserly UNEPCOM Ireland*);
 - Experience of ANPED Network and importance of issue based working groups (*Jan Radmarker*);
- 17h00 - 18h30** **Item 8** **Briefings on the work of Geneva based UNEP Units and activities**
- Environment and Security initiative; Biodiversity programme in Europe; Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Pan European context (national sustainable consumption networks); and Update on the GEO 4 preparations - GRID-Europe.
- 18h30 - 19h00** **Brief progress report from the working groups discussion on key policy issues.**
- 19h00** **Closure of day two.**

DAY THREE - Wednesday, 2nd November 2005

- 09h15-09h20** *Brief round up on the discussions of previous day and introduction of themes for day three.*
- 09h20 - 10h25 Item 5** Revisiting/brief discussion on the outcome of the Working Groups on Ministerial Consultation themes and reflection on the elements for the regional statement [Co-Chairs to update the meeting]
- 10h45-11h00** **Coffee break** (*served in conference room*)
- 11h00 - 12h00 Item 9** **Capacity building/experience sharing session** (how to lobby in local, national, regional and international processes and the role of NGOs in influencing the preparations of Governments at the national and regional levels for the GMEF and CSD) [*Felix Dodds/Jan-Gustav Strandenæs*];
- Questions and answers session – what needs to be done/in place?**
- Promoting UNEP at the national level; Capacity building for stakeholders at the national level; and Issue development at the national level.
- 12h00 - 13h00 Item 7.A** **UNEP and Civil Society engagement [Lessons/Experiences from Regional NGO Partners]**
- Profiling sustainable development at the national level - experience of Trade Unions [*Anabella Rosemberg*];
 - Building public support for environmental change through work with civil society networks – lessons learned from work with faith groups and community organizations [*Chris Church, Community Environment Associates*].
 - Briefing on the global Trade Union Assembly on Labour and the Environment/Workers' Initiatives for a Lasting Legacy (WILL2006 Conference) [*Anabella Rosemberg*]
- 13h00 - 14h25** **Visits to UNEP/Geneva Units and lunch/Working Group discussion on Regional Statement.**
- 14h30-15h30 Item 7** **UNEP and Civil Society engagement (follow-up paper on the requests of the 6th GCSF on the role of UNEP national committees)**
- Presentation of a paper on the role of UNEP national committees within the context of the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Transfer and Capacity Building (*by Jan-Gustav Strandenæs and Ms. Victoria Elias*);
- 15h30-16h30 Item 10** **CSO participation in and contribution to the 7th Global Civil Society Forum.**
- Discussion and adoption of regional statement;
 - Suggestion/Selection of two civil society representatives for the global drafting group meeting to be held on 21st November 2005 in Bahrain, and
 - Suggestion/Selection of 4 civil society representatives for the 7th GCSF (5-6 February 2006).
- 16h30-17h00 Item 11** Other business (brief orientation on the UNEP Major Groups Unit? How best can UNEP serve Civil Society?)
- 17h00 Item 11** Concluding remarks by the Regional Director and closing of meeting.
