



Draft Minutes

3rd Meeting of the Advisory Committee to the Marrakech Process

8 May 2009 - 2:00 to 6:30 PM

UNEP New York Office

Present

- Mr. Ulf Jaeckel (Co-chair Michael Muller of the Advisory Committee, Germany, for European Region)
 - Mr. John Matuszak (USA for North American Region)
 - Ms. Gyorgyi Gurban (European Commission for European Region)
 - Mr. Andrea Innamorati (Italy, Task Forces)
 - Ms. Louise Kantrow (ICC for Business and Industry Major Group)
 - Ms. Anabella Rosemberg (ITUC for Workers and Trade Union Major Group)
 - Mr. Masakazu Ichimura, (UNESCAP for next Asian host)
 - Mr. Cleo Migiro, (Cleaner Production Center/Tanzania for African Region)
 - Mr. Bjarne Pedersen (Consumers International for NGOs Major Group)
 - Ms. Kaarin Taipale (Finland, Task Forces)
 - Ms. Khalida Bouzar, Mr. Charles Arden-Clarke, Mr. Nis Christensen, Ms. Geneviève Verbrugge, (UNEP-Marrakech Process Secretariat)
 - Ms. Chantal Line Carpentier, Mr. David O'Connor, (UNDESA-Marrakech Process Secretariat)
- Observers: Ms. Jessica Morris (consultant for DESA), Ms. Noreen Kennedy (United States Council for International Business from Business and Industry Major Group).

Apologies

- Mr. Michael Muller (Germany, for European Region)
- Mr. Tri Thiryat (Indonesia for Asia Pacific Region)
- Ms. Claudia Mora (Vice Minister, Colombia for Latin American Region)
- Mr. Rauf Dabbas (Jordan for West Asia Region)

The meeting was chaired by Ulf Jaeckel, Germany.

Introductory remarks

Ms. Khalida Bouzar, (UNEP) welcomed everybody on behalf of the secretariat. She mentioned that the Marrakech Process (MP) had seen a lot of activities since the last Advisory Committee (AC) meeting in Paris October 2008. She highlighted a regional meeting on SCP in North America, an SCP roundtable in the Mediterranean and a meeting in India where almost all Task Forces participated to build cooperation with India and the South Asian countries. Furthermore, the 2nd Public Draft of the paper providing inputs on the 10YFP to the CSD was released on 30th April.

The upcoming CSD18-19 cycle will be challenging and important. The AC was encouraged to help disseminate the draft "Input to CSD on the 10YFP on SCP" and all the results of the

various mechanisms of the MP. To prepare real and concrete programmes on SCP based on the life cycle approach as well as new initiatives and partnerships is the challenge ahead. The publication “Frequently Asked Questions on the Marrakech Process” was also officially launched.

David O’Connor (UN-DESA) reiterated that, as CSD18-19 approaches, the CSD and Marrakech process now have to “row together”. Political buy-in from all groups and countries is very important. Three options for the future of the AC were presented:(1) the AC has no more meetings and the work of bringing the MP into the CSD process is dealt with by the CSD-Bureau, (2) less drastic version of (1), gradual transition from the MP to the Bureau over the coming year, and (3) the AC continues and acts as a steering committee but with a stronger and more consistently balanced regional representation and possible formal linkages with the CSD-Bureau.

Ulf Jaeckel (Germany) made some points about attendance at the AC meeting:

- Mr Muller regretted not being able to attend;
- Ms Claudia Mora has requested to step down as co-chair. The AC expressed their appreciation of Ms Mora’s contribution to the work of the AC;
- Mexico was ready to come as an observer and represent Latin America but could not come due to the situation with swine flu;
- Jordan was due to represent West Asia but the participant cancelled at the last minute; and
- AC members were reminded to nominate alternates as agreed at the last meeting to avoid such a gap in developing countries’ participation.

The draft 10Year Framework of Programmes (10YFP)

The secretariat briefed on the changes to the document compared to the previous version. It was noted that the AC had received, in advance of the meeting, a compilation of comments received in the previous commenting round. The aim of the template for the 10YFP was to enable all stakeholders and countries, irrespective of levels of development, to identify their priorities and specific needs for making the shift to SCP.

Some AC members expressed their surprise that the draft 10YFP was made publicly available before the AC meeting, given that they felt their comments from the last meeting were not fully taken into account. Others mentioned, however, that at the last AC teleconference 24 February 2009 it was agreed that the draft should be made available for all stakeholders at CSD17, after the further review of the draft by the AC that took place during April. This was especially important for the major groups.

