

NINETEENTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: 2-13 MAY 2011

The 19th session of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD 19) opens today and continues through 13 May 2011, at UN Headquarters in New York. Delegates will focus on the thematic cluster of transport, chemicals, waste management, mining, and the 10-year framework of programmes (10YFP) on sustainable consumption and production (SCP). The CSD meets annually in two-year “Implementation Cycles,” with each cycle focusing on one thematic cluster alongside cross-sectoral issues. This approach was outlined in a multi-year programme of work (2004-2017) adopted at CSD 11 in 2003. Each cycle is comprised of a Review Year and a Policy Year. CSD 18 conducted a review of the barriers and constraints in implementation, as well as lessons learned and best practices, in relation to the thematic cluster. CSD 19 will thus comprise negotiations on policy recommendations based on CSD 18’s review of the issues.

Delegates will also convene in a multistakeholder dialogue and high-level segment, including a ministerial roundtable. A Partnerships Fair, Learning Center and side events will take place in parallel with CSD 19.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE CSD

The Commission on Sustainable Development emerged from Agenda 21, the programme of action for sustainable development adopted in June 1992 by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), also known as the “Rio Earth Summit.” Agenda 21 called for the creation of the CSD to ensure effective follow-up of UNCED, enhance international cooperation, and examine progress in the implementation of Agenda 21 at the local, national, regional and international levels. In 1992, the 47th session of the UN General Assembly adopted resolution 47/191, which established the CSD’s terms of reference and composition, organization of work, relationship with other UN bodies, Secretariat arrangements, and guidelines for the participation of Major Groups. The CSD is a functional commission of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), and its decisions are forwarded to ECOSOC. The CSD has 53 member states, although all UN member states are invited to participate in its sessions. The Division for Sustainable Development (DSD), within the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), serves as the CSD’s Secretariat.

The CSD held its first substantive session in June 1993 and has convened annually since then at UN Headquarters in New York. During its first five years, the CSD systematically

reviewed the implementation of all chapters of Agenda 21. In June 1997, five years after UNCED, the 19th Special Session of the UN General Assembly (UNGASS-19), also known as “Rio+5,” was held to review the implementation of Agenda 21. Negotiations produced a Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21. Among the decisions adopted at UNGASS-19 was a five-year CSD work programme organized around sectoral, cross-sectoral and economic thematic issues. The economic, sectoral and cross-sectoral themes considered, as determined at UNGASS, were as follows: industry, strategic approaches to freshwater management, and technology transfer, capacity building, education, science and awareness raising (CSD-6); tourism, oceans and seas, and consumption and production patterns (CSD-7); sustainable agriculture and land management, integrated planning and management of land resources, and financial resources, trade and investment and economic growth (CSD-8); and energy and transport, atmosphere and energy, and information for decision-making and participation and international cooperation for an enabling environment (CSD-9).

The World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) met from 26 August-4 September 2002, in Johannesburg, South Africa, and adopted two main documents: the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI) and the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development. The JPOI is designed as a framework for action to implement the commitments originally agreed at UNCED and includes chapters on: poverty eradication; consumption and production; the natural resource base; health; SIDS; Africa; other regional initiatives; means of implementation; and the institutional framework. The Johannesburg Declaration outlines the path taken from UNCED to the WSSD, highlights present challenges, expresses a commitment to sustainable development, underscores the importance of multilateralism and emphasizes the need for implementation.

The WSSD called for the CSD to meet in seven two-year “implementation cycles,” and a multi-year programme of work for the 2004-2017 period was adopted at CSD 11 in 2003. The CSD 12 and 13 cycle adopted recommendations to address water, sanitation and human settlements. CSD 14 and 15 considered energy, industrial development, air pollution/ atmosphere and climate change, but did not reach agreement on recommendations for action. The CSD 16 and 17 cycle adopted recommendations related to drought, desertification, agriculture, land, rural development and Africa.

CSD 18 convened in May 2010. Delegates embarked on a two-year cycle focused on the thematic cluster of transport, chemicals, waste management, mining, and sustainable consumption and production (SCP) patterns. At the conclusion of CSD 18, delegates expressed satisfaction with discussions on all the thematic clusters, especially for mining, transport and SCP, which do not fall under any other international bodies for policy coordination. A suggestion to evaluate ways to improve implementation of CSD decisions was also received with interest, as many participants privately questioned the utility of a long CSD “review” year.

INTERSESSIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

UNCSD PREPCOM I: The first session of the PrepCom for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD or Rio+20) was held from 17-19 May 2010, at UN Headquarters in New York. The PrepCom took up both substantive and procedural matters. On the substantive side, delegates assessed progress to date and the remaining gaps in implementing outcomes of major summits on sustainable development. They also discussed new and emerging challenges, a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, and the institutional framework for sustainable development. On the procedural side, participants met in contact groups to organize their work in the lead-up to 2012, and to consider the UNCSD’s rules of procedure.

FIRST INTERSESSIONAL MEETING FOR THE UNCSD: The first Intersessional Meeting for the UNCSD convened from 10-11 January 2011, at UN Headquarters in New York. During the meeting, delegates listened to a summary of the findings of the Synthesis Report on securing renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assessing the progress to date and the remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges. They also heard panels on green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, and the institutional framework for sustainable development. Delegates then engaged in interactive discussions with the panelists.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL PREPARATORY MEETING: The Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting (IPM) for CSD 19, which took place at UN Headquarters in New York from 28 February to 4 March 2011, provided a forum to discuss policy options and possible actions to enable the implementation of measures and policies concerning the thematic issues under consideration during the CSD 18/CSD 19 (2010-2011) two-year “implementation cycle.” To facilitate this, the IPM considered each thematic area and delegates outlined possible policy options and actions for adoption at CSD 19. Delegates also considered inter-linkages, cross-cutting issues and means of implementation, as well as small island developing states (SIDS). Finally, there were two multistakeholder dialogues designed to elicit feedback from different groups on the thematic issues, as well as on expectations for CSD 19 in the context of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development. The IPM’s deliberations resulted in a Chair’s draft negotiating text, which most delegates felt would provide a good starting point for negotiations at CSD 19.

UNCSD PREPCOM II: The second session of the Preparatory Committee for the UNCSD convened from 7-8 March 2011 at UN Headquarters in New York. During the meeting, delegates discussed: securing renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assessing the progress to date and the remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and

addressing new and emerging challenges; a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication; and the institutional framework for sustainable development. Late in the afternoon of the second day, delegates adopted by consensus a decision on the process for the preparation of the draft outcome document for the UNCSD.

INTERSESSIONAL MEETINGS: Seven intersessional meetings were also organized around the topics on the CSD 19 agenda.

The 5th meeting of the Regional EST (Environmentally Sustainable Transport) Forum in Asia convened in Bangkok, Thailand, from 23-25 August 2010 resulted in the adoption of the Bangkok 2020 Declaration setting out sustainable transport goals for 2010-2020, including strategies to avoid unnecessary travel and reduce trip distances, shift toward sustainable modes of transportation and improve transport practices and technologies.

The second meeting of the Regional 3R (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) Forum in Asia met from 4-6 October 2010, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia to discuss 3Rs for green economy and sound material-cycle society.

The 6th Intergovernmental Forum (IGF) on Mining, Metals and Sustainable Development took place from 1-4 November 2010, in Geneva, Switzerland. The Forum finalized the IGF Mining Policy Framework, to be tabled at CSD 19, which compiles best practices to enhance contribution of mining to sustainable development and is proposed as a global baseline for mining good governance.

A Senior Expert Group Meeting on Sustainable Development of Lithium Resources in Latin America took place from 10-11 November in Santiago, Chile. Participants discussed market trends, resource availability, mining, current legal environments, infrastructure requirements, long-term life cycle, and multistakeholder perspectives with a view to providing input to CSD 19 and the Rio+20 preparatory process.

The Intersessional Meeting on Solid Waste Management in Africa convened in Rabat, Morocco from 25-26 November 2010, examined key problems such as e-waste, and produced the Rabat Declaration on Sustainable Waste Management in Africa. The Declaration, *inter alia*, states: the urgent need to formulate and implement national policy, legal and institutional frameworks; access to funds at the national and local level need to be enhanced; well-designed integrated solid waste management systems can be more profitable if based on the 3R principle; the role of the informal sector is under-recognized; and transboundary movement of waste poses risks to human health and the environment.

The Intersessional Meeting on a 10YFP on SCP was convened in Panama City, Panama from 13-14 January 2011, providing a non-negotiating space for participants to discuss potential programmes to be included in the 10YFP on SCP to support regional and national initiatives, the possible structure of the 10YFP, and the visions and objectives it could serve.

The Intersessional Conference on Building Partnerships for Moving Towards Zero Waste was held from 16-18 February in Tokyo, Japan, during which participants endorsed the establishment of an International Partnership for Expanding Waste Management Services of Local Authorities to be launched during CSD 19.

CSD 19 HIGHLIGHTS MONDAY, 2 MAY 2011

The 19th session of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD 19) opened on Monday. In the afternoon, Working Group 1 on transport, chemicals and mining and Working Group 2 on the 10-year framework of programmes (10YFP) on sustainable consumption and production (SCP) and waste management convened. Throughout the day delegates participated in a Learning Center, Partnerships Fair and various side events.

OPENING PLENARY

Opening the session László Borbély, CSD 19 Chair and Minister of Environment and Forests, Romania, underscored the need to focus on identifying concrete policy measures, commitments and means of implementation, and called for enhancing linkages between elements of the CSD 19 thematic cluster of transport, chemicals, waste management, mining and the 10YFP. Sha Zukang, UN Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, stressed the importance of deciding on the Commission's place in the institutional framework in the lead-up to the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD or Rio+20) and the importance of CSD 19's thematic cluster for green economies.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK: Chair Borbély announced the nominations of CSD 19 Vice-Chairs Eduardo Meñez (the Philippines), for the Asia Group, and Abdelghani Merabet (Algeria), for the Africa Group, who were elected by acclamation. Vice-Chair Silvano Vergara Vásquez (Panama) will also serve as Rapporteur. Highlighting that discussions on the Chair's draft negotiating text would take place in two working groups, Chair Borbély suggested CSD Vice Chairs Vásquez and Meñez facilitate Working Group 1 and Andrew Golezdzinowski (Australia) and Merabet facilitate Working Group 2. The US urged flexibility in assigning items, including the preamble and crosscutting issues, to different working groups, and urged discussing chemicals and waste in the same group. Chair Borbély suggested adopting the organization of work as proposed with the US proposal to be discussed in the afternoon and the Vice-Chairs coordinating the placement of issues. Delegates adopted the agenda and organization of work without amendment (E/CN.17/2011/1).

OPENING STATEMENTS: Argentina, for the G-77/CHINA, highlighted transport as an important component of sustainable development, and the challenges of the sound management of toxic chemicals and wastes. She expressed support for the 10YFP, but noted the restrictive nature of the Chair's text, and emphasized the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities.

Hungary, for the EU, said the Chair's negotiating document lays the foundation for a successful CSD and urged the adoption of a decision on developing the 10YFP for 2011-

2021. He underscored: effective use of financial resources; a comprehensive approach to transport; sound management of chemicals; a long-term waste management strategy; and a more sustainable approach to mining.

Chile, for the RIO GROUP, said the 10YFP should reflect the needs of developing countries and avoid imposition of conditionalities and trade protectionist measures, and respect the national levels of development. He stressed the essential nature of means of implementation and support for developing countries.

Indonesia, for the ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS (ASEAN), supported the adoption of a well-structured 10YFP with a clear vision, objectives and programmes. Sudan, for the ARAB GROUP, reaffirmed the importance of the Rio Declaration, Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI), especially on common but differentiated responsibilities. Grenada, for ALLIANCE OF SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES (AOSIS), said that 10YFP should be flexible, forward-looking and action-oriented, and should take into consideration the special needs of SIDS.

Fiji, for the PACIFIC ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES, stressed that the 10YFP should consider the protection of marine resources, which is critical to SIDS. Nigeria, for the AFRICAN GROUP, highlighted: identifying means of implementation in the 10YFP; fulfillment of international commitments supporting sustainable development in Africa; and predictable funding. LEBANON, with BOLIVIA, urged developed countries to provide financial resources and technology transfer.

The US stressed the importance of: scientific research and education; utilization of information technology, and information sharing and use; and strengthening participation at all levels, particularly by women. Noting budgetary cutbacks, he said the US is not in a position to make new commitments. PERU underscored Peru's eco-efficiency strategy and supported, *inter alia*, enhanced public institutions for eco-efficiency and the development of school curricula. JAPAN highlighted the importance of the green growth model and underscored that CSD 19 should contribute to Rio+20.

ISRAEL suggested adding a paragraph on sustainable materials management, highlighting the importance of a shift from waste to materials policies. SWITZERLAND said that the 10YFP should develop synergies with chemicals instruments and highlighted the polluter pays and precautionary principles. CAMBODIA stressed: sustainable investment in transport; integrated management of chemicals; decoupling waste management from economic growth; and integrating SCP into green industrialization. The RUSSIAN FEDERATION said the draft negotiating text is a good basis for reaching consensus on the thematic cluster but highlighted the need for implementation at national and international levels.

REGIONAL GROUPS: The UN ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (ECLAC), speaking on behalf of the five UN Regional Commissions, stressed *inter alia*, the importance of transportation infrastructure and said that the 10YFP should consider lessons of the Marrakech Process on regional approaches, enabling a systemic shift rather than incremental changes.

STATEMENTS BY MAJOR GROUPS: WOMEN called for legally-binding guidelines on social and environmental responsibility, and CHILDREN AND YOUTH called for a systemic change and solid financial mechanisms that support equity, integrity and justice. INDIGENOUS PEOPLES called for addressing the life-cycle of unsustainable mineral production and consumption, and reducing unnecessary mining.

NGOs called for ensuring their full participation in the 10YFP and representation on a stakeholder bureau. LOCAL AUTHORITIES called for strengthening capacity building and linkages between waste and SCP. WORKERS AND TRADE UNIONS said trade unions should be included in the Chair's negotiating text. BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY supported an institutional framework that allows markets to work for sustainable development. The SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COMMUNITY said global cooperation for scientific knowledge dissemination is essential. FARMERS highlighted addressing food waste for the improvement of the food system.

WORKING GROUPS

WORKING GROUP 1: Facilitated by Eduardo Meñez (the Philippines), the Group conducted a first reading of the Chair's negotiating text on transport.

In the chapeau paragraphs, the G-77/CHINA proposed amendments stressing the "essential" nature of transport to meet environmental and social needs. He also said developed countries should take the lead in improving the sustainability of the transport sector, including through technology transfer.

The EU proposed developing long-term conditions to allow economic growth without impact to the environment and health. The US suggested adding reference to place-based transport planning and to optimizing modal choices.

On the negative impacts of increasing urbanization and private motorization, the EU proposed adding noise pollution as a negative impact. SAUDI ARABIA proposed deleting "energy security." The G-77/CHINA suggested new text on: ensuring safe, affordable and efficient transportation; financial constraints that lead developing countries to purchase secondhand vehicles; and the "critical role" of the automotive industry.

On the rapid growth of energy use for transport, the US emphasized that it referred to "people and goods." The EU proposed text highlighting the links between climate change mitigation and transportation.

On public and private investments, the G-77/CHINA emphasized investment in international financial and technical support, to which the US added that the topic should be discussed under implementation. The EU stressed that transport also be "healthy" and "accessible" and AUSTRALIA, CANADA, and ISRAEL emphasized support for those with disabilities. CANADA urged that transport be climate change resilient.

On promoting sustainability policies, CANADA recognized that the mix of appropriate policy tools depends on how transportation systems are managed across governments and the US emphasized the need for stakeholder participation at all policy levels.

In the section on policy options/actions needed, the G-77/CHINA underscored promoting access to reliable and affordable energy services and technology transfer on mutually agreed terms. The US suggested mentioning decision-making for sustainability for all communities, and providing transport choices for access to education and health facilities and markets.

The EU called for incorporating transport in climate-financing schemes, and supporting the capacity of developing countries in measuring and reporting.

On shifting to less energy-intensive transport, the G-77/CHINA supported greater innovation in goods movement, particularly for inland and coastal navigation, railways, ports and airports. The EU also supported innovation and integration of technological advances, and the US highlighted the need for market mechanisms and incentives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

On developing and improving transport technologies, the G-77/CHINA emphasized financial and technological support and, with the US, said fuel economy labeling should not be mandatory. The EU supported: qualified mandatory labeling; development of carbon-free energy carriers; elimination of fuel subsidies; and food security. AUSTRALIA requested that the section on trade regulation ensures actions are consistent with members' trade obligations.

WORKING GROUP 2: Facilitated by Andrew Golezdzinski, the working group began a first reading of the text on the 10YFP and delegates agreed to work through the text on a paragraph-by-paragraph basis.

The G-77/CHINA proposed deleting the chapeau paragraphs, while the EU proposed that all but text on sectors and global warming remain. The US asked to delete references to sectors and corporate responsibility, while ISRAEL called for referencing water. INDIA proposed broadening the reference on the impact of sea level rise to developing countries, not just SIDS. CANADA suggested adding text on SCPs potential to reduce environmental degradation and support human development.

On the vision, goals and objectives of the 10YFP, the EU suggested adding text supporting the implementation of global sustainable development commitments and a global alliance between governments and relevant stakeholders on SCP patterns. The G-77/CHINA suggested references to developed countries' trade and investment commitments and the EU, NEW ZEALAND and SWITZERLAND offered amendments regarding references to Rio Declaration principles.

On guiding principles, the EU proposed deleting text on trade measures, while the G-77/CHINA proposed strengthening it, and SWITZERLAND asked to add a reference to accountability and transparency. The EU proposed replacing text on conditionalities with language on SCP enabling leapfrogging toward development. The G-77/CHINA suggested new texts, *inter alia*, on making the 10YFP into a tool to implement sustainable development commitments and analyzing the root causes of unsustainable consumption patterns.

IN THE CORRIDORS

Several delegates were pleasantly surprised with the CSD's business-like opening on Monday morning. While the introductory statements generally followed the patterns established at the review session the previous year, the transition to drafting was swift. Governments clearly did their homework, and, without going into tedious explanations, suggested specific amendments to the Chair's negotiating document. However, as a delegate noted, competing amendments and proposed additions are resulting in an exponentially growing text, a development that could create problems in the last stage of negotiations.

The drafting began against the background of a general concern felt for the fate of the CSD: as a participant observed, if it fails to deliver a set of solid and practical recommendations (some of which might flow into the Rio+20 preparatory process), its standing as an important UN body might drop even further.

CSD 19 HIGHLIGHTS TUESDAY, 3 MAY 2011

Throughout Tuesday, CSD 19 Working Groups 1 and 2 convened to continue addressing issues in the Chair's negotiating text. In the morning, Working Group 1 took up mining, and Working Group 2 discussed waste management. In the afternoon, Working Group 1 took up chemicals, while Working Group 2 continued discussions from Monday on the 10YFP. Delegates also participated in a Learning Center, Partnerships Fair and various side events.

WORKING GROUP 1

MINING: In the morning, the Working Group conducted a first reading of the Chair's negotiating text on mining, facilitated by Vice-Chair Eduardo Meñez (the Philippines). In the chapeau paragraphs, Hungary, for the EU, stressed that mining is "essential for modern living," and "crucial" for sustainable functioning of the world economy and societies, while Indonesia, for the G-77/CHINA, emphasized mining's role in achieving the MDGs. The EU and G-77/CHINA also highlighted the importance of fair distribution and utilization of mining benefits to citizens, with the US underlining the importance of transparency as referenced in the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative.

On policy options, SWITZERLAND supported text enabling: accounting for all financial flows of mining; effective reinvestment of mining revenues to the sub-national levels; diversification of local economies; and post-mining activities. MEXICO called for policies to promote export of manufactured goods rather than raw materials. The EU and CANADA supported capacity building and infrastructure development.

The G-77/CHINA proposed merging the texts on strengthening legal, regulatory and institutional frameworks, thus making them more concise. She also suggested inserting "in accordance with national plans and legislation" regarding land rights of local communities. The EU proposed monitoring systems and national registers on water quality and quantity, accident prevention strategies and risk assessment, as well as a reference to the ILO Convention 182 on child labor.

CANADA, AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND and the US asked for deletion of "free, prior and informed consent" regarding indigenous and local communities. On the participation of these communities, the US proposed mentioning public participation in law development, regulations and policies. CANADA and the G-77/CHINA spoke on public access to public domain information.

On transfer of sound technologies and know-how, CANADA suggested replacing "water reuse" with "sustainable water management" in the section on sharing best practices. The EU

said improved performance of mining companies should be in regard to sustainable development practices, while NORWAY suggested text on promoting good governance.

On integrating artisanal and small-scale mining in national economies, MEXICO called for providing public support for mine closure planning. CANADA proposed giving special attention to women and children. The G-77/CHINA, CANADA and AUSTRALIA proposed deleting text on energy efficiency, as it was unrelated to extraction.

CHEMICALS: In the afternoon, the Working Group conducted a first reading of the Chair's negotiating text on chemicals, facilitated by Vice-Chair Silvano Vergara Vásquez (Panama).

On the chapeau paragraphs, the EU underlined the role of chemicals in achieving the MDGs and in transitioning to a green economy. The US and the G-77/CHINA emphasized the contribution of chemicals to economies and living standards. SWITZERLAND stressed links to the Rotterdam, Basel and Stockholm Conventions. The G-77/CHINA asked for increased financial, technical and capacity building support for chemicals management, and CANADA underlined the need for significant changes in societal management of chemicals.

SWITZERLAND and NORWAY emphasized addressing both chemical and waste life-cycles together, with NORWAY noting that similar language had been inserted into the draft text on waste management. The G-77/CHINA underscored the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities. The EU and CANADA highlighted the SAICM framework's contribution to the policy process.

On policy options and actions needed, the EU and MEXICO, opposed by CANADA, introduced text on the "right to know." The US and AUSTRALIA supported strengthening implementation of the Rio principles related to chemicals management.

The G-77/CHINA introduced language on: providing financial support, technology transfer and capacity building; avoiding mechanisms that erect technical trade barriers against developing countries; and exchanging knowledge and experience between developed and developing countries. The EU added language on assessment, risk management and safe use of chemicals, on POPs and pesticides, and on endocrine-disrupting and other substances. JAPAN said any regulation of chemicals should be least trade restrictive. CANADA suggested providing data to regulatory authorities and adding a reference to Major Groups.

SWITZERLAND suggested mentioning enhanced synergy among the three chemical conventions and SAICM. The US made extensive amendments to the text on safer alternatives, promotion of approaches that minimize hazardous chemical use, and the Rio principles as they relate to chemicals management. PARAGUAY suggested formulation of strategies for research on

diseases caused by chemicals, especially in vulnerable groups. ISRAEL suggested development of population guidelines for rehabilitation and removal of chemical hazards.

WORKING GROUP 2

WASTE MANAGEMENT: In the morning, the Working Group began a first reading of the text on waste management, facilitated by Vice-Chair Abdelghani Merabet (Algeria). Regarding chapeau paragraphs, the EU sought to replace references to “solid and hazardous waste” with “all” wastes. SWITZERLAND said the text should refer to materials management not just wastes. The EU and US disagreed on how best to refer to e-waste.

JAPAN and the EU proposed clarifications of the 3R concept, with JAPAN adding text on expanding the types of goods being recycled and improving legislative frameworks for the 3Rs. The EU stressed waste prevention and minimization, reuse, recycling, recovery and disposal to cover the full range of all the waste management options.

The G-77/CHINA offered a new paragraph stressing the key role of SCP patterns in waste management. SWITZERLAND suggested making sustainable production the first in the list of priority objectives. The EU underscored the importance of the Basel Convention. CANADA proposed text stating that Governments should share best practices on sustainable waste management in rural communities.

The G-77/CHINA highlighted the importance of wide dissemination of the economic and environmental and social benefits, as well as ensuring local applicability of an integrated solid waste management approach with a focus on the 3Rs. In this regard, the G-77/CHINA supported text stating that intensive efforts are needed for capacity building, financing and transfer of technologies for developing countries.

NORWAY suggested adding text on promoting educational opportunities for waste-pickers. The G-77/CHINA proposed, while AUSTRALIA, CANADA, NEW ZEALAND and the US opposed, language on taking necessary action for the early entry into force and implementation of the Ban Amendment under the Basel Convention.

When discussing the paragraph on implementing relevant international conventions, SWITZERLAND suggested deleting reference to the Bamako Convention and Cotonou Convention because they are regional conventions. However, the G-77/CHINA asked to add the Marpol Convention into the text.

The EU asked for clarification on working towards formulating global standards and definitions, the US proposed to “support the use of international standards and definitions,” while the G-77/CHINA called for deleting reference to it. AUSTRALIA and CANADA proposed deleting references to negotiations on the Protocol on Liability and Compensation under the Basel Convention. The US suggested striking e-waste from a reference to effective enforcement of the Basel Convention. The EU asked for clarification of language on promoting use of biotechnology and bioremediation. The US, supported by CANADA, suggested adding a reference to the Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources.

10YFP: In the afternoon, the Working Group continued the first reading of the paragraphs on the 10YFP on SCP, facilitated by Vice-Chair Andrew Golezdzinowski (Australia). At the close of the previous session, parties had been invited to submit their proposals for textual changes to the Secretariat. Discussions proceeded on the basis of a revised text.

The G-77/CHINA highlighted their proposal that UNEP serve as the dedicated Secretariat of the 10YFP, in close cooperation with Member States and relevant UN agencies to provide a coordinating function on SCP issues.

On 10YFP mechanisms, the US proposed deleting references to a dedicated Secretariat, SWITZERLAND advocated a Secretariat hosted by UNEP, while AUSTRALIA suggested UNDESA for that role. The US and the G-77/CHINA opposed calls for designating lead agencies for key priorities programmes and for a branding logo.

ISRAEL proposed a reference to developing appropriate global monitoring indicators for sustainable development. JAPAN, supported by AUSTRALIA, asked to delete “training and capacity building” in reference to providing technical assistance, training and capacity building on good SCP practices to developing countries.

Regarding financial assistance and capacity building, the G-77/CHINA referred to predictable and additional financing, and proposed language requesting the 66th UN General Assembly to establish a Trust Fund on 10YFP. The EU, US, NORWAY and SWITZERLAND opposed a text on access of regional and national actors to multilateral funding sources, and the US and JAPAN proposed deleting text on mobilizing additional resources from the private sector.

On criteria, the US proposed adding transparency and refraining from creating trade barriers, SWITZERLAND suggested mainstreaming SCP, NORWAY called for promoting synergies and the G-77/CHINA supported the principle of corporate social responsibility.

The US and the G-77/CHINA proposed deleting text on establishing a multi-stakeholder bureau or board with regional representation and the main stakeholders involved in the 10YFP. The EU supported establishing a multi-stakeholder board.

The G-77/CHINA, EU, US and NORWAY suggested deleting the list of key programme areas in the Chair’s negotiating text, noting that it could be annexed to the document in the form of a non-negotiated text. SWITZERLAND said it was in favor of having the list in the main body of the document.

The EU made a proposal that requests the Secretariat, in collaboration with two Co-Chairs representing Member States from developing and developed countries, to organize the first international meeting within an appropriate timeframe, but before the end of 2012, to establish the intergovernmental multi-stakeholder forum and multi-stakeholder bureau on SCP.

The second reading of the text on the 10YFP then commenced with the chapeau paragraph on policy options/actions, with those proposing amendments asked to explain their proposals.

IN THE CORRIDORS

As delegates got down to the nuts and bolts of the negotiating text some were expressing concern for possible scheduling conflicts between future readings on chemicals and waste management, which are being covered by separate working groups. One expert said, “I can handle both issues, but I can’t replicate myself.” During the first reading, the conflict was avoided by reviewing relevant texts at different times. This may not work in the later reading if negotiations go to more narrow thematic sub-groups, as seems likely given the many detailed amendments proposed in the first round.

In addition, UNEP’s parallel scheduling of a Long Island meeting on financing chemicals management on Wednesday and Thursday is forcing delegations to choose between it and the CSD. Though some think the finance meeting will be a solid, albeit indirect, step towards Rio+20, why it is being held in parallel to CSD negotiations on chemicals is a “good question,” according to others. “It is not expected to feed into CSD negotiations in any way,” said one seasoned expert. “We can’t afford to waste the CSD 19’s negotiating opportunity” chimed another.

CSD 19 HIGHLIGHTS WEDNESDAY, 4 MAY 2011

Throughout Wednesday, CSD 19 Working Groups 1 and 2 convened to continue addressing issues in the Chair's negotiating text. In the morning, Working Group 1 took up cross-cutting issues, and Working Group 2 discussed waste management. In the afternoon, Working Group 1 addressed the text on transport, while Working Group 2 continued the second reading from Tuesday on the 10YFP. Delegates also participated in a Learning Center, Partnerships Fair and various side events.

WORKING GROUP 1

CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES: On Wednesday morning, Vice-Chair Silvano Vergara Vásquez (Panama) initiated the first reading on interlinkages and cross-cutting issues, including means of implementation.

Algeria, for the G-77/CHINA, emphasized that interlinkages take into account economic, social and environmental aspects as identified in CSD 11 and the global economic, food, energy pricing and climate change crises. The US proposed that implementation measures could be both regulatory and voluntary, and the G-77/CHINA underscored they should be transparent. The US questioned emphasizing only the MDG on poverty eradication since it is an overarching objective of sustainable development, while the G-77/CHINA reiterated that the theme was identified in CSD 11.

On development strategies, the EU emphasized transition to green economies and responsible business models and the G-77/CHINA urged enhanced inter-ministerial coordination.

On convergence of the three pillars of sustainable development, ISRAEL called for incorporating a sustainable materials management approach. The G-77/CHINA highlighted that developed countries should take the lead in: improving finance; strengthening public health systems to address diseases related to waste; supporting the most vulnerable groups and disaster risk reduction; and formulating policies in accordance with national frameworks. MEXICO and the EU emphasized best practices for information-sharing.

On resource management, the G-77/CHINA objected to singling out protection of particular natural resources, and SWITZERLAND suggested mentioning the precautionary principle. The G-77/CHINA supported enhancing efforts to mobilize adequate and predictable high-quality technological support "crucial" for achieving the MDGs, and underscored the importance of traditional knowledge. The US suggested use of social media and other forms of information and communication technology "as appropriate."

On finance for sustainable development, the G-77/CHINA proposed new text on enhancing assistance to developing countries by the UN system, development institutions and

regional banks. The US, supported by CANADA, proposed deleting text on fulfillment of all ODA commitments. The G-77/CHINA proposed replacing current text on trade with new language on access to an equitable, universal, non-discriminatory trade system, which takes into account the right of developing countries to take legitimate trade defensive measures. She also supported delivery of focused support to SIDS. The US and CANADA noted the text on review of implementation of CSD 19 decisions is unclear.

TRANSPORT: Facilitated by Eduardo Meñez (the Philippines), the Working Group proceeded to the second reading of the section on transport, with delegates offering explanations of the amendments sent directly to the Chair the previous day.

In the chapeau, the EU inserted "sustainable" in front of "transportation" in several places. Delegates agreed on a G-77/CHINA proposal that sustainability of transport have a business perspective, but also meet environmental and social needs. The G-77/CHINA and the EU deferred approving US language on "place-based needs," pending clarification.

The G-77/CHINA asked to delete all references to green economy, which is a concept that has not been agreed upon. The US suggested bilateral discussions with the G-77/CHINA on language optimizing modal choices for passengers and goods logistics. Three paragraphs authored by the G-77/CHINA (on special transportation needs of LLDCs, SIDS and African countries) remained bracketed by the US, CANADA and EU, although there was understanding that part of the substance contained therein could be reflected in other sections.

On urbanization and private motorization, the US, with the EU, emphasized transportation's impact on energy security and public health, and supported text encouraging reducing use of private cars. Regarding second-hand vehicles, the G-77/CHINA responded to the request by the EU, CANADA and the US to delete reference to the issue by underlining they are a necessity in some developing countries. The EU noted that the issue is referenced in the section on developing and improving transport technologies. The EU and US also moved to delete proposed text on the role of the automotive industry.

On climate change mitigation, the G-77/CHINA stated it was an issue addressed elsewhere and therefore unnecessary, while the US proposed amendments specifying that transportation policy meet "commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions" to make the text more useful. The EU supported text focusing on the impacts on pollution while the US supported a focus on energy security.

On investments, delegates agreed on the importance of ensuring accessibility to disabled persons, with the G-77/CHINA and the US preferring an independent section on the issue. The EU, with the US, requested moving text on international

financial and technical support to the section on means of implementation. CHILDREN AND YOUTH highlighted that transportation is directly linked to adequate education.

WORKING GROUP 2

WASTE MANAGEMENT: On Wednesday morning, Vice-Chair Abdelghani Merabet (Algeria) facilitated the continued first reading of the text on waste management.

On environmentally sound waste reduction, reuse and recycling, the EU said the text should reflect order of priority, and focus more on prevention and minimization, and the G-77/CHINA asked for preferential terms for the provision to developing countries of zero-waste technologies.

On implementing effective e-waste and hazardous waste strategies: the EU sought additional language on e-waste, medical wastes, and references to INTERPOL activities; MEXICO highlighted the Basel Convention Secretariat's technical guidelines; and the US underscored meaningful public participation in policy development and implementation.

On specific waste streams, the G-77/CHINA proposed adding plastic pollution, SWITZERLAND proposed food waste, CANADA added pesticide containers, and ISRAEL sought construction and demolition wastes. The US and CANADA proposed deleting agricultural biomass. The G-77/CHINA called for targets to eliminate the use of plastic products in the retail sector, and CANADA proposed guidelines instead of targets for reducing quantities of biodegradable wastes in landfills. NORWAY suggested strengthening policies to reduce food waste and improving markets for products developed using agricultural waste management technology, such as for designer fertilizers.

The G-77/CHINA submitted texts on supporting the initiative of the UNEP Executive Director on a consultative process to identify financing options for the chemicals and waste agenda, and the need to develop secure financial instruments to raise funds for waste management.

SWITZERLAND suggested text endorsing the Basel Convention Mobile Phone Partnership Initiative and the Basel Convention Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment. The EU proposed defining regulations for bio-wastes including targets for reducing bio-wastes. The US supported encouraging creation of platforms for facilitating communication between governments, technology providers and recipients.

Facilitator Merabet suggested commencing the second reading of the text with the chapeau paragraph on intersessional meetings, but the G-77/CHINA and US indicated they needed more time to consider their positions. Delegations explained their proposals for the paragraph on challenges and indicated where they might be flexible. Merabet then sought to discuss in tandem different G-77/CHINA, EU and NORWAY proposals addressing linkages with SCP and other issues, including chemicals. Delegates agreed to consider merging the three.

When discussing new waste streams, the G-77/CHINA made a reference to non-biodegradable waste, about which the US asked for clarification. The US and EU preferred referring to waste or materials generally, rather than "new waste streams."

Regarding the proposal made by G-77/CHINA emphasizing that the decoupling of waste generation be supported through financial resources, technology transfer and capacity building, the US preferred considering it under means of implementation.

The Working Group reached consensus on several paragraphs referring to, *inter alia*, the negative impacts of wastes on the environment and health, and the crucial role of waste management for sustainable development, poverty eradication and other MDGs.

10YFP: In the afternoon, the Working Group resumed its second reading of the 10YFP text, facilitated by Vice-Chair Andrew Goledzinowski (Australia).

In discussions delegates agreed to: the G-77/CHINA proposals referring to Chapter III of the JPOI on changing unsustainable patterns of consumption and production and having the 10YFP vision "based on," rather than "inspired by" Agenda 21, the Rio Declaration and the JPOI; and a US proposal to delete text on the aim of the 10YFP.

The G-77 objected to the EU's proposal on harmful environmental and social impacts of the whole lifecycle of products and materials.

In reference to promoting sustainable consumption and production patterns, the US opposed "developed countries taking the lead" and a proposal by the G-77/CHINA on respecting their international commitments, particularly with regard to trade and investment. Together with CANADA and NEW ZEALAND, the US preferred removing the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, noting it is not appropriate to single out one Rio principle in this context.

The EU proposed text supporting the implementation of global sustainable development commitments, the achievement of the MDGs and the implementation of relevant MEAs. No agreement was reached on the paragraph.

Regarding the 10YFP vision, delegates agreed only on minor language changes, deferring points of contention until later. Goledzinowski encouraged the EU to engage other delegations outside the room to find compromises on, *inter alia*: what language to include from JPOI paragraph 15; references to international initiatives; social cohesion and protection; market opportunities; and a global alliance on SCP patterns. Decisions were also deferred on new proposals by the G-77/CHINA on financial and technological support, and ISRAEL on government programs, green procurement, green labeling and practicing SCP within government bodies.