There were several requests to simplify the template which most felt was still too complicated, and that in its upper half did not reflect the LCA structure well enough, and the structure still mixes “policies” and “tools”. Some members also expressed that one way of simplifying the template could be to leave out sectors altogether. Others suggested just keeping one as an example, or splitting up the template into two sections, one covering enabling policy framework and the other the sectors, and then putting both in an annex (while still simplifying). It was suggested that the name of the template be changed to “mapping tool

for the development of programmes in support of national and regional initiatives on SCP". The tool should be useful not only for sectors but also for mayors, watershed managers etc. Concrete examples of how to fill in the template were also requested, with suggestions to do so using the TF work. The template is meant to provide a common structure to collect programmes that will differ across regions.

It was also suggested to work further on the vision, adding more wording on the contribution of SCP to poverty alleviation (the "social gains") and the importance of "leapfrogging" to developing countries. The AC restated the importance of LCA for advancing more sustainable consumption and production patterns. The AC also requested that the paper focus more on the process and inputs to be delivered up until CSD 18, and noted that this should not be the only Marrakech Process input delivered to the RIMs and CSD18.

In response to these requests, the secretariat will issue a third public draft before the summer break which includes these comments from the AC as well as those to be received from the public consultation that will remain open until June 7th..

Roadmap towards CSD18-19

The AC discussed the road towards CSD18-19 and how to "marry" the MP to the CSD process. A more detailed roadmap than the four pages provided in the draft 10YFP was requested by some in the AC. This revised roadmap should include all the publications, products, deadlines and meetings from the Marrakech and CSD processes, from this date on and until CSD19. DESA will provide guidance on how to submit inputs into the various CSD outputs such as the trends report, the SG report, and other documents to be distributed at CSD 18.

The communications strategy of the MP, summarised in a short paper distributed in the meeting, was briefly discussed, highlighting its role in clearly setting out the need, vision and solutions for SCP to be delivered by the MP. Individual outputs from the Marrakech Task Forces and a compendium of all outputs of the Marrakech Process and other SCP initiatives were mentioned. A bottom-up approach to the assembly of these outputs was requested.

It was agreed that it is important to continue to secure a proper link between the regional SCP expert meetings organised under the MP and the CSD Regional Implementation Meetings (RIMs). Clarifications on the needs for these additional meetings were requested. The secretariat answered that it is already working to ensure this in terms of having the right people carrying the message from the regional meetings to the subsequent RIMs in their regions, giving input on specific issues in an appropriate CSD-oriented format as well as working closely with the RIMs organizers when organising prior regional meetings of the Marrakech Process. It was recommended that the Marrakech Process Secretariat also cooperate with regional Environment Ministers' forums to help convey this message to the RIMs.

It was stressed that while achieving a successful outcome from CSD-19 is of critical importance, the MP has a merit in itself. Some members expressed the need to see the MP continue in one way or another up to and beyond CSD-19. The AC will have an important

role in bringing this message to all stakeholders and directing production of various documents showing best practices, mechanisms and outputs of the MP promoting SCP. Therefore, most members of the AC also supported the option of continuing as an advisory body to the MP for at least another year, and probably until the next international expert meeting, which ideally should be a CSD expert-group-intersessional meeting, in autumn 2010, with a clearly defined role to feed input to CSD-19. There was a strong call for more balanced regional representation on the AC, noting that as we get into CSD developing countries will have to be better represented. Though nothing was decided, the AC also discussed how best to represent all the Major Groups in the AC, meetings, etc. These better representations would help ensure a smoother convergence of the CSD and the MP process facilitating inputs from developing countries and major groups.

To maximize chances of a successful CSD cycle, it was suggested that the MP meetings and documents should follow certain guidelines. Content of documents in the necessary multi-pronged (TFs and regions) approach should follow certain principles.

- Documents should refer not only to environmental benefits but include as much as possible economic and social benefits of shifting to SCP;
- Documents should not prejudge the outcome of CSD, and should be presented as input and information for the Bureau to support the CSD deliberations;
- Documents should focus on concrete means by which sustainable consumption and production can help developing countries achieve their own specific development objectives.

In the process of moving the MP towards CSD, the AC discussed the option of building closer ties with the incoming CSD Bureau. It was agreed that the Chair of the AC should send a letter to the Chair of the CSD Bureau, explaining briefly the MP and its outputs of relevance to the CSD. The letter will invite dialogue and cooperation between the CSD Bureau and the AC, and a draft letter will be circulated for comments from the AC. The AC also asked the secretariat to contact candidates suggested during the meeting.

The AC received a call for papers for the UN Natural Resources Forum journal special issue on SCP that will be published in the Spring of 2010.

It was suggested that the next meeting of the AC would take place in Geneva on the 3rd December 2009 back-to-back with the UNECE RIM, since this is the last of the RIMs and will also round off the regional expert meetings organised under the Marrakech Process.