The G-77/CHINA proposed text on ensuring a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system, taking into account the right of the developing countries to use legitimate trade defense measures in accordance with relevant provisions of the WTO. The US and NEW ZEALAND objected to the proposal.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH appealed for quick development and implementation of the 10YFP, while BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY said that the 10YFP should be a collaborative process involving all the stakeholders, and a flexible and living concept.

IN THE CORRIDORS

As the third day of negotiations commenced on the 10YFP on SCP, delegates remained greatly interested in its means of implementation and the contention specific issues were generating. Several developing country representatives said that if 10YFP is going to be successful, new and additional financial resources have to be found. The G-77/CHINA is proposing establishment of a trust fund for the 10YFP, but developed countries remained skeptical. Several developed country representatives made it very clear that they support making use of existing financial resources and mechanisms, but did not clarify what such resources and mechanisms are. As one government representative said, "It is not possible for us to consider a new fund." Another emphasized, "Our government is cutting its budget, and we are not in a position to make new commitments on financing." One observer concluded that "financing is going to be a big challenge facing the CSD in the development and implementation of 10YFP." Yet another opined that "the big news here is that there will be a 10YFP: this time last year it was very much in doubt."

CSD 19 HIGHLIGHTS THURSDAY, 5 MAY 2011

Throughout Thursday, CSD 19 Working Groups 1 and 2 convened to continue addressing issues in the Chair's negotiating text. In the morning, Working Group 1 took up mining, and Working Group 2 discussed waste management. In the afternoon, Working Group 1 addressed the text on transport, while Working Group 2 continued work on the text on the 10YFP. Delegates also participated in a Learning Center, Partnerships Fair and various side events.

WORKING GROUP 1

MINING: In the morning, Vice-Chair Eduardo Meñez (the Philippines) gave the floor to the G-77/CHINA to finish comments on the mining text and then commenced the draft's second reading. The G-77/CHINA stressed: environmental liabilities for foreign companies; support for negotiating mining contracts and marketing; post-mining transitions in communities; and ethical guidelines for governance.

In the second reading on mining's relationship to modern living, delegates differed on promotion of "commercially sound" benefits, supported by AUSTRALIA, but opposed by the EU and the G-77/CHINA as being too prescriptive and restrictive. No consensus was reached on: whether to support capacity for industrialization of "developing" or "producing" countries to use their natural resources; retaining reiteration of the Rio Declaration on the sovereign right to national resource exploitation; and highlighting the role of the public sector.

On the integration of mining into development planning, delegates disagreed whether to focus on the three-pillar approach, supported by the G-77/CHINA, or on the linkages between mining and other economic sectors, supported by AUSTRALIA, the US and CANADA. Delegates also debated language regarding: the "fair" distribution of benefits; whether benefits should derive from mining activities or only extraction; and distribution scale. The EU supported distribution of benefits according to international commitments, while the G-77/CHINA by national priorities.

The G-77/CHINA said text on developing comprehensive legal and regulatory frameworks should focus on ensuring that mining companies fulfill their social and corporate responsibilities. The US, CANADA, JAPAN and NORWAY reiterated support for mentioning good governance, and the G-77/CHINA would come back on the issue later. The G-77/CHINA also indicated that US language on "public-social" partnerships will be reviewed by the group.

The EU suggested deleting the G-77/CHINA's proposal on the fundamental role of states and "in accordance with national law and legislation." The G-77/CHINA emphasized its objections to

encroachments on sovereign rights of states. She also expressed concern with provision of geological and mineral information for reasons of confidentiality, and CANADA suggested inferring that this concerned information in the public domain.

TRANSPORT: In the afternoon, the Working Group continued discussions on the Chair's negotiating text on transport, facilitated by Vice-Chair Meñez. AUSTRALIA reported on results of an informal meeting between AUSTRALIA, CANADA and the G-77/CHINA, who worked out language on transport systems that are accessible for persons with disabilities, as well as similar language for inclusion in the means of implementation section. The G-77/CHINA objected to the US language specifying "passengers and goods" in relation to transport, and added "in accordance with national legislation" in regard to development of policies.

The US and CANADA objected to references to "decoupling" transport growth from economic growth as proposed by ISRAEL. The EU, with the G-77/CHINA, opposed "decoupling" from population growth as proposed by CANADA. For greater clarity, the US changed "place-based" transportation to "circumstances of location and community." The US and CANADA proposed moving the G-77/CHINA paragraph on financial assistance to developing countries elsewhere. The G-77/CHINA offered to place it later in the text under international cooperation. The G-77/CHINA supported the EU in deleting reference to monitoring, reporting and verifying transport mitigation actions in developing countries.

On planning, the US, CANADA and the EU supported enhancing coordination between and across government departments, with the G-77/CHINA opposing. The G-77/CHINA disagreed with the US that transportation should be integrated into land-use planning. The EU urged retaining reference to UN-HABITAT sustainable transport activities, with the US and the G-77/CHINA asking for its deletion. The US and AUSTRALIA preferred keeping chapeau text giving states leeway to discern "appropriate actions" on improving transport policy.

On technology and design, the US and EU supported linking community transportation destinations, while the G-77/CHINA opposed. The G-77/CHINA, US and CANADA preferred deleting a reference to promoting cleaner vehicle production and moving it to means of implementation. The G-77/CHINA opposed text on retrofitting. The EU and the G-77/CHINA supported text on developing rapid transit. The EU moved to delete text on energy policy and the US preferred bracketing it.

On enhancing modal shifts, the EU, US and CANADA supported keeping language on "low carbon," with the G-77/CHINA opposing.

WORKING GROUP 2

WASTE MANAGEMENT: On Thursday morning, Vice-Chair Abdelghani Merabet (Algeria) facilitated the continued second reading of the text on waste management.

On challenges, the delegates agreed to the language proposed by SWITZERLAND on environmentally sound management, by TURKEY on special emphasis on waste minimization, and by the EU on referring to constraints in terms of financial resources, capacity and technology. Decisions were deferred on how to refer to economic growth and a US reference to materials management.

Regarding linkages, delegates agreed to consider compromise language offered by the EU that combined various proposals regarding SCP, SAICM, the lifecycle approach, materials management and specific sectors. They accepted a US proposal to include transport, but deferred decisions on references to SCP, materials management, and the chemicals and waste conventions.

The EU, the G-77/CHINA and CANADA objected to the US proposal to add the word “products” into text on waste streams. The US agreed to withdraw this proposal, but suggested referring to “materials, e.g., used and end-of-life electronic equipment,” but the EU, the G-77/CHINA, CANADA and SWITZERLAND preferred to refer to e-waste and hazardous waste only.

Delegates reached consensus on the paragraph stating that the negative impacts of waste on the environment and human health in terms of land, water and air pollution are becoming more acute. The US suggested referring to “materials and waste management” instead of waste management, but the EU and the G-77/CHINA objected.

On priorities, delegates agreed to a proposal by CANADA on integrated policies and on disposal of residual wastes in an environmentally sound manner, and to a modified version of the EU proposal on referencing both the 3R concept and recovery. The order of priority was not finalized due to objections by the EU, the US and CANADA to a proposal by SWITZERLAND to insert “sustainable production” at the top of the hierarchy.

The US, JAPAN, AUSTRALIA and the G-77/CHINA suggested moving an EU proposal for a new chapeau paragraph highlighting the importance of the Basel Convention to later text passages mentioning the Convention, but the EU, supported by SWITZERLAND, insisted on retaining it in the chapeau. Referring to a need to decouple waste generation from economic growth, the G-77/CHINA suggested adding a reference of “as far as possible,” to which the EU and the US objected.

Working Group 2 then began a discussion on policy options/actions needed. On the chapeau of the first section, after a lengthy discussion of various proposals, delegates agreed to text stating actions are needed to define long-term waste management strategies at all levels.

10YFP: In the afternoon, Working Group 2 resumed its second reading of the 10YFP text, facilitated by Vice-Chair Andrew Goleczkowski (Australia).

Regarding the section on 10YFP functions, delegates accepted the proposal by CANADA for simple chapeau language that “functions include the following,” but deferred considering the proposal by the EU to start with “Decides that” until agreement is reached on how to use this formulation throughout the SCP text.

On information sharing, delegates dropped a reference to a clearinghouse and accepted a new G-77/CHINA proposal saying the 10YFP will enable all stakeholders to share information and tools, and learn and share best practices. Decisions were deferred on how best to reference the Marrakech process and the G-77/CHINA language on support.

Based on a proposal by MEXICO, delegates agreed on text supporting mainstreaming of SCP in decision-making at all levels, taking into account its cross-cutting nature, for example, through strategic planning and policy making.

In reference to education among youth and integrating education for SCP in formal and informal education programmes, CANADA requested that text remain bracketed. On the paragraph referring to technical assistance and training on good SCP practices for developing countries, the US suggested “facilitate” instead of “provide” technical assistance, and AUSTRALIA suggested “including for developing countries,” and no agreement was reached on the text.

On knowledge bases, delegates could not agree on the G-77/CHINA proposal on support to developing countries or the EU proposal referencing certain international bodies.

Regarding the private sector, competing G-77/CHINA, EU and US proposals led Goleczkowski to offer a compromise text on corporate social and environmental responsibility, corporate citizenship and a call for the private sector to take SCP into their strategies and policies. The US, EU and G-77/CHINA agreed to negotiate informally based on this proposal.

On innovation, ideas and traditional knowledge, delegates agreed on a G-77/CHINA compromise proposal: “foster innovation and new ideas, while increasing recognition of traditional knowledge.”

On accountability and transparency, delegates could not agree whether to limit it to developed countries or to apply to all, and deferred decision on ISRAEL’s proposal regarding monitoring indicators.

The EU, US and JAPAN objected to two paragraphs proposed by the G-77/CHINA, which call for analyzing the root causes of the current unsustainable consumption patterns and establishing concrete measures for changing them, and evaluating the costs and benefits related to the implementation of SCP.

The G-77/CHINA proposed adding “including initiatives that promote the transfer of technology” to the text calling for giving international attention to successful initiatives that accelerate a shift to SCP, which the US and CANADA opposed.

NGOs said that civil society should participate at all stages of development and implementation of programmes on SCP. WORKERS AND TRADE UNIONS said the workers should have access to green jobs.

IN THE CORRIDORS

As CSD 19 approaches the end of its first week of work, several observers have the impression that negotiators are going quite quickly into the heart of the issues and actual drafting, in contrast to the pace of CSD 17. Fewer minutes are spent on clarifying proposals or trying to preach to or convert the audience. The debates in both working groups are more down-to-earth and interventions seem more accommodating than at previous CSD policy debates, which at times were overtly described as “ideological” and “disruptive.”

“It’s too early to provide an explanation,” suggested a delegate, “It may be that some capitals are losing interest in CSD proceedings; or conversely, most have decided to strive for a good outcome.”

For the time being, however, delegations were scrambling to pack the Chair’s negotiating document with as many additions as possible, or bracketing whole paragraphs. “Clearly, some proposals or amendments, e.g., by the G-77/China on finance, have no chance of being accepted in their present form,” observed a participant. But this also concerns the “less voluminous but politically loaded amendments from the US, Canada or Australia.”

CSD 19 HIGHLIGHTS**FRIDAY, 6 MAY 2011**

Throughout Friday, CSD 19 Working Groups 1 and 2 convened to continue addressing issues in the Chair's negotiating text. In the morning, Working Group 1 took up chemicals, and Working Group 2 began the first reading of the preamble text. In the afternoon, Working Group 1 addressed the text on IL and CCI, including MOI, while Working Group 2 continued work on the text on the 10YFP. A short stock-taking Plenary closed the first week of CSD 19. Delegates also participated in a Learning Center, Partnerships Fair and various side events.

WORKING GROUP 1

CHEMICALS: In the morning, Vice-Chair Silvano Vergara Vásquez (Panama) facilitated the second reading of the chemicals text. South Africa, for the G-77/CHINA, suggested dropping or redrafting text on the MDGs in a separate paragraph. She also asked for deletion of the EU text on green economy, while the EU opposed and will redraft it. SWITZERLAND, supported by the EU, suggested acknowledging other chemicals processes, including relevant partnership initiatives.

The G-77/CHINA, CANADA and AUSTRALIA objected to the EU proposal that the UNCSD review progress of the 2020 chemicals goal, because this would preempt the UNCSD agenda. Language was agreed, based on the G-77/CHINA, PARAGUAY and CANADA amendments, to recognize the shift in production of chemicals to developing countries, which have insufficient human, technical and financial resources to deal with the challenges of chemicals management. The G-77/CHINA advocated that multinational industries based in developing countries maintain cleaner and safer standards of operations.

On environmentally sound management of chemicals, delegates agreed to delete reference to management of "wastes," choosing instead to retain text specifying chemicals management would include chemical "production, use and disposal." In discussing "tools," i.e., relevant conventions and SAICM, delegates debated whether these "tools" should be "strengthened" and whether means of strengthening should be specified. MEXICO argued that the text is unnecessary without qualification, while SWITZERLAND noted that other text details means of implementation. Delegates ultimately agreed to draft qualifications to be "included but not limited to." Debate also centered on whether the "tools" should be strengthened towards achieving the WSSD 2020 goals "and beyond," with consensus arriving at a clarified vision to achieve "long-term sound chemical management."

IL AND CCI, INCLUDING MOI: Facilitated by Vice-Chair Vásquez, delegates proceeded to the second reading of this section in the afternoon.

The US, CANADA and the EU preferred retaining the original short introductory paragraph of this section, but the G-77/CHINA added new language, which focuses on interlinkages between the five themes of CSD 19, the three pillars and national and regional specificities. The G-77/CHINA insisted on keeping its proposed text on the adverse impacts of the global crises in this section, while the US, CANADA and AUSTRALIA preferred moving it to the preamble. The US offered compromise language, which the G-77/CHINA promised to study, noting however that it missed references to expediting implementation.

Delegates agreed to a paragraph suggesting that policies and practical measures use a variety of approaches, including regulatory and voluntary, and are tailored to local circumstances. They also agreed to a paragraph on improving synergies, efficiencies and co-benefits. On eradication of poverty, the US suggested a general reference, without detailing MDG 1 on poverty eradication, but the G-77/CHINA emphasized preference for retention of the longer text it had proposed.

On the integration of the three pillars into national sustainable development strategies, delegates diverged. Though parties acknowledged the importance of the social pillar, they differed on descriptive language. CANADA and the US preferred "social dimension of globalization" originating from the CSD 17 decision, the US also proposed "social protection" as derived from the MDGs, and the G-77/CHINA opted for "social equity." A second area of debate focused on reference to "transition towards green economy," which the EU and US supported as an established concept, but the G-77/CHINA, RUSSIAN FEDERATION, ALGERIA and NAMIBIA opposed as "inappropriate" and lacking definition. The issue was deferred to consultations. Regarding a supplementary paragraph on coordination between different levels of administration. Delegates generally agreed on its importance, but differed whether "coordination" or "mechanisms" should be enhanced.

WORKING GROUP 2

PREAMBLE: In the morning Working Group 2 began the first reading of the preamble text, facilitated by Vice-Chair Abdelghani Merabet (Algeria).

The EU, with the US and CANADA, wanted all Rio principles referenced, rather than just the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities. The EU sought new paragraphs referencing the decision on 10YFP of the 26th session of UNEP Governing Council (GC)/Global Ministerial Environment Forum, and the CBD's Aichi Target 4, which calls on stakeholders at all levels to take steps to achieve or implement SCP plans by 2020.

On financial resources, JAPAN proposed changing “new and additional” to “adequate.” The G-77/CHINA proposed deleting a reference to the outcome of UNFCCC COP 16, while MEXICO suggested referencing “the progress achieved” at COP 16.

The G-77/CHINA proposed a new text calling for strengthening the essential role that ODA plays in complimenting, leveraging and sustaining financing for development in developing countries. The G-77/CHINA asked for deletion of a paragraph on the Doha Round of WTO negotiations. The G-77/CHINA suggested adding “on favorable terms” after “transfer of technology.” The US instead preferred “on mutually agreed terms.”

The EU requested including reference to decisions on chemicals and waste management adopted by the UNEP GC, and MEXICO requested a reference to “including for financing of chemicals and waste management” in the same text. SWITZERLAND added text on welcoming the outcome of the simultaneous extraordinary meetings of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Convention COPs.

On transboundary waste movements, the US suggested deleting specific references to hazardous wastes, e-wastes and ratifying protocols, while adding language on coordinating enforcement. The G-77/CHINA proposed new text on the importance of mining, minerals and metals. She also proposed, with MEXICO and the EU supporting, a new reference to the January 2011 High-Level Meeting on the 10YFP. The US proposed new texts on fighting corruption, the importance of science and technology, and the need to scale-up, replicate and adapt successful experiences.

During the second reading of the preamble, Vice-Chair Merabet asked delegations to explain their proposals. Many paragraphs were agreed, including those on, *inter alia*: the three pillars of sustainable development; the UNGA resolution deciding to hold the UNFCCC; the need for financial resources; and need for fundamental changes in the way societies produce and consume.

10YFP: In the early afternoon, the Working Group reconvened to continue the second reading of the text on the 10YFP, facilitated by Vice-Chair Andrew Goleczkowski (Australia).

The G-77/CHINA, supported by the US and EU, provided compromise language on drawing on valuable aspects of experiences from the Marrakech process, SAICM and national cleaner production centers. The US said regional initiatives in all countries should be encouraged, while AUSTRALIA proposed a compromise text “giving encouragement, in particular” to regional centers in developing countries. The EU and US emphasized that review under the 10YFP should be for all countries, rather than for just developed countries.

The G-77/CHINA proposed new text saying the 10YFP should bring together governments and other key partners, including Major Groups, and build on existing UN entities and inter-agency collaboration. Delegates debated, but did not decide, whether the text should reference coordinating and cooperating with specific agencies or “all relevant UN agencies and programmes.” The G-77/CHINA, supported by NORWAY and SWITZERLAND, called for UNEP to be the dedicated secretariat, but CANADA reserved.

Regarding the Secretariat’s tasks, the G-77/CHINA proposed text calling for the Secretariat to “facilitate the fulfillment of the functions as outlined” in prior text and MONTENEGRO suggested language on facilitating the establishment and work of regional networks.

On means of implementation, the US suggested “encouraging voluntary financial resources, transfer of and access to environmentally sound technologies on mutually agreed

terms, and capacity building.” The G-77/CHINA emphasized importance of new and additional financial resources, transfer of technology and capacity building.

On the proposal by the G-77/CHINA on the establishment of a trust fund to support the launch of 10YFP, CANADA said it reserved its position and JAPAN opposed. Recognizing the importance of this issue, the EU and US requested further consultations with the G-77/CHINA on the need of the trust fund, how it would contribute to 10YFP, and how it would be managed. SWITZERLAND suggested mobilizing additional resources from the private sector as well as using existing resources. The G-77/CHINA reiterated its position on the trust fund, stating that it is very important, but it is not the only source of financing for 10YFP.

STOCK-TAKING PLENARY

Late in the afternoon, a stock-taking plenary was convened by CSD 19 Chair László Borbély (Romania). Chair Borbély noted that Vice-Chair Meñez had been called away to another meeting and that the Asian Group had endorsed Yvette Banzon Abalos (the Philippines) to replace him, and she was elected by acclamation.

On Working Group 1, Vice-Chair Meñez reported on transport and mining and Vice-Chair Vásquez reported on chemicals and IL and CCI, including MOI. They welcomed progress made during the first and second readings but said key issues remain outstanding.

On Working Group 2, Vice-Chair Goleczkowski reported on the 10YFP, noting the strong consensus to reach agreement on the 10YFP at this session. Vice-Chair Merabet reported on the preamble and waste management, particularly highlighting progress on the relationship between waste management and the three pillars of sustainable development.

Chair Borbély closed the plenary noting the collective responsibility of member states to ensure a positive outcome for CSD 19 and called for flexibility and innovation in the coming week.

IN THE CORRIDORS

Following the two-day break in CSD 19’s chemicals discussions because of the UNEP retreat on financing chemicals and waste management, many wonder if the remaining days of negotiation will be adequate to make progress on the issue in the lead up to Rio+20.

In the proceedings themselves, participants expressed concern for the CSD’s practical impact on this theme. “The first reading of the Chair’s text was not pretty,” observed one. “So the Chair’s report makes good recommendations, then what?” asked another.

While this 4th UNEP consultation was considered by one invitee a mere placeholder for the 5th consultation, which will provide recommendations to the Governing Council, other participants touted its progress on narrowing the potential “tracks” for addressing the issue of financing chemicals and waste management, and noted rumors that a “Chemicals Initiative” will emerge from the process in Rio. One expert hinted that the consultation’s outcome would feed into CSD 19 draft text on chemicals means of implementation.

Given all this, some see the relevance of the CSD process to the global management of chemicals and wastes as uncertain at best. As we move towards Rio+20, will a “quickening of pace” in next week’s high-level segment push progress on the agenda of chemicals and wastes, as one optimistic negotiator predicted, or will the greatest take-away for chemicals and wastes here at CSD 19 be a “UNEP-building effort,” as another suggested.

CSD 19 HIGHLIGHTS MONDAY, 9 MAY 2011

Throughout Monday, CSD 19 Working Groups 1 and 2 reconvened to continue addressing issues in the Chair's negotiating text. In the morning, Working Group 1 took up mining, and Working Group 2 continued the second reading of the text on waste management. In the afternoon, Working Group 1 addressed IL and CCI, including MOI, while Working Group 2 continued working on the 10YFP. A contact group also convened to discuss chemicals. Negotiations continued into the evening with sessions addressing transport and chemicals under Working Group 1, while the preamble was discussed by Working Group 2. Delegates also participated in various side events, a Learning Center, and a Partnership Fair.

WORKING GROUP 1

MINING: The morning session was facilitated by Vice-Chair Yvette Banzon Abalos (the Philippines), who urged interactive drafting of current text rather than proposing new amendments. The group proceeded to the second reading of the section.

On artisanal and small-scale mining (ASM), agreement was reached on the phrases "in accordance with national legislation" and "subject to national priorities." Mercury pollution proved contentious; the G-77/CHINA objected to singling out mercury pollution from gold mining as too restrictive, with the possibility of taking this up in the chemicals section. The EU, US, AUSTRALIA and the RUSSIAN FEDERATION, however, insisted on its retention.

On social impacts of ASM, CANADA suggested starting with US language on forced labor and lack of educational opportunities with the words "such as," which was provisionally accepted.

On strengthening legal, regulatory and institutional frameworks, the US, EU and CANADA called for separate paragraphs for environmental, social and economic aspects, while the G-77/CHINA suggested a merged text based on its previously proposed language. The US bracketed a G-77/CHINA addition on developing strategies for managing environmental liabilities and ensuring adequate financial resources. The G-77/CHINA suggested deletion of the EU reference to establishing monitoring systems and national registries for water quantity and quality.

Delegates also emphasized text related to financial provisions for mine closure, agreeing on both legal and regulatory frameworks for closure and strengthening mitigation of environmental impacts during and post mining. On impacts to biodiversity, the US, NORWAY, NEW ZEALAND and the EU stressed the importance of specifying water resources and sacred

sites, whereas the G-77/CHINA worried that the language was too prescriptive. The Chair requested the G-77/CHINA draft acceptable language.

Delegates agreed to delete a separate paragraph establishing specific "monitoring systems and national registries for water use and quality" on the understanding that this is already implied in other text on building capacity for monitoring environmental impact mitigation. The G-77/CHINA underscored the importance of not taking on specific tasks for which they are not financially capable. Delegates also agreed to guidelines for improving public health and safety and minimizing environmental risks.

WORKERS AND TRADE UNIONS underlined that new legislation on child labor and working conditions would be positive signals for workers and their families. CHILDREN AND YOUTH emphasized that child labor in mines is unacceptable.

IL AND CCI, INCLUDING MOI: With Vice-Chair Silvano Vergara Vásquez (Panama), Working Group 1 continued reading of the draft. Delegates discussed policy options for convergence among the three pillars of sustainable development but stalled at agreeing on specific text.

The G-77/CHINA insisted on including specific reference to "poverty eradication, long-term food security, adverse impacts of climate change, desertification, and biodiversity loss," with "developed countries taking the lead," as referenced in the JPOI. The G-77/CHINA also pressed for inclusion of text on lifecycle thinking and integrating solid waste management and focus on the 3Rs, and insisted on support for capacity building, financing and technology transfer for developing countries. CANADA, the EU, the US and JAPAN preferred broader support for the same issues, and opposed the text on financing. The G-77/CHINA underscored the issue of illegal dumping in developing countries and the importance of strengthening public health systems, with specific chemical and waste impacts listed. The EU preferred general reference to the issue.

Text was agreed on transparent government structures and effective public management in accordance with national frameworks. Another paragraph agreed to promote the active participation in the elaboration of national planning of those living in vulnerable situations. CANADA, US, JAPAN and the EU objected to language proposed by the G-77/CHINA on realization of rights of peoples under colonial and foreign occupation. Agreement was reached on promoting UN system efficiency in implementation of the sustainable development agenda, and on promoting gender equality and empowerment of women. The G-77/CHINA objected to usage of US-supported language on "green jobs" in the paragraph on promotion of full and productive employment.

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY spoke on the role of the private sector and the importance of rule of law, good governance, protection of property rights and partnerships.

CHEMICALS: A contact group on chemicals met in the afternoon. Discussions focused on areas of disagreement, *inter alia*: reference to “green economy” or “a cleaner and more resource efficient-economy”; inclusion that the UNCSO in 2012 “will provide” rather than “may provide” opportunities to review progress towards the 2020 goal, “within its existing themes”; how to capture the need for multinational corporations to “maintain the same standards” in developing countries versus national responsibility to ensure laws are in place and enforced; and linking text on strengthening national legislation with text referring to the Rio principles or specific mention of the precautionary and polluter pays principles. They agreed on chapeau language on integrating and mainstreaming sound management of chemicals as a crucial element of MDG-based national development strategies and on strengthening national laws and regulations and their enforcement.

WORKING GROUP 2

WASTE MANAGEMENT: In the morning, Working Group 2 continued the second reading of the policy options/actions section of the waste management text, facilitated by Vice-Chair Abdelghani Merabet (Algeria).

The delegates agreed on text regarding comprehensive policies and strategies, and on promoting the 3Rs concept and disseminating lessons learned in its application. Delegates discussed language proposed by the EU and JAPAN on indicators and targets, but disagreed whether to include targets and at what level or levels to set them, and a US proposal to include “other means.”

The G-77/CHINA said “planning instruments” is too ambiguous, and BARBADOS proposed “planning process” as an alternative. Delegates disagreed on whether to add “policies and strategies” and whether to indicate the level at which planning should occur.

The EU proposed texts on: reducing transboundary movements of hazardous waste and e-waste; addressing social and poverty issues related to waste management; and identifying and managing specific priority waste streams, such as e-waste, industrial hazardous waste and radioactive waste.

Delegates agreed on text proposed by the EU on improving education, raising public awareness and building stakeholder confidence. Delegates also agreed on promoting the dissemination of economic, environmental, and social benefits, as well as the local applicability of, an integrated waste management approach. However, they did not agree on text stating intensive efforts are needed for capacity building, financing and transfer of technologies in the context of municipalities in developing countries.

Delegates agreed on encouraging the dissemination and replication of best practices in sustainable waste management in rural and remote communities, and on improving the quality and reliability of waste-related data for better inventories, monitoring and projections. The G-77/CHINA suggested deleting a US proposal citing conventions on spent radioactive fuel and radioactive wastes. Delegates deferred decisions on paragraphs regarding sustainable materials management and on global guidance, guidelines and standards on waste.

On reducing amounts of waste disposed of in landfills, various amendments were made, but no consensus was reached. Delegates agreed to text on minimizing marine pollution from waste, including plastics in the oceans.

NGOs highlighted the importance of: moving to zero waste economies; protecting water from waste pollution including plastics; and strengthening policies on food waste.

10YFP: In the afternoon, Working Group 2 continued the second reading of text on the 10YFP, facilitated by Vice-Chair Andrew Goleczkowski (Australia). Delegates agreed to include in the text an initial illustrative list of programmes, which have been identified through the Marrakech process and could be implemented soon after CSD 19. In addition to this list, SWITZERLAND proposed an annex listing programmes to be developed.

On criteria for the 10YFP, delegates agreed to language modified by the EU and the G-77/CHINA on responding to national and regional needs, priorities and circumstances. They also agreed on a compromise proposal by Vice-Chair Goleczkowski for basing 10YFP on lifecycle approaches, resource efficiency, sustainable use of resources and related methodologies, including science-based and traditional knowledge-based approaches, cradle-to-cradle and 3Rs, “as appropriate.” Consensus was not reached concerning proposals on corporate social responsibility, synergies between areas, not duplicating efforts in other fora, and on reflecting environmental burdens in the prices of goods and services.

Delegates agreed on some other proposed criteria, *inter alia*: based on a solid scientific and policy knowledge base; consistent with international obligations; and have established clear objectives and measures of success.

Texts that were not agreed on include: refraining from activities that may create barriers to trade; encouraging the use of a mix of efficient instruments in each programme; and being described according to a standard template.

Vice-Chair Goleczkowski invited several delegations to negotiate informally outside the room and bring back compromise text on key issues. He also invited the G-77/CHINA to present its non-paper outlining how it sees the Trust Fund being set up, structured, overseen and reviewed.

IN THE CORRIDORS

As negotiations kicked into high gear in the final week of CSD 19, discussions slowed to a snail’s pace on many issues. Despite efforts to find compromise, and the assertive use of Chair’s prerogatives by Vice-Chair Merabet, work on the waste management text slowed to a crawl. Most delegates still assert that it will get done in the remaining two sessions, but admit that, unless substantial work is done informally among interested parties outside the room, “Tuesday night will be a long one,” as one delegate put it. On the preamble, work has proceeded quickly, but some tricky bits remain, including linkages to the section on IL and CCI, including MOI. Delegates working on the latter text lamented their lack of progress as well.

A changing of the guard has picked up the pace considerably in the reading of the mining text, and delegates responded in due course, agreeing to clean up text and minimize discussion on minor issues. But while some welcomed a productive session, others saw looming controversies, including those involving energy and resource efficiency in the mining sector and over ensuring financial support.

In the mean time, the 10YFP is emerging as the most controversial issue because of its novelty, political sensitivity and implications for Rio+20 (as a possible Rio outcome). “It’s hard to say, but one reason for the slow pace on SCP may be that governments would rather trade concessions in the Rio+20 process, than in here,” noted one observer. “But we have no choice,” another chimed, “the 10YFP has to be decided here.” Meanwhile Vice-Chair Goleczkowski underscored that “at this rate, we’ll still be here in August!”

CSD 19 HIGHLIGHTS TUESDAY, 10 MAY 2011

Throughout Tuesday, CSD 19 Working Groups 1 and 2 convened to continue addressing issues in the Chair's negotiating text. In the morning, Working Group 1 took up mining, and Working Group 2 continued negotiations on waste management. In the afternoon, Working Group 1 addressed IL and CCI, including MOI, while Working Group 2 continued working on the 10YFP. Negotiations continued into the evening with sessions addressing transport and IL and CCI, including MOI, under Working Group 1, while the 10YFP and waste management were discussed by Working Group 2. In the late afternoon, the Vice-Chairs gave progress reports in the stocktaking plenary. Delegates also participated in various side events, a Learning Center and a Partnership Fair.

WORKING GROUP 1

MINING: With Vice-Chair Yvette Banzon Abalos (the Philippines) facilitating, Working Group 1 continued negotiating the Chair's draft text on mining.

The G-77/CHINA reported that it accepted CANADA's previous suggestion for a chapeau of the paragraphs on strengthening legal, regulatory and institutional frameworks, to be followed by language on environmental and social aspects.

AUSTRALIA, supported by the US, EU and NORWAY, proposed new text on improving working conditions, eradicating forced labor and referencing specific ILO conventions. While the G-77/CHINA agreed to work on the basis of the new text, she opposed mentioning specific conventions, and asked to retain reference to "living" conditions, which was accepted after some debate.

The EU reformulated its previous amendments to the paragraph on encouraging education, training, health and social protection in mining communities, which was accepted. Paragraphs were agreed on: promoting and protecting rights of indigenous and local communities; respecting indigenous and local community land rights in accordance with national laws and procedures; and encouraging the design and implementation of mechanisms for redress for communities from damages from mining, including compensation, with the G-77/CHINA withholding on the US addition of "where appropriate."

On stakeholder participation, the US stressed inclusion of major groups, local and indigenous communities, and youth and women. Delegates also agreed to, *inter alia*, text on public consultation, with the G-77/CHINA preferring to "promote" it broadly and the EU preferring to "ensure" it, and on improving access to public domain information.

On strengthening capacity building, the G-77/CHINA pushed for unqualified support from the international community, while the US and EU requested it be "on mutually agreed terms" or "as appropriate," respectively. Delegates then agreed to support capacity building for national governance mechanisms, laws and regulations, environmental liabilities, and contract negotiations, differing only on whether to specify support for all or only developing countries.

On text referring to identification and marketing of mineral resources, delegates debated the relevance of introducing and modifying language related to products and international trade. Vice-Chair Abalos suggested moving the topic to MOI, recalling that the extensive JPOI debate on "favorable market conditions" was conducted under MOI. CANADA and AUSTRALIA supported deletion of the section, and the US reiterated its "fundamental challenges" with the text, while the G-77/CHINA stressed the section's relevancy to fair trade.

IL AND CCI, INCLUDING MOI: In the afternoon, the Working Group continued discussions on IL and CCI, including MOI, facilitated by Vice-Chair Silvano Vergara Vásquez (Panama).

Agreement was almost reached on text on full and productive employment and decent work, but language on addressing poverty and social equity, offered by the G-77/CHINA, was bracketed by the US. The G-77/CHINA confirmed its opposition to "green jobs" as a term not yet defined, while the US referred to ILO definitions, but the G-77/CHINA said those were not unanimously supported.

There was general acceptance of a paragraph on "promoting increased investment in education infrastructure," as well as a statement that education, awareness raising and information can support changes in consumer behavior as a means for lifestyle change.

In the paragraph on education, the US, with CANADA and the EU, opposed a G-77/CHINA addition on early warning and disaster risk reduction as being "out of context," as well as, for substantive reasons, especially its reference to "chemical disaster and radioactive waste." The facilitator suggested making this a separate paragraph. After discussion, this notion was tentatively moved to a later part of the draft which deals with finance, technology transfer and capacity building, with the US saying this will not remove its objections. A G-77/CHINA addition on establishing processes that will continue beyond the Decade of Education for Sustainable Development was also moved to the same place.

On human resources and institutional capacities to strengthen the management of chemicals and waste, CANADA, the EU and JAPAN supported simple language reflecting CSD 17 text, saying that adding a list of developing country groups in need,

as proposed by the G-77/CHINA, obscures the meaning and purpose of the text. The G-77/CHINA reiterated that they are using language from the CSD 11 outcome, and that categories are drawn from the MDG text. The G-77/CHINA also pressed to include reference to technology transfer and financing, which was considered by some parties as an additional dilution of the text's meaning. Parties continued to diverge.

Delegates agreed to text promoting the role of multi-stakeholder partnerships.

WORKING GROUP 2

WASTE MANAGEMENT: On Tuesday morning, Working Group 2, facilitated by Vice-Chair Abdelghani Merabet (Algeria) continued the second reading of the text on waste management.

Regarding strengthening effective waste policies and strategies, delegates agreed to: reduce the use of hazardous substances and generation of hazardous wastes, in both quantity and toxicity, in line with the objectives of SAICM and other relevant multilateral agreements; encourage ratification of the Hong Kong Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships, while bearing in mind that this convention and the Basel Convention should remain complementary and coherent; and provide opportunities for meaningful public participation in the development and implementation of laws, regulations and policies for waste management.

On enforcement, most delegates supported referencing INTERPOL initiatives and a G-77/CHINA addition welcoming NGO efforts, but no agreement was reached.

Regarding specific wastes, delegates agreed on an EU proposal, as modified by the US, CANADA and Vice-Chair Merabet, to increase efforts to collect, treat and increase safe recycling of "e-waste or electrical and electronic end-of-life equipment" and to cooperate to address the growing problem of e-waste dumps, in particular in developing countries, including through existing mechanisms.

As proposed by CANADA, delegates agreed to merge a paragraph on reducing marine and coastal pollution with two other paragraphs. Delegates agreed to texts: encouraging development of guidelines and other policies and strategies to address biodegradable waste, including through reducing their quantities in landfills; and improving markets for products manufactured or derived from agricultural waste, residues and byproducts.

Delegates discussed, but did not agree on, text on developing or strengthening national, regional or local regulations, legislation or "laws and regulations" for environmentally sound management of health care wastes. Delegates discussed text proposed by NORWAY on strengthening policies and other efforts to reduce food waste, while CANADA asked to bracket it.

FARMERS highlighted that agricultural residues and byproducts are not wastes. WOMEN called on the governments to make the polluter pays principle more legally-binding, and to enforce it.

10YFP ON SCP: Facilitated by Vice-Chair Andrew Golezdzinowski (Australia), Working Group 2 finished the second and started the third reading of 10YFP text in the afternoon.

Delegates agreed that the 10YFP should be reviewed at the end of five years to address benefits, challenges and implementation, and that it could be done in relation to the CSD process. They also agreed that the first international meeting to establish the inter-governmental and multistakeholder forum and multistakeholder bureau should be organized no later than the end of 2012, but disagreed about a US proposal to hold it in conjunction with the July 2012 meeting of ECOSOC. Delegates decided to move this text to the section on 10YFP organization, where timing and venue will be addressed.

Delegates agreed on text, which decides, in order to achieve the goals and objectives defined in Chapter 3 of the JPOI on SCP, to establish a 10YFP on SCP covering the period 2011-2021, based on Agenda 21, the Rio Declaration and the JPOI.

Vice-Chair Golezdzinowski tabled compromise texts on SCP and a paragraph on a common vision. Brackets remain in these texts, including on the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities.

On the trust fund proposed by the G-77/CHINA, the US said it is understood as a voluntary mechanism, and the US is not in a position to make significant contribution to it. The EU said it is open-minded to the proposal by the G-77/CHINA, but still needs to clarify how the fund would be linked to 10YFP. NORWAY and CANADA said they could not support the proposed fund.

MONTENEGRO, supported by SERBIA, requested to include countries with economies in transition in the paragraph on financial assistance and capacity building.

After much debate, delegates agreed to request UNEP to serve as the 10YFP secretariat.

STOCKTAKING PLENARY

Late in the afternoon, a stocktaking plenary was convened by CSD 19 Chair László Borbély (Romania).

On Working Group 1, Vice-Chair Abalos reported on transport and mining. On mining, she stressed the need to speed up the search for consensus noting that while progress is encouraging, issues connected to IL and CCI have not been resolved. On transport, she highlighted progress on transport technologies, but said some ideas might be better addressed under CCI and MOI, and that language on green economy has yet to be agreed.

On chemicals and IL and CCI, including MOI, Vice-Chair Vásquez noted agreement on many issues, but said there were difficulties that need further debate.

On the 10YFP, Vice-Chair Golezdzinowski said discussions were focusing on key issues needing resolution to move forward.

On waste management and the preamble, Vice-Chair Merabet noted good progress on the preamble and said there was convergence on language, but that some outstanding issues are linked with outcomes on other sub-items. On waste management, he lamented that the text has grown from 58 to over 100 headings during the course of negotiations and noted divergence on defining common concepts and final placement of issues, especially related to MOI.

Chair Borbély closed the plenary noting that with cooperation the negotiations will reach a fruitful outcome.

IN THE CORRIDORS

Monday witnessed the delegates' first try at late-night negotiations, with some discussions going past midnight. After calls for "coffee and cigarettes" (apparently, in defiance of the UN ban on smoking), talks on the preamble text progressed at a heartening pace. In several cases, after battling in vain, the negotiators retreated to the "safe haven" of JPOI and MDG language.

"Congenial and full of flexibility" was how an insider described the chemicals discussion. Progress was made on two extensive portions of text, which were finalized: one on actions for lifecycle management and another on strengthening information access. Transport churned ahead slowly.

Meanwhile, several senior and experienced negotiators from capitals have been seen in the conference rooms, leading to expectations that the pace will quicken.

LES FAITS MARQUANTS DE LA CDD 19 MERCREDI 11 MAI 2011

Mercredi, la réunion de haut niveau de la CDD 19 a commencé. Les délégués se sont réunis, le matin, en séance plénière, et l'après-midi, en séance de dialogue multipartites sur les options politiques, les mesures pratiques et la marche à suivre. Les groupes de travail se sont réunis dans l'après-midi pour poursuivre le traitement, dans le cadre du Groupe de travail 1, de la question des produits chimiques, et dans le cadre du Groupe de travail 2, le préambule, et les négociations se sont poursuivies jusque tard dans la soirée. Les délégués ont également pris part à diverses manifestations organisées en marge de la réunion.

LA REUNION DE HAUT NIVEAU

LA SESSION D'OUVERTURE: Ouvrant le débat de haut niveau, le président Laszlo Borbely (Roumanie) a appelé les délégués à "n'épargner aucun effort, esprit constructif ou créativité pour trouver des solutions concrètes" aux thèmes de la CDD 19.

Le Sous-secrétaire général Sha Zukang, au nom du Secrétaire général Ban Ki-Moon, a appelé la CDD 19 à fournir un effort concerté pour conclure les négociations pour lancer, "sans délai", le cadre décennal des programmes, en guise de contribution importante à Rio +20.

Janez Potočnik, commissaire européen chargé de l'environnement, a déclaré que la maîtrise des modes de consommation et de production est une mesure importante pour parvenir à un développement réellement durable, et que par conséquent la conclusion de l'accord de la CDD 19 visant à établir le cadre décennal de programmes sera une étape essentielle sur la route de Rio +20.

Jeffrey Sachs, Institut de la Terre, a déclaré que le monde est confronté à une crise mondiale d'éthique, et trouver la voie du développement durable, demandera une feuille de route technologique, une réduction du gaz carbonique à l'échelle du globe et une coopération régionale, et que les institutions mondiales ne sont pas assez rapides.

Ashok Khosla, Président de l'UICN, a déclaré que Rio +20 a besoin de revoir 40 ans d'engagements non tenus et d'explorer de véritables alternatives aux pratiques actuelles, telles que "les technologies de bleu", l'économie verte, de nouvelles institutions de gouvernance et des modes de consommation et de production durables.

L'Argentine, au nom du G-77/CHINE, a souligné la nécessité: d'améliorations dans le secteur des transports pour l'éradication de la pauvreté; pour les industries multinationales, d'utiliser les mêmes normes environnementales et sanitaires lorsqu'elles s'installent dans des pays en développement; d'inventaires des stocks de déchets dangereux et de technologies de biorestauration; pour les pays industrialisés, de prendre les devants dans la mise en œuvre du cadre décennal; et d'un élargissement de la participation des parties prenantes dans la politique minière. La représentante s'est déclarée préoccupée par les tentatives de suppression des MOI partout dans le texte, rappelant que la CDD-11 a mandaté ces éléments.

La Hongrie, au nom de l'UE, a appelé à un modèle de durabilité impliquant l'ensemble des secteurs de l'économie et offrant des avantages sociaux, et a réitéré le soutien de l'UE pour: la transition vers une économie verte, à travers le cadre décennal; le découplage économie-dégradation de l'environnement, la Convention de Bâle sur les déchets; le

renforcement des mesures de réduction et de réutilisation dans le secteur minier; et le renforcement du système juridique régissant la gestion des produits chimiques.

L'Indonésie, au nom d'ASEAN, a souligné les liens entre la CDD 19 et le résultat de la CNUDD 2012, et a souligné la nécessité de réalisations et de travaux conduisant à la mise en place d'une économie verte, en conformité avec les objectifs et les priorités nationales.

Le Soudan, au nom du GROUPE ARABE, avec l'AOSIS, a souligné l'importance de fournir, aux pays en développement, des ressources financières, le transfert de technologie et le renforcement des capacités, pour la mise en œuvre du cadre décennal. La CHINE s'est engagée à jouer un rôle constructif dans le processus menant à Rio +20, et a souligné que chaque pays doit accomplir le devoir qui lui incombe pour promouvoir le développement durable et renforcer la coopération. L'ARABIE SAOUDITE a souligné l'importance de la réduction des émissions de déchets et de polluants, et d'une utilisation plus efficace des ressources naturelles, en s'appuyant sur les programmes et domaines prioritaires disponibles, notamment à travers le processus de Marrakech.

L'IRLANDE a déclaré que l'accent mis sur le cadre décennal offre la possibilité de créer une vision commune et une approche fondée sur l'action, dans l'utilisation durable des ressources naturelles.

Le MONTENEGRO a souligné la nécessité d'examiner les besoins de développement des différents pays et régions, en vue de mettre en œuvre, de manière effective, les décisions qui seront adoptées à la CDD 19. La MOLDAVIE a souligné l'importance de la gestion écologiquement rationnelle des transports, des mines, des produits chimiques et des déchets.

ISRAEL a encouragé la mise en place de l'économie verte, l'innovation, la catalyse de la demande écologique et la réévaluation des indicateurs de développement. L'AFRIQUE DU SUD a mis l'accent sur la volonté politique, la réduction de la pauvreté, les moyens de mise en œuvre et la coopération Sud-Sud et Nord-Sud.

Le MEXIQUE a déclaré que la CDD 19 est l'occasion d'élaborer de nouveaux mécanismes d'action, et a présenté un rapport sur la mise en œuvre des programmes nationaux. Le CHILI a mis en relief l'exploitation des ressources de manière responsable et durable, et le délégué du GABON a décrit les efforts de son pays dans divers domaines, notamment dans le domaine de l'exploitation minière durable.

Le KAZAKHSTAN a parlé des questions prioritaires nationales de sécurité, d'utilisation efficace de l'énergie et de développement durable. Le délégué des PHILIPPINES a déclaré que la CDD 19 devrait être le point de départ d'un engagement politique ambitieux, et a encouragé l'instauration d'un environnement international favorable aux pays en développement. Le délégué du JAPON a exprimé ses remerciements pour l'aide internationale après sa récente catastrophe, et a rappelé que son pays a accueilli des conférences sur les produits chimiques, la biodiversité et le mercure.

La SUISSE a indiqué que les programmes relatifs aux produits chimiques, à la gestion des déchets et au cadre décennal devraient être mis en œuvre immédiatement après la CDD 19. L'INDE a souligné le rôle du transport et a appelé les pays industrialisés à prendre les devants, pour ce qui est des modes de consommation et de production durables.

DIALOGUE MULTIPARTITE SUR LES OPTIONS POLITIQUES, LES MESURES PRATIQUES ET LA VOIE A SUIVRE: L'après-midi, le président Borbély a ouvert le dialogue multipartite soulignant la nécessité de discussions ouvertes et franches avec toutes les parties prenantes.

La HONGRIE, au nom de l'UE, a déclaré que la participation des parties prenantes constitue une importante valeur ajoutée de la CDD et a souligné l'importance d'agir en faveur du cadre décennal. Les ETATS-UNIS ont déclaré que les principaux groupes sociaux devraient avoir été autorisés à parler davantage durant les séances de négociation de la CDD 19, et ont demandé à entendre la FAO au sujet de son suivi des conclusions de la CDD 17 sur l'agriculture durable. La CCNUCC a souligné la nécessité d'appliquer pleinement les accords de Cancun, et l'importance des modes de consommation et de production durables pour le changement climatique. Le BUREAU DES AFFAIRES SPATIALES DES NATIONS UNIES a mentionné son rapport sur le rôle de la technologie spatiale dans les transports et les modes de consommation et de production durables.

La porte-parole des FEMMES a appelé à l'implication des Femmes et des Jeunes à tous les niveaux de la planification et de la mise en œuvre des thèmes de la CDD 19. Le représentant des ENFANTS et des JEUNES a appelé à un cadre décennal qui fournit une vision décisive facile à traduire en action, avec des objectifs clairs et des indicateurs permettant d'évaluer les progrès accomplis. La représentante des PEUPLES AUTOCHTONES a souligné le besoin d'une gouvernance plus démocratique dans la sphère du développement durable, y compris un temps de parole plus important pour les principaux groupes à la CDD. Elle a appelé à des seuils et objectifs clairs dans le domaine de la production minière et la mise en place de zones "interdites", telles que les terres sacrées. Les ONG ont proposé de travailler avec les organismes des Nations Unies et les gouvernements pour mettre en œuvre à grande échelle, au moins, 1000 projets à travers le monde liés aux thèmes de la CDD 19.

Le délégué des COLLECTIVITES LOCALES a souligné le rôle des municipalités dans la mise en œuvre des thèmes de la CDD 19, tels que la gestion des déchets, et dans le pouvoir d'achat des villes dans la mise en œuvre des programmes d'approvisionnement écologiques. Le délégué des SYNDICATS a fait part de sa crainte que le texte de la CDD 19 relatif à l'exploitation minière ne met pas suffisamment l'accent sur la ratification de normes de l'OIT régissant le travail dans les mines.

Le PNUD a souligné l'importance des grandes politiques multisectorielles, de l'économie verte et des liens avec Rio +20, et l'ONUDI a exprimé son engagement à mettre en œuvre les programmes inscrits dans le cadre décennal. Le PNUE a appelé à l'approbation des programmes inscrits dans le cadre décennal et fait part de son étroite implication dans les modes de consommation et de production durables et autres thèmes de la CDD 19.

L'AFRIQUE DU SUD a déploré le faible taux d'exécution du PMAJ, en particulier dans le domaine de l'éradication de la pauvreté des groupes vulnérables, et a exhorté les institutions de l'ONU à traiter ces questions de manière plus active, notamment en ce qui concerne les femmes. Le délégué du COMMERCE ET INDUSTRIE a souligné son syndicat dans la diffusion des nouvelles technologies, et s'est référé à la bonne gouvernance, à la primauté du droit, à la protection des droits de propriété intellectuelle et à la lutte contre la corruption. La COMMUNAUTE SCIENTIFIQUE ET TECHNOLOGIQUE a parlé de l'importance de la recherche dans l'exécution des décisions de la CDD, et les AGRICULTEURS ont mis en relief la souveraineté alimentaire, la sécurité alimentaire et l'infrastructure agricole.

LE GROUPE DE TRAVAIL 1

LES PRODUITS CHIMIQUES: Le Groupe de travail 1, modéré par le vice-président Silvano Vásquez Vergara (Panama), s'est réuni de nouveau sur les produits chimiques après deux groupes de contact non officiels sur ce thème, tenus mardi soir et mercredi matin sous la présidence de Lee Eeles (Australie). Eeles a signalé que les MOI chimiques restaient une question en suspens. Le débat sur les MOI a été axé sur la question de savoir si les MOI chimiques devaient être placés dans un texte consacré aux MOI, comme souhaité par les pays industrialisés, ou s'ils devaient être maintenus dans le texte consacré aux produits chimiques. Le G-77/CHINE a insisté pour que les MOI des produits chimiques soient négociés dans le cadre du "paquet" des produits chimiques, étant donné que de nombreuses questions touchant aux MOI chimiques avaient été retirées du paragraphe, étant entendu que le chapitre consacré aux MOI chimiques y resterait. La représentante a également rappelé le libellé figurant dans l'Action 21 qui stipule que: "Les MOI devraient être

examinés à chaque cycle et pour chaque question pertinente". L'UE, avec le CANADA, a répondu préférer ne pas négocier sous "conditions", comme l'implique la décision qui énonce qu'aucun texte ne serait déplacé. L'absence de consensus sur l'approche à adopter à l'égard des MOI a abouti à une impasse dans les négociations. Le vice-président Vásquez a décidé de consulter le Bureau sur cette question et de présenter un rapport dans la soirée.

Les délégués ont entamé la négociation du texte consacré aux MOI, à titre informel, pour y travailler sur les aspects les moins controversés et ceux non liés au déplacement. Au sujet du renforcement des MOI pour la gestion rationnelle des produits chimiques, les délégués ont convenu d'insérer dans le paragraphe introductif, une référence aux principes de Rio et aux objectifs du SMDD concernant la gestion des produits chimiques.

Au sujet de l'aide, le G-77/CHINE a proposé que le financement soit "adéquat, prévisible, accessible, durable, nouveau et supplémentaire". Le délégué des ETATS-UNIS a demandé de placer cette formulation entre crochets. En réponse, le CANADA a inséré que l'aide soit fournie "durant la période intermédiaire" pour permettre le renforcement des capacités, mais aussi pour amener les pays en développement et les pays à économie en transition à prendre en la responsabilité à long terme.

LE GROUPE DE TRAVAIL 2

LE PREAMBULE: Modérées par le vice-président Abdelghani Merabet (Algérie), les discussions du Groupe de travail 2 se sont poursuivies sur le préambule du texte de négociation du président.

Les délégués ont accepté les paragraphes: stipulant que la mise en œuvre des mesures et actions recommandées à la CDD 19 doit être conforme aux obligations internationales, y compris, le cas échéant, aux règles de l'OMC; reconnaissant l'urgence et réaffirmant son engagement à parvenir à une conclusion fructueuse et opportune du cycle de Doha des négociations de l'OMC, avec un résultat ambitieux, équilibré et axé sur le développement; soulignant le besoin urgent d'accroître les efforts à tous les niveaux, d'une manière économiquement, socialement et écologiquement durable, pour répondre à toutes les questions thématiques du cycle et améliorer la mise en œuvre des décisions touchant aux politiques à mettre en place.

Les délégués se sont également accordés sur les textes: reconnaissant que le transport et la mobilité durables sont importants pour le développement durable; exprimant la préoccupation que les pays en développement, en particulier, sont confrontés à des défis dans le domaine de la gestion écologiquement rationnelle des déchets, y compris le manque de ressources et d'accès aux technologies appropriées; reconnaissant que la gestion écologiquement rationnelle des déchets est importante pour la santé humaine; et s'inquiétant du fait que de nombreux pays en développement ne disposent pas des ressources et capacités nécessaires pour passer à des modèles de consommation et de production durables.

DANS LES COULOIRS

Après les négociations qui ont duré jusqu'à minuit, mardi, les discussions sur le chapitre des produits chimiques du projet de texte du président se sont échauffées mercredi matin, lors de négociations informelles, aboutissant à une confrontation entre d'un côté, les Etats-Unis, la suisse, l'UE et le Japon, qui ont placé entre crochets le paragraphe entier consacré aux MOI chimiques et demandé son placement ailleurs dans le texte, et de l'autre côté, le G77/Chine qui a refusé de le décomposer. Les MOI semblent être un problème pour les autres thèmes également. Un observateur s'est dit perplexe que chaque thème semble "agir à sa guise" par rapport aux MOI, tandis qu'un autre a répliqué: "l'emplacement ne changera pas le sens des MOI."

Pendant ce temps, le dialogue multipartites, tant vanté, a pris fin abruptement, au bout d'une heure de temps: malgré une insistance douce des président, il y avait plus d'orateurs. Il semble que la signature du Protocole de Nagoya sur l'accès aux ressources génétiques, de la Convention sur la diversité biologique, qui s'est tenue en même temps, a occupé un certain nombre de ministres qui ont brillé par leur absence durant la séance de dialogue. L'autre raison invoquée par un délégué, est que les participants étaient en train d'économiser leur énergie pour les débats des tables rondes, jeudi, ces dernières promettant d'être plus ciblées et plus productives que les interventions de deux minutes qu'on a vu se dérouler, dans une grande salle, sur des sujets très disparates.

CSD 19 HIGHLIGHTS: THURSDAY, 12 MAY 2011

On Thursday, the high-level segment of CSD 19 continued with four ministerial roundtables. In the morning, roundtables on developing programmes and a framework to accelerate the shift towards SCP, and enhancing access to sustainable urban and rural transport took place. In the afternoon, roundtables on moving towards zero waste and sound management of chemicals, and creating an enabling environment for sustainable mining convened. Throughout the day and into the evening negotiations took place under the Working Groups and in contact groups on waste management, mining, chemicals, the 10YFP, preamble and IL and CCI, including MOI, in order to resolve outstanding issues in the text.

MINISTERIAL ROUNDTABLES

DEVELOPING PROGRAMMES AND A FRAMEWORK TO ACCELERATE THE SHIFT TOWARDS SCP: In the morning, delegates participated in the Ministerial Roundtable on SCP, co-chaired by Paul Magnette, Minister for Climate and Energy, Belgium, and Margarita Songco, Deputy Director-General, National Economic and Development Authority, the Philippines.

Mohan Munasinghe, Chairman, Munasinghe Institute for Development, Sri Lanka, discussed the idea of setting “Millennium Consumption Goals” as a way to prompt the cultural changes needed to ensure achievement of SCP and sustainable development.

Achim Steiner, Executive Director, UNEP, underscored that CSD 19 giving a clear message on the 10YFP is important for moving forward on the sustainable development agenda and building confidence for Rio+20.

Paul Anastas, Assistant Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, US, stressed the important role of science and technology, such as green chemistry, in catalyzing the changes needed to realize SCP, and the role of various actors in ensuring it happens on the scale required.

During discussions, ministers and high-level officials expressed their support for the 10YFP, stating that it is an important step towards Rio+20 and SCP. They supported UNEP as its secretariat and including an initial list of programmes in the document, based on those developed during the Marrakech process. They highlighted the need for: efficient institutional structures for its implementation; mobilizing financial and technical resources; green economy; decoupling economic growth from ecological degradation; closer cooperation among all relevant stakeholders; and transparency and mainstreaming SCP into planning and reporting.

ALGERIA suggested establishing regional centers to disseminate information and knowledge. GERMANY called for adoption of the UN Green Economy Roadmap, which should include timeline benchmarks and a monitoring system at Rio+20.

UN-ESCAP underscored that shifting towards SCP or green economy is not a conditionality but a necessity for energy and food security for developing countries. The UN WORLD TOURISM ORGANIZATION highlighted the role of tourism in SCP. CHILDREN AND YOUTH said that the 10YFP should be able to translate words into actions and a framework without programmes is an empty shell. NGOs called for treating stakeholders as equal partners in the transition to SCP.

ENHANCING ACCESS TO SUSTAINABLE URBAN AND RURAL TRANSPORT: This roundtable was co-chaired by Phil Hogan, Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government, Ireland, and Blaise Louembet, Minister of Habitat, Planning, Ecology, and Sustainable Development, Gabon.

Joan Clos, Executive Director, UN-HABITAT, spoke on the importance of approaching transport bearing in mind the need for reduced mobility, and that traffic is a result of poor urban mass transportation planning.

Allison Davis, AICP Senior Transportation Planner, Arup, US, said that congestion reduces municipal quality of life and economic competitiveness. She underlined the importance of getting car owners back into public transport, reallocating street space to public transit, and developing multimodal visions.

In the discussion, ministers, high-level officials and major groups focused on: sustainable urban planning for reduction of CO₂ emissions, noise pollution and habitat fragmentation; transportation’s role in reconstruction and peace-building; avoiding energy consumption; safety; information and technology-sharing; and initiatives for efficiency indicators. Many speakers stressed the need to improve public transport infrastructure and increase investment through government policies and partnerships, and noted that accessible, affordable and sustainable transport will go a long way in reducing poverty and facilitating access to jobs.

Others, including FARMERS, WOMEN, NGOs and CHILDREN AND YOUTH, highlighted the importance of transport mobility in rural areas with special reference to the situation of women, non-motorized transport, and the need for broad consultations with citizens on transport planning. WORKERS AND TRADE UNIONS commented on working conditions of transport employees, including in the informal sector. UNEP and UNECE reported on their current initiatives in transport and highlighted good policy formulation.

MOVING TOWARDS ZERO WASTE AND SOUND MANAGEMENT OF CHEMICALS: Cherif Rahmani, Ministry of Environment, Algeria, and Nikola Ružinski, State Secretary for Environment, Croatia, co-chaired the roundtable on moving towards zero waste and sound management of chemicals.

Jim Willis, Joint Head of the Basel and Stockholm Convention Secretariats and the UNEP part of the Rotterdam Convention Secretariat, stressed the importance of both the benefits and costs of chemicals management. Craig Boljkovac, Former Chair of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC), spoke on mainstreaming chemicals management and the utility of the SAICM. Prasad Modak, Executive President, Environmental Management Center, India, discussed “losing the opportunity” to convert waste streams back into resources.

Ministers and high-level officials expressed their support for: enhancing synergies between the Basel, Stockholm and Rotterdam Conventions and strengthening their regional centers; financial support, technical assistance and capacity building; SAICM, especially the Quick Start Programme; a legally-binding global instrument on mercury; complementing international efforts at the regional and national levels; moving toward zero waste; greater engagement with civil society; and building international partnerships on waste management for the dissemination of good practices.

NIGERIA urged more technical assistance to help developing countries clean up contaminated sites. COLOMBIA called for the Basel Ban Amendment to be implemented. INDIA said bans should only be a last resort, since they often led to smuggling.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY called for increased research in green chemistry.

CREATING AN ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE MINING: This roundtable was facilitated by Zoltan Illés, Minister of State for Environmental Affairs, Hungary, and Luis Alberto Ferraté Felice, Minister of Environment and Natural Resources, Guatemala.

Panelist Ann Maest, Stratus Consulting, US, focused on the technological side of hard-rock mining, including increased waste, energy and water use. Ben Peachy, International Council on Mining and Metals, UK, spoke on improving the performance of mining companies.

Speakers emphasized, *inter alia*, the need for: promotion of resource efficiency and poverty eradication; cooperation between governments, companies and communities to maximize the benefits of mining; integrated use of mineral resources; and effective regulatory bodies and corporate social responsibility.

UNEP highlighted multi-stakeholder platforms at regional and global levels to promote sustainability in the mining sector.

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES said mining is a fundamentally unsustainable industry and WOMEN said the history of mining is one of violence. WORKERS AND TRADE UNIONS noted the danger of working in mines and CHILDREN AND YOUTH called for the eradication of child labor in mining. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY noted the importance of scientific research.

WORKING GROUP 1

MOI: The G-77/CHINA suggested inclusion, in the paragraph on outcomes of major international conferences, of a reference to paragraph 81 of the JPOI (on MOI), but the US, CANADA and the EU objected. Debate continued between the G-77/CHINA and the EU, US, JAPAN, and CANADA over, *inter alia*: reference to “innovation as an enabler” for implementation in the preamble; language for recognizing “the role of the private sector” in “sustainable” or “sustainable industrial” development; finance, and if it should support developing countries in addressing both the inter-related global crisis and meeting the CSD decisions; and development assistance. The delegates agreed to delete text on corporate social responsibility and on urging the donor community to support developing countries in achieving the SCP, both of which are pending in the SCP negotiations. At the close of the evening’s formal negotiations,

many paragraphs still remained bracketed with placement uncertain and some issues untouched. Delegates discussed having a morning session to finalize drafting.

MINING: At this last formal meeting of the group, discussion centered on the opening paragraphs of the section. The G-77/CHINA asked for removal of the word “access” referring to raw materials as essential for modern living, and suggested mentioning “availability” of minerals and metals. After discussion, this latter formula was accepted. The G-77/CHINA also added a reference to the Rio principles of sustainable development, and proposed reference to fair distribution of benefits from mining, but objected to mentioning companies as benefit recipients. Negotiations continued well into the night.

WORKING GROUP 2

10YFP: In the morning, Working Group 2 continued discussions on the 10YFP by considering compromise text proposed by two contact groups. They agreed on language concerning, *inter alia*, avoiding trade distortions and new constraints to international development financing and ODA, and pursuing SCP in a manner that supports new market development opportunities for products and technologies, especially from developing countries.

Working Group 2 resumed negotiations on 10YFP in the evening. Delegates agreed on the paragraphs on 10YFP’s functions related to: promoting the added value of an SCP approach; enabling all relevant stakeholders to share information; fostering increased cooperation and networking; supporting the integration of SCP in decision-making; raising awareness and engaging civil society; facilitating access to technical assistance, training, financing, technology and capacity building; making use of the scientific and policy knowledge base; promoting the engagement of the private sector; fostering innovation and new ideas; and considering the costs and benefits related to SCP implementation. Negotiations continued late into the evening.

PREAMBLE: During the lunch hour, Working Group 2 held its final round of negotiations on the preamble. They agreed on language covering, *inter alia*, Africa, the 26th session of the UNEP Governing Council, the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, and synergies between the Basel, Stockholm and Rotterdam Conventions.

IN THE CORRIDORS

As negotiations at CSD 19 hit what many negotiators were characterizing as “crunch time,” delegates balanced “packed” Ministerial Roundtables, particularly on SCP, in between negotiations to hash out remaining issues, including the impasse on MOI. Talks there proceeded very slowly, producing fits of frustration among some negotiators. “This is more like ‘ego’-management, rather than ‘eco’-management!” said a weary delegate. As night approached, the conflict of wills was continuing, with both sides of the ideological divide hoping to wear out the opponent by attrition. “If only we had one more day,” mused one delegate. As usual, hopes abound that the Chair will produce a miracle, i.e., a compromise text, to be accepted “as is,” late on Friday.

Meanwhile, many were noting that the intensity of this CSD was sustained by the singular presence of internet technologies in the negotiating rooms. “It wouldn’t have been possible without the e-room, it allows us to propose text without even taking the floor, and to get updated versions of the draft in near real-time,” enthused one computer-savvy delegate. Another noted the quick responses from negotiators able to consult with their delegations and capitals on their Blackberries. “It’s nice, you can float language and get a pretty quick turn around on whether something will work.” The downside of this, according to others, is that the text overflows with amendments, which sometimes obscures really important points.

ENB SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS: The *Earth Negotiations Bulletin* summary and analysis of CSD 19 will be available on Monday, 16 May 2011 online at: <http://www.iisd.ca/csd/csd19/>

SUMMARY OF THE NINETEENTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: 2-14 MAY 2011

The 19th session of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD 19) convened from 2-14 May 2011, at UN Headquarters in New York. Delegates focused on the thematic cluster on transport, chemicals, waste management, mining and the 10-Year Framework Programme (10YFP) on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP).

The CSD meets annually in two-year “Implementation Cycles.” Each cycle focuses on one thematic cluster along with cross-sectoral issues and is composed of a Review Year and a Policy Year. This approach was adopted at CSD 11 in 2003, which outlined a multi-year programme of work (2004-2017). CSD 19 negotiated policy recommendations based on CSD 18’s review of the issues and the development of a draft Chair’s negotiating text during an Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting, which convened from 28 February - 4 March 2011.

Negotiations on an agreed outcome continued throughout Friday and into early Saturday morning. A Chair’s text was proposed for adoption as a package, but no consensus could be reached. After failing to agree to convene a resumed session in June, CSD 19 adjourned having failed to adopt an agreed outcome containing policy recommendations on its thematic cluster.

In addition to negotiating the policy options, CSD 19 delegates participated in a multi-stakeholder dialogue with Major Groups and a High-Level Segment with Ministerial Roundtables focusing on: developing programmes and a framework to accelerate the shift towards SCP; enhancing access to sustainable urban and rural transport; moving towards zero waste and sound management of chemicals; and creating an enabling environment for sustainable mining. On Friday morning a Ministerial Dialogue on moving towards sustainable development— expectations from the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD or Rio+20) was held. A Partnerships Fair, Learning Center and side events also took place throughout the two-week session.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE CSD

The Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) emerged from Agenda 21, the programme of action for sustainable development adopted in June 1992 by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), also known as the “Rio Earth Summit.” Agenda 21 called for the creation of the CSD to ensure effective follow-up of UNCED, enhance international cooperation, and examine progress in the implementation of Agenda 21 at the local, national, regional and international levels. In 1992, the 47th session of the UN General Assembly adopted resolution 47/191, which established the CSD’s terms of reference and composition, organization of work, relationship with other UN bodies, Secretariat arrangements, and guidelines for the participation of Major Groups. The CSD is a functional commission of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), and its decisions are forwarded to ECOSOC. The CSD has 53 member states, although all UN member states are invited to participate in its sessions. The Division for Sustainable Development, within the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), serves as the CSD’s Secretariat.

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The CSD held its first substantive session in June 1993 and has convened annually since then at UN Headquarters in New York. During its first five years, the CSD systematically reviewed the implementation of all chapters of Agenda 21. In June 1997, five years after UNCED, the 19th Special Session of the UN General Assembly (UNGASS-19), also known as “Rio+5,” was held to review the implementation of Agenda 21. Negotiations produced a Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21. Among the decisions adopted at UNGASS-19 was a five-year CSD work programme organized around sectoral, cross-sectoral and economic thematic issues. The economic, sectoral and cross-sectoral themes considered, as determined at UNGASS, were as follows: industry, strategic approaches to freshwater management, and technology transfer, capacity building, education, science and awareness raising (CSD-6); tourism, oceans and seas, and consumption and production patterns (CSD-7); sustainable agriculture and land management, integrated planning and management of land resources, and financial resources, trade and investment and economic growth (CSD-8); and energy and transport, atmosphere and energy, and information for decision-making and participation and international cooperation for an enabling environment (CSD-9).

The World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) met from 26 August-4 September 2002, in Johannesburg, South Africa, and adopted two main documents: the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI) and the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development. The JPOI is designed as a framework for action to implement the commitments originally agreed at UNCED and includes chapters on: poverty eradication; consumption and production; the natural resource base; health; small island developing states (SIDS); Africa; other regional initiatives; means of implementation; and the institutional framework. The Johannesburg Declaration outlines the path taken from UNCED to the WSSD, highlights present challenges, expresses a commitment to sustainable development, underscores the importance of multilateralism and emphasizes the need for implementation.

The WSSD called for the CSD to meet in seven two-year “implementation cycles,” and a multi-year programme of work for the 2004-2017 period was adopted at CSD 11 in 2003. The CSD 12 and 13 cycle adopted recommendations to address water, sanitation and human settlements. CSD 14 and 15 considered energy, industrial development, air pollution/atmosphere and climate change, but did not reach agreement on recommendations for action. The CSD 16 and 17 cycle adopted recommendations related to drought, desertification, agriculture, land, rural development and Africa.

CSD 18 convened in May 2010. Delegates embarked on a two-year cycle focused on the thematic cluster of transport, chemicals, waste management, mining, and sustainable consumption and production (SCP) patterns. At the conclusion of CSD 18, delegates expressed satisfaction with discussions on all the thematic clusters, especially for mining, transport and SCP, which do not fall under any other international bodies for policy coordination. A suggestion to evaluate ways to improve implementation of CSD decisions was also received with interest, as many participants privately questioned the utility of a long CSD “review” year.

The Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting (IPM) for CSD 19, which took place at UN Headquarters in New York from 28 February to 4 March 2011, provided a forum to discuss policy options and possible actions to enable the implementation of measures and policies concerning the thematic issues under consideration during the CSD 18/CSD 19 (2010-2011) two-year “implementation cycle.” To facilitate this, the IPM considered each thematic area and delegates outlined possible policy options and actions for adoption at CSD 19. Delegates also considered inter-linkages, cross-cutting issues and means of implementation, as well as SIDS. Finally, there were two multistakeholder dialogues designed to elicit feedback from different groups on the thematic issues, as well as on expectations for CSD 19 in the context of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development. The IPM’s deliberations resulted in a Chair’s draft negotiating text, which most delegates felt would provide a good starting point for negotiations at CSD 19.

CSD 19 REPORT

Opening the session, CSD 19 Chair László Borbély, Minister of Environment and Forests, Romania, underscored the need to focus on identifying concrete policy measures, commitments and means of implementation, and called for enhancing linkages between elements of the CSD 19 thematic cluster of transport, chemicals, waste management, mining and the 10YFP. Sha Zukang, UN Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, stressed the importance of deciding on the Commission’s place in the institutional framework in the lead-up to Rio+20 and the importance of CSD 19’s thematic cluster for the green economy.

Chair Borbély announced the nominations of CSD 19 Vice-Chairs Eduardo Meñez (the Philippines), for the Asia Group, and Abdelghani Merabet (Algeria), for the Africa Group, who were elected by acclamation. Vice-Chair Silvano Vergara Vásquez (Panama) served as Rapporteur. Highlighting that discussions on the Chair’s draft negotiating text would take place in two working groups, Chair Borbély suggested CSD Vice-Chairs Vásquez and Meñez facilitate Working Group 1 and Vice-Chair Andrew Golezdzinowski (Australia) and Merabet facilitate Working Group 2. The US urged flexibility in assigning items, including the preamble and crosscutting issues, to different working groups. Delegates adopted the agenda and organization of work (E/CN.17/2011/1) without amendment.

OPENING STATEMENTS: Argentina, for the Group of 77 and China (G-77/China), highlighted transport as an important component of sustainable development and sound management of toxic chemicals and wastes, and expressed support for the 10YFP. Hungary, for the European Union (EU), urged the adoption of a decision on the 10YFP for 2011-2021, and underscored effective use of financial resources, sound management of chemicals, and sustainable mining. Chile, for the Rio Group, said the 10YFP should reflect the needs of developing countries and avoid imposition of conditionalities and trade protectionist measures. Grenada, for the Alliance of Small Island Developing States (AOSIS), with Fiji, for the Pacific Island Developing States, said that 10YFP should be flexible, forward-looking and action-oriented, and should take into consideration the special needs of SIDS.

Nigeria, for the African Group, and the Rio Group, highlighted the need for identifying means of implementation in the 10YFP. The US stressed the importance of scientific research and education and strengthening participation at all levels, particularly by women. Noting budgetary cutbacks, he said the US is not in a position to make new commitments. Japan highlighted the importance of green growth. Switzerland said that the 10YFP should develop synergies with chemicals instruments and highlighted the polluter pays and precautionary principles.

The UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), speaking on behalf of the five UN Regional Commissions, stressed, *inter alia*, the importance of transportation infrastructure and said that the 10YFP should consider lessons of the Marrakech process on regional approaches, enabling a systemic shift rather than incremental changes.

Women called for legally-binding guidelines on social and environmental responsibility, and Children and Youth called for a systemic change and solid financial mechanisms that support equity, integrity and justice. Indigenous Peoples called for addressing the life-cycle of unsustainable mineral production and consumption, and reducing unnecessary mining. NGOs called for ensuring their full participation in the 10YFP and representation on a stakeholder bureau under the 10YFP. Local Authorities called for strengthening capacity building and linkages between waste and SCP. Workers and Trade Unions said trade unions should be included in the Chair's negotiating text. Business and Industry supported an institutional framework that allows markets to work for sustainable development. The Scientific and Technological Community said global cooperation for scientific knowledge dissemination is essential. Farmers highlighted addressing food waste to improve the food system.

THEMATIC CLUSTER

Negotiations on the CSD 19 policy recommendations were based on the Chair's draft negotiating text, which emerged from the CSD 19 Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting, which took place from 28 February - 4 March 2011. Work on the text was split between two working groups. Issues addressed by both working groups were first taken up in plenary on Monday, 2 May 2011.

CSD 19 Chair Borbély proposed, and member states accepted, addressing transport, chemicals, mining and interlinkages (IL) and cross-cutting issues (CCI), including means of implementation (MOI) in Working Group 1, facilitated by CSD 19 Vice-Chairs Silvano Vergara Vásquez and Eduardo Meñez. During the second week Yvette Banzon Abalos (the Philippines) replaced Eduardo Meñez as facilitator. Chair Borbély proposed, and member states accepted, addressing the 10YFP on SCP, waste management and the preamble in Working Group 2, facilitated by CSD 19 Vice-Chairs Andrew Goledzinowski and Abdelghani Merabet. The working groups met throughout the two weeks to negotiate the text, with delegates proposing changes to the text both in-session and online via an "e-room." The CSD 19 Vice-Chairs reported progress back to the plenary during two stocktaking sessions held on Friday, 6 May, and Tuesday, 10 May. On Friday, 13 May, negotiations on waste management finished in late afternoon, while those on MOI

and chemicals continued late into the evening. In the absence of consensus on all issues in the text, Chair Borbély produced a package text under his authority for adoption as the outcome. Delegates failed to reach consensus on the Chair's package text produced early Saturday morning. Parties discussed suspending CSD 19 and continuing negotiations during a resumed session, however consensus on this proposal could not be reached and CSD 19 concluded without adopting an agreed outcome on CSD 19's thematic cluster.

PREAMBLE: Facilitated by Vice-Chair Abdelghani Merabet (Algeria), this issue was first addressed in Working Group 2 on Friday, 6 May, and negotiations continued on Wednesday and Thursday, 11 and 12 May.

On financial resources, Japan proposed changing "new and additional" to "adequate." The G-77/China proposed a new text calling for strengthening the essential role that ODA plays in complementing, leveraging and sustaining financing for development in developing countries. The G-77/China asked for deletion of a paragraph on the Doha Round of WTO negotiations, and suggested adding "on favorable terms" after "transfer of technology." The US instead preferred "on mutually agreed terms."

The EU requested including reference to decisions on chemicals and waste management adopted by the UNEP Governing Council (GC), and Mexico requested a reference to "including for financing of chemicals and waste management" in the same text. Switzerland added text on welcoming the outcome of the simultaneous extraordinary meeting of the Conferences of the Parties of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions.

On transboundary waste movements, the US suggested deleting specific references to hazardous wastes, e-wastes and ratifying protocols, while adding language on coordinating enforcement. The G-77/China proposed new text on the importance of mining, minerals and metals. The US proposed new texts on fighting corruption, the importance of science and technology, and the need to scale-up, replicate and adapt successful experiences.

The G-77/China proposed text resolving to take further effective measures to remove the obstacles to the full realization of the rights of peoples living under colonial and foreign occupation, which the US, Canada, EU and Japan opposed.

The G-77/China proposed language recalling that paragraph 15 of the JPOI states that all countries should take action, with developed countries taking the lead, taking into account the Rio principles, including, *inter alia*, the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, to which the EU, US and Canada objected.

Status: In its final text, the Working Group agrees to:

- reaffirm that economic development, social development and environmental protection are interdependent and mutually reinforcing pillars of sustainable development;
- recognize the need for new and additional financial resources from all sources to achieve sustainable development, and recognize the essential role of ODA as a catalyst for other sources of financing for development;
- recognize the urgency and reaffirm commitment to reaching a successful and timely conclusion of the Doha Round of World Trade Organization negotiations with an ambitious, balanced and development-oriented outcome;

- recall the chemicals and wastes-related multilateral environmental agreements, including the Basel Convention, the Rotterdam Convention and the Stockholm Convention, and highlight the positive effects of synergistic initiatives among the conventions related to chemicals and waste and bear in mind the potential further to enhance coordination and cooperation of instruments and frameworks in the chemicals and wastes cluster;
- note the need to strengthen implementation of relevant international conventions and agreements on waste management, especially the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal and the MARPOL Convention; and
- stress that fighting corruption at both the national and international levels is a priority.

The above agreements by the Working Group were not adopted by the CSD. The Working Group did not reach consensus on language regarding “the rights of people living under colonial and foreign occupation” and on language referencing “developed countries taking the lead” and the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities.

TRANSPORT: This issue was first addressed in Working Group 1 on Monday afternoon, 2 May 2011. In the chapeau, the G-77/China proposed amendments stressing the “essential” nature of transport to meet environmental and social needs, with the developed countries taking the lead in improving the sustainability of the transport sector, including through technology transfer.

On the negative impacts of increasing urbanization and private motorization, the EU proposed adding noise pollution. Saudi Arabia proposed deleting “energy security.” The G-77/China suggested new text on: ensuring safe, affordable and efficient transportation; financial constraints that lead developing countries to purchase secondhand vehicles; and the “critical role” of the automotive industry. The EU suggested supporting the capacity of developing countries in measuring and reporting. The US emphasized the need for stakeholder participation at all policy levels. The EU proposed text highlighting the links between climate change mitigation and transportation. The G-77/China stated it was an issue addressed elsewhere, while the US proposed amendments specifying that transportation policy meet “commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.”

The G-77/China underscored promoting access to reliable and affordable energy services and technology transfer on mutually agreed terms. The US suggested mentioning decision-making for sustainability for all communities, and providing transport choices for access to education, health facilities and markets.

The G-77/China supported innovation in goods movement, the EU supported innovation and integration of technological advances, and the US highlighted the need for market mechanisms and incentives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The G-77/China emphasized financial and technological support and, with the US, said fuel economy labeling should not be mandatory. The EU supported: qualified mandatory labeling; development of carbon-free energy carriers; and elimination of fuel subsidies. Delegates agreed on a G-77/China proposal that sustainability of transport have a business perspective, but should also meet environmental and social needs. The G-77/China asked to delete all references to green economy in this section. The

US, with the EU, emphasized transportation’s impact on energy security and public health, and supported text encouraging reduced use of private cars. The G-77/China said second-hand vehicles are a necessity in some developing countries.

The EU, with the US, requested moving text on international financial and technical support to the MOI section. The US and Canada proposed moving the G-77/China paragraph on financial assistance to developing countries elsewhere.

The G-77/China supported the EU in deleting reference to monitoring, reporting and verifying transport mitigation actions in developing countries. The EU and the G-77/China supported text on developing rapid transit. The EU moved to delete text on energy policy and the US preferred bracketing it.

Status: The Working Group agreed that sustainable transport is a central component of sustainable development and economic growth; and that growing transport challenges are increasingly urgent.

The Group also agreed on the following recommendations:

- optimize the transport infrastructure;
- enhance sustainability and promote transport technology and systems innovation;
- ensure stakeholder participation;
- employ integrated transportation, housing, and economic development planning that takes into account the circumstances of the location and community to reduce vehicle miles traveled;
- provide transportation choices that improve access to better jobs, educational facilities, health care, and markets;
- encourage the provision of basic rural transport infrastructure and services to enhance poverty eradication and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs);
- highlight the opportunity for developing countries to nominate sustainable transport as a priority in requests for development assistance, while recognizing the importance of financial institutions to assist in this endeavor;
- improve public transportation systems and transportation choices through, *inter alia*, integrated land use planning, in ways that link communities and facilitate access to jobs, markets and social services;
- create an enabling environment for sustainable transport;
- consider enhancing bus rapid transit, metro and light rail systems;
- promote public-private partnerships to contribute to the construction and operation of transport systems;
- promote greater use of railways and inland waterways;
- reduce air pollution from the transport sector by improving fuel quality, promoting vehicle fuel economy and emission standards;
- encourage the use of renewable energy and energy efficiency and advanced energy technologies; and
- highlight the role of regional and international financial institutions in providing financial support to developing countries.

The transportation text contained no areas of outstanding disagreement, however, the above recommendations were not adopted by the CSD.

CHEMICALS: This issue was first addressed in Working Group 1 on Tuesday afternoon, 3 May 2011. Vice-Chair Silvano Vergara Vásquez facilitated the negotiations.

In the first reading of the draft text, the EU underlined the role of chemicals in achieving the MDGs and in transitioning to a green economy. The G-77/China asked for increased financial, technical and capacity-building support for chemicals management and underscored the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities. Switzerland stressed links to the Rotterdam, Basel and Stockholm Conventions, and with Norway, stressed addressing both chemical and waste life-cycles together. The EU and Canada highlighted the Strategic Approach to International Chemical Management (SAICM) framework's contribution to the policy process. The EU and Mexico, opposed by Canada, introduced text on the "right to know." Canada suggested providing data to regulatory authorities and adding a reference to Major Groups.

In the second reading of the chemicals text, the G-77/China proposed deleting reference to green economy and redrafting language on the MDGs. Switzerland, supported by the EU, emphasized acknowledging other chemicals processes, including relevant partnership initiatives. Language was agreed, based on the G-77/China, Paraguay and Canada's amendments, to recognize the shift in production of chemicals to developing countries, which have insufficient human, technical and financial resources to deal with the challenges of chemicals management. The G-77/China advocated that multinational industries based in developing countries maintain cleaner and safer standards of operations.

At the beginning of the second week, a contact group on chemicals was established focusing on areas of disagreement, *inter alia*: reference to "green economy"; how to capture the need for multinational corporations to "maintain the same standards" in developing countries; and linking text on strengthening national legislation with text referring to the Rio principles or specific mention of the precautionary and polluter pays principles. Delegates agreed on sound management of chemicals as a crucial element of MDG-based national development strategies, and on strengthening national laws and regulations and their enforcement, as well as strengthening information access.

By midweek, however, chemicals MOI remained an outstanding issue, pivoting on whether it should be relocated under the broader MOI text, as favored by the US, Switzerland, the EU and Japan or retained in the chemicals section, as preferred by the G-77/China. Lack of consensus on how to approach MOI resulted in an impasse in the negotiations. The G-77/China also proposed that financing be "adequate, predictable, accessible, sustainable, new and additional," which the US requested to bracket. Responding, Canada inserted that the support be "in the interim" to enable capacity building, but also to infer developing countries and countries with economies in transition take on the responsibility in the long term.

After negotiating into early Friday morning and continuing in a contact group until late in the day, delegates pushed forward on an understanding that they would clean the text for an all-or-nothing vote on a "chemicals package." If rejected, the document would revert back to the text as it stood on Friday morning and be submitted to the Bureau with its brackets. However, an impasse between the US and the G-77/China on the final placement of finance language prevented the vote. Despite

bilateral huddles in the corridors and extraordinary consultations into the evening, no agreement was reached and the reverted and heavily bracketed text was submitted to the Bureau.

Status: The following issues remained unresolved:

- retaining specific reference to the MDGs on poverty eradication and environmental sustainability, and to the precautionary and polluter pays principles;
- green economy;
- retaining MOI in the chemicals text, particularly references to financing;
- incorporating SAICM in UNEP's consultative process on chemicals financing;
- the role of the private sector for implementation and sustainable, long-term funding for sound chemicals management; and
- whether finance is "predictable" or "reliable."

WASTE MANAGEMENT: This issue was first addressed in Working Group 2 on Tuesday morning, 3 May 2011, facilitated by Vice-Chair Abdelghani Merabet. The US tried, resisted by the EU and G-77/China, to insert references to materials management throughout the text. In the opening section on general principles, objectives and priorities, the G-77/China offered a paragraph stressing the key role of SCP patterns in waste management, while Switzerland suggested making sustainable production the first in the list of priority objectives.

On long-term waste management strategies, the US, supported by Canada but opposed by the G-77/China, suggested adding a reference to the Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources.

Regarding improvement of waste management systems, infrastructure and technology, the G-77/China proposed, while Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the US opposed, language on taking necessary action for the early entry into force and implementation of the Ban Amendment under the Basel Convention.

On the implementation of environmentally sound waste prevention, minimization, reduction, reuse, recycling, recovery and disposal, the EU suggested language on lifecycle thinking and eco-design, the US wanted a reference to remanufacturing, and Japan proposed a call for a legislative framework for promoting reduction, reuse and recycling (the 3Rs).

Regarding implementation of waste policies and strategies, the EU and Japan proposed language on indicators and targets, Mexico highlighted the Basel Convention Secretariat's technical guidelines, and the US underscored meaningful public participation in policy development and implementation. The G-77/China sought a general acknowledgement of the work of NGOs in promoting enforcement.

On specific waste streams, the G-77/China proposed adding plastic pollution, Switzerland proposed food waste, Mexico suggested end-of-life vehicles, Canada added pesticide containers, and Israel sought construction and demolition wastes.

On financial resources, investment and partnerships, the G-77/China supported text stating that intensive efforts are needed for capacity building, financing and transfer of technologies in developing countries, while Switzerland suggested text endorsing the Basel Convention partnerships on mobile phones and computing equipment.

Status: No text on waste management was finalized. Working Group 2 substantially agreed on the text, with the only outstanding issues being: a reference to the Executive Director with regard to UNEP's consultative process on financing options for chemicals and wastes; a call for providing adequate capacity building and resources, and support for technology access and transfer to prevent, minimize, reduce, reuse, recycle, recover and dispose of wastes in an environmentally sound manner; and a G-77/China proposal for providing "new and additional" financial resources for developing countries to build environmentally sound waste management, infrastructure and technology, to raise awareness and to develop educational programs on waste management.

The Working Group Actions agreed on the following recommendations on waste management:

- encourage, as appropriate, the use of national goals, targets and indicators, and the establishment of waste inventories;
- promote the development and use of instruments, including plans, policies and strategies for waste management and infrastructure;
- address the social and poverty issues related to informal waste management;
- reduce the amounts of waste disposed of in landfills;
- strengthen implementation of relevant international conventions and agreements on waste management, and strengthen the enforcement of the Basel Convention;
- strengthen regional mechanisms to support multilateral agreements on waste, such as the Basel and Stockholm Convention regional centres;
- carry out waste management with a lifecycle perspective;
- encourage the use of extended producer responsibility, and the development of sustainable product policies, product lifecycle information, and the manufacturing of products that are easily reusable and recyclable;
- encourage the use of economic instruments;
- promote waste minimization, reuse and recycling as part of corporate social and environmental responsibility;
- strengthen the dissemination and application of the Basel Convention technical guidelines on environmentally sound waste management;
- consider approaches for identifying and managing specific waste streams such as plastics, construction and demolition waste, end-of-life vehicles, healthcare waste, e-waste, as well as pesticide containers;
- increase efforts to collect, treat and increase safe recycling of "e-waste or electrical and electronic end-of-life equipment" and cooperate to address the growing problem of e-waste dumps, in particular in developing countries, including through existing mechanisms;
- encourage the development of guidelines and other policies and strategies to address biodegradable wastes, including reducing their quantities in landfills; and
- encourage the development of clearly defined effective actions to be taken by the Global Partnership on Waste Management, and the International Partnership for Expanding Waste Management Services of Local Authorities, as well as improve cooperation among existing partnerships.

The above recommendations were not adopted by the CSD

MINING: This issue was first addressed in Working Group 1 on Tuesday morning, 3 May 2011, and was facilitated by Vice-Chair Eduardo Meñez. In the first reading of the text, the EU stressed that mining is "essential for modern living," monitoring for water management and reference to International Labor Organization Convention 182 on child labor. The G-77/China emphasized mining's role in achieving the MDGs, environmental liabilities for foreign companies and post-mining transitions. Switzerland supported financial transparency, reinvestment and post-mining activities. Canada, Australia, New Zealand and the US requested deletion of "free, prior and informed consent" regarding indigenous and local communities. Mexico called for providing public support for mine closure planning, and Canada proposed giving special attention to women and children.

In the second reading of the text, no consensus was reached on: whether to support capacity for industrialization of "developing" or "producing" countries to use their natural resources; retaining reiteration of the Rio Declaration on the sovereign right to national resource exploitation; and language regarding the "fair" distribution, derivation or scale of benefits. The EU supported distribution of benefits according to international commitments, while the G-77/China preferred by national priorities. The EU suggested deleting the G-77/China's proposal on the fundamental role of states and "in accordance with national law and legislation." The G-77/China emphasized its objections to encroachments on the sovereign rights of states.

Vice-Chair Yvette Banzon Abalos (the Philippines) facilitated final readings of the mining text. During the second week, delegates addressed: the relationship between artisanal and small-scale mining and national legislation; whether text on mercury should be located under text on chemicals, as suggested by the G-77/China, or retained in the section on mining, supported by the EU, US, Australia and the Russian Federation; and the placement of, and substance under, text on legal, regulatory and institutional frameworks.

The sections on finance and capacity building and those related to means of implementation remained outstanding through the end of the second week. The US bracketed text on "ensuring adequate financial resources" and the G-77/China underscored the importance of not taking on specific tasks for which they are not financially capable. The G-77/China called for unqualified support from the international community, while the US and EU requested it be "on mutually agreed terms" or "as appropriate," respectively. Vice-Chair Abalos suggested moving text referring to identification and marketing of mineral resources to the section on MOI, recalling that a similar Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI) debate was conducted under MOI.

The G-77/China also added a reference to the Rio Principles of sustainable development, and proposed reference to fair distribution of benefits from mining. Negotiations on the mining text concluded late on Thursday evening.

Status: The Working Group agreed that mining and metals are "essential for modern living" and that countries have the "sovereign right to develop their mineral resources according to their national priorities," and referred to mining's role in reducing poverty and meeting the MDGs and noted that the sector is consistent with the Rio principles on sustainable development.

The Working Group agreed on the need to, *inter alia*:

- create links between mining and other economic, social, and environmental sectors and promote benefits to communities;
- develop comprehensive legal and regulatory frameworks and policies to promote sustainable mining and address potential negative social and environmental impacts;
- foster provision of financial, technical and capacity-building support to developing countries and countries with economies in transition;
- regulate mining activities, taking into account the impact of mining on biodiversity, water resources, and cultural heritage sites;
- promote and protect the rights of local and indigenous communities, respect for their land rights, and promote the participation by Major Groups, local and indigenous communities, youth and women and other relevant stakeholders; and
- improve governance by recognizing the work of the Intergovernmental Forum on Mining, Minerals, Metals, and Sustainable Development (IGF), including its Policy Framework for the mining sector.

The text on mining was not adopted by the CSD, although no outstanding areas of disagreement remained.

10 YFP ON SCP: Facilitated by Vice-Chair Andrew Goledzinowski, this issue was first addressed in Working Group 2 on Monday afternoon, 2 May 2011 and negotiations continued until early in the morning, Friday, 13 May.

On the vision, goals and objectives of the 10YFP when stating that all countries should promote sustainable consumption and production patterns, the EU and US asked for deletion of a reference to “with the developed countries taking the lead while respecting their international commitments, particularly with regard to trade and investment,” proposed by the G-77/China.

The G-77/China highlighted their proposal that UNEP serve as the dedicated Secretariat of the 10YFP, and in close cooperation with member states and relevant UN agencies to provide a coordinating function on SCP issues. The US proposed deleting references to a dedicated Secretariat, Switzerland advocated a Secretariat hosted by UNEP, while Australia suggested the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs for that role.

The G-77/China proposed the establishment of a trust fund to support the launch of the 10YFP, which Canada, Norway and Japan initially opposed. Recognizing the importance of this issue, the EU and US requested further consultations with the G-77/China on the need for the trust fund. Switzerland suggested mobilizing additional resources from the private sector as well as using existing resources.

On means of implementation, the US suggested “encouraging voluntary financial resources, transfer of and access to environmentally sound technologies on mutually agreed terms, and capacity building.” The G-77/China emphasized the importance of new and additional financial resources, transfer of technology on favorable terms and capacity building.

The EU made a proposal that requests the Secretariat, in collaboration with two Co-Chairs representing member states from developing and developed countries, to organize the first international meeting before the end of 2012 to establish the intergovernmental multi-stakeholder forum and multi-stakeholder bureau on SCP. The US and the G-77/China proposed deleting text on establishing a multi-stakeholder bureau or board with

regional representation and the main stakeholders involved in the 10YFP. The EU supported establishing a multi-stakeholder board.

The G-77/China, EU, US and Norway suggested deleting the list of key programme areas in the Chair’s negotiating text, noting that it could be annexed to the document in the form of a non-negotiated text. Switzerland said it was in favor of having the list in the main body of the document.

In reference to promoting sustainable consumption and production patterns, the US opposed “developed countries taking the lead” and a proposal by the G-77/China on respecting their international commitments, particularly with regard to trade and investment. Together with Canada and New Zealand, the US preferred removing the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, noting it is not appropriate to single out one Rio principle in this context.

The EU, US and Japan objected to two paragraphs proposed by the G-77/China, which call for analyzing the root causes of the current unsustainable consumption patterns and establishing concrete measures for changing them, and evaluating the costs and benefits related to the implementation of SCP.

The G-77/China proposed text on ensuring a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system, taking into account the right of developing countries to use legitimate trade defense measures in accordance with relevant provisions of the WTO. The US and New Zealand objected to the proposal.

Status: The Working Group made the following recommendations:

- establish a 10YFP on SCP covering the period 2011-2021, based on Agenda 21, the Rio Declaration and the JPOI;
- the vision/goals/objectives of the 10YFP, including that all countries should promote SCP patterns, with the developed countries taking the lead and with all countries benefiting from the process, taking into account the Rio Principles, including, *inter alia*, the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities as set out in principle 7 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development;
- request UNEP to serve, within its current mandate, as the 10YFP Secretariat;
- establish a small board with the responsibilities of, *inter alia*, promoting the 10YFP, guiding the Secretariat, and assisting the Secretariat in securing funding for SCP;
- invite national governments and other stakeholders to designate SCP focal points for engagement with the 10YFP;
- develop and maintain a platform for developing countries to solicit support for their SCP programmes and for countries with economies in transition, as appropriate, and include in the adopted document a flexible, initial and non-exhaustive list intended to illustrate some possible areas for programme development and to inspire additional efforts to create programmes. The 10YFP Secretariat will maintain a list of all programmes, projects and initiatives under the 10YFP as a living document, to be updated regularly as new programmes, projects and initiatives join;
- invite UNEP to establish a trust fund for SCP programmes to mobilize voluntary contributions from multiple sources, including public/donor contributions, the private sector and other sources including foundations; and

- encourage governments, the international financial institutions, and other stakeholders, including SCP partnerships, to provide finance, technology and capacity-building support for implementation of the 10YFP in developing countries and countries with economies in transition through other channels, as appropriate.

The above recommendations were not adopted by the CSD, although no areas of disagreement remained.

INTER-LINKAGES AND CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES, INCLUDING MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION: This issue was first addressed in Working Group 1 on Wednesday morning, 4 May 2011, and was facilitated by Vice-Chair Silvano Vergara Vásquez.

The G-77/China added language on interlinkages between the five themes of CSD 19, the three pillars of sustainable development and national and regional specificities. They also insisted on mentioning the adverse impacts of the recent global crises. References were added by the G-77/China on “developed countries taking the lead,” but this was opposed by the US.

The G-77/China stressed poverty eradication as an overarching objective of sustainable development, but the US questioned reference to only this particular MDG. The EU emphasized transition to green economy and responsible business models, but the G-77/China, supported by the Russian Federation, objected to mention of green economy and green jobs, as terms not defined, and they were dropped in the end.

Differences emerged on the G-77/China proposal calling for the fulfilment of all official development assistance (ODA) commitments, recognizing its essential role as a catalyst for other sources of financing for development, with specific targets and fulfilling the G-8 Glen Eagles commitment. The US, EU, Canada, Japan asked for its deletion. On finance for sustainable development, the G-77/China suggested language on transfer of environmentally sound technology to developing countries on favorable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed. The US objected to the mention of “concessional” anywhere in the document.

The G-77/China proposed new text on enhancing assistance to developing countries by the UN system, development institutions and regional banks. They also proposed language on access to an equitable, universal, non-discriminatory trade system, which takes into account the right of developing countries to take legitimate trade defensive measures.

The US, with Japan, could not commit to “improve funding” for public health systems, but agreed to “strengthen” them. The G-77/China and the US took opposite positions on the causes of different diseases, chemical or e-waste or multiple causes.

The G-77/China insisted on deletion of text on good governance and to “green jobs,” and the US, Canada and Japan objected to keeping the paragraph on people under colonial and foreign occupation.

Status: The Working Group agreed that mining, chemicals, transport, waste management and SCP are interlinked and should be addressed in an integrated and coherent manner, in order to enhance implementation taking into account economic, social and environmental aspects, and national, subregional, and regional specificities, circumstances and legal frameworks. The eradication of poverty and hunger remains an overarching objective. The Working Group also agreed on the following:

- accelerate convergence among the three pillars of sustainable development;
- strengthen capacity building, promote technology transfer, the scientific base and exchange of information and knowledge to developing countries;
- provide means of implementation critical for implementing global, regional and national policies in various areas, including the thematic areas of this cycle;
- improve funding and strengthen public health systems;
- consider that innovative financing mechanisms can make a positive contribution in assisting developing countries to mobilize additional resources for financing for development on a voluntary basis;
- strengthen efficient and effective use and delivery of existing resources and sources of funding to address the increased needs of developing countries;
- request the United Nations system and invite multilateral and development institutions, and the regional banks, within their mandates, to enhance their assistance;
- call for the fulfilment of all ODA commitments;
- call for the international community and the private sector to accelerate measures to facilitate the development, transfer and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies, on mutually agreed terms, to developing countries, as appropriate;
- strengthen human resources and institutional capacities;
- collectively commit to raise awareness of the significance of education for sustainable development;
- support a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system; and
- support the implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action (BPOA) for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and the Mauritius Strategy for the Implementation of the BPOA.

Differences persisted on: the provision of technology on “concessional” terms (proposed by the G-77/China, but opposed by the US); good governance, as supported by the US, EU, Japan, Canada and others; mention of specific groups of country recipients (least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and others); green economy (later changed to “transition to a cleaner and more resource-efficient economy”); fulfillment of all ODA commitments, including those adopted at the G-8 Glen Eagles Summit; and the rights of people living under colonial and foreign occupation. This last reference was strongly objected to by the US, but the G-77/China insisted on its retention.

MULTI-STAKEHOLDER DIALOGUE

On Wednesday, 11 May, Ministers and high-level officials from the EU, US and South Africa, the Executive Secretary of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and representatives from the nine Major Groups as well as from UNEP, UNDP, UNIDO and the UN Office on Outer Space Affairs participated in the Ministerial Dialogue with Major Groups on “Policy Options, Practical Measures and the Way Forward.”

Major Groups highlighted, *inter alia*: involving women and youth in all levels of planning and implementation of the CSD 19 themes; a 10YFP that provides a decisive vision, easily translated into action; more democratic governance in sustainable

development, including more speaking time for Major Groups in the CSD; the role of municipalities in implementing CSD 19 themes such as waste management; and the importance of good governance.

NGOs offered to work with UN agencies and governments to implement on a large scale at least 1,000 projects worldwide related to the CSD 19 themes. The EU said stakeholder involvement is a major value-added of the CSD, while the US said that Major Groups should have been allowed to speak more during CSD 19 negotiating sessions. The EU, UNEP and UNIDO voiced their support for CSD 19 acting on the 10YFP. UNFCCC Executive Secretary Christiana Figueres underscored the need to fully implement the Cancun Agreements and the importance of SCP for climate change.

HIGH-LEVEL SEGMENT

The High-Level Segment opened in the General Assembly Hall on Wednesday, 11 May. CSD 19 Chair László Borbély called on delegates to “spare no effort, constructive spirit or creativity in finding concrete solutions” to the CSD 19 themes. UN Under-Secretary-General Sha Zukang, on behalf of Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon, called for CSD 19 to mount a concerted effort to conclude negotiations to launch the 10YFP “without delay,” as an important contribution to Rio+20.

Janez Potočnik, European Commissioner for the Environment, said harnessing consumption and production patterns is important to achieving truly sustainable development. Jeffrey Sachs, Earth Institute, said the path to sustainable development will require a technological roadmap, a global carbon levy and regional cooperation, as global institutions are not fast enough. IUCN President Ashok Khosla said Rio+20 needs to review 40 years of unfulfilled commitments and explore genuine alternatives to current practices. A number of ministers and high-level officials spoke on: the importance of SCP; the role of transport in poverty eradication; means of implementation; transitioning to green economy; good governance; and access to financial resources, technology transfer and capacity building.

MINISTERIAL ROUNDTABLES: Developing Programmes and a Framework to Accelerate the Shift Towards SCP:

This Ministerial Roundtable was held Thursday morning, 12 May, co-chaired by Paul Magnette, Minister for Climate and Energy, Belgium, and Margarita Songco, Deputy Director-General, National Economic and Development Authority, the Philippines.

Mohan Munasinghe, Chairman, Munasinghe Institute for Development, Sri Lanka, discussed the idea of setting “Millennium Consumption Goals” as a way to prompt the cultural changes needed to ensure achievement of SCP and sustainable development. Achim Steiner, Executive Director, UNEP, underscored that CSD 19 giving a clear message on the 10YFP is important for moving forward on the sustainable development agenda and building confidence for Rio+20. Paul Anastas, Assistant Administrator, US Environmental Protection Agency stressed the important role of science and technology, such as green chemistry, in catalyzing the changes needed to realize SCP, and the role of various actors in ensuring it happens on the scale required.

During discussions, ministers and high-level officials expressed their support for the 10YFP, stating that it is an

important step towards Rio+20 and SCP. They supported UNEP as its Secretariat and including an initial list of programmes in the document, based on those developed during the Marrakech process. They highlighted the need for: efficient institutional structures for its implementation; mobilizing financial and technical resources; green economy; decoupling economic growth from ecological degradation; closer cooperation among all relevant stakeholders; and transparency and mainstreaming SCP into planning and reporting.

Algeria suggested establishing regional centers to disseminate information and knowledge. Germany called for adoption of the UN Green Economy Roadmap at Rio+20, which should include timeline benchmarks and a monitoring system.

The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) underscored that shifting towards SCP or green economy is not a conditionality but rather a necessity for energy and food security for developing countries. The UN World Tourism Organization highlighted the role of tourism in SCP. Children and Youth said that the 10YFP should be able to translate words into actions and a framework without programmes is an empty shell. NGOs called for treating stakeholders as equal partners in the transition to SCP.

Enhancing Access to Sustainable Urban and Rural

Transport: This roundtable was held Thursday morning, 12 May, co-chaired by Phil Hogan, Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government, Ireland, and Blaise Louembet, Minister of Habitat, Planning, Ecology, and Sustainable Development, Gabon.

Joan Clos, Executive Director, UN-HABITAT, spoke on the importance of addressing transport, bearing in mind the need for less mobility, and that traffic is a result of poor urban mass transportation planning.

Allison Davis, AICP Senior Transportation Planner, Arup, US, said that congestion reduces municipal quality of life and economic competitiveness. She underlined the importance of getting car owners back into public transport and reallocating street space to public transit.

Ministers, high-level officials and Major Groups focused on: sustainable urban planning for reduction of CO₂ emissions, noise pollution and habitat fragmentation; transportation’s role in reconstruction and peace-building; energy consumption; safety; and information and technology-sharing. Many speakers stressed the need to improve public transport infrastructure and increase investment, and noted that accessible, affordable and sustainable transport will reduce poverty and facilitate access to jobs.

Others, including Farmers, Women, NGOs and Children and Youth, highlighted the importance of transport in rural areas, non-motorized transport, and the need for consultations with citizens. Workers and Trade Unions commented on conditions of transport employees. UNEP and the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) reported on their initiatives in transport and highlighted good policy formulation.

Moving Towards Zero Waste and Sound Management of

Chemicals: This roundtable was held Thursday afternoon, 12 May, co-chaired by Cherif Rahmani, Ministry of Environment, Algeria, and Nikola Ružinski, State Secretary for Environment, Croatia. Jim Willis, Joint Head of the Basel and Stockholm Convention Secretariats and the UNEP part of the Rotterdam Convention Secretariat, stressed the importance of both the

benefits and costs of chemicals management. Craig Boljkovac, Former Chair of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC), spoke on mainstreaming chemicals management and the utility of the SAICM. Prasad Modak, Executive President, Environmental Management Center, India, discussed “losing the opportunity” to convert waste streams back into resources.

Ministers and high-level officials expressed their support for: enhancing synergies between the Basel, Stockholm and Rotterdam Conventions and strengthening their regional centres; financial support, technical assistance and capacity building; SAICM, especially the Quick Start Programme; a legally-binding global instrument on mercury; complementing international efforts at the regional and national levels; moving toward zero waste; greater engagement with civil society; and building international partnerships on waste management for the dissemination of good practices.

Creating an Enabling Environment for Sustainable Mining: This roundtable was held Thursday afternoon, 12 May, co-chaired by Zoltan Illés, Minister of State for Environmental Affairs, Hungary, and Luis Alberto Ferraté Felice, Minister of Environment and Natural Resources, Guatemala, and addressed the role of mining in sustainable development, policies to ensure linkages between mining and other economic sectors, and stakeholder participation.

Panelist Ann Maest, Stratus Consulting, US, focused on the technological side of hard-rock mining, including increased waste, energy and water use. Ben Peachy, International Council on Mining and Metals, UK, spoke on improving the performance of mining companies.

Speakers emphasized, *inter alia*, the need for: promotion of resource efficiency and poverty eradication; cooperation between governments, companies and communities to maximize the benefits of mining; integrated use of mineral resources; effective regulatory bodies and corporate social responsibility; and the need for robust recommendations from the CSD.

UNEP highlighted multi-stakeholder platforms at regional and global levels to promote sustainability in the mining sector.

Indigenous Peoples said mining is an unsustainable industry. Women noted the industry’s history of violence and Workers and Trade Unions its dangers, while Children and Youth called for the eradication of child labor in mining.

MINISTERIAL DIALOGUE ON MOVING TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: EXPECTATIONS

FROM RIO+20: On Friday morning, 13 May, Chair Borbély opened the Ministerial Dialogue. UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon commended the CSD for making substantial progress on the thematic issues and the 10YFP. He said a strong 10YFP would provide vital momentum to Rio+20. He characterized Rio+20 as one of the most important meetings on sustainable development in our time, and that it needs to complete unfinished business from the Rio Earth Summit, ensure that the green economy helps the environment while supporting achievement of the MDGs, and create and enhance the architecture for sustainable development governance.

South Africa said the multiple global crises of recent years have reversed some of the progress made in achieving the MDGs

and JPOI targets. Colombia and Croatia highlighted the need for political will, concrete actions and results that will change the planet.

On **Rio+20**, the EU said Rio+20’s two themes offer a unique opportunity “that we cannot afford to miss” to address current global challenges. Argentina, for the G-77/China, noted that all the subjects discussed by CSD 19 are related in some way to SCP, and are related to the two themes of Rio+20. She said the G-77/China pledged to contribute in every possible way so that the negotiations for Rio+20 constitute progress for all humankind in terms of changing consumption and production patterns to make them sustainable.

Brazil pledged, as host of Rio+20, to do all it could to ensure that the conference “makes a real difference” and involves all member states and stakeholders. He stressed that Rio+20 should not only look back in order to learn lessons, but also look forward to decide on the future we want and are ready to build. Belgium said Rio+20 should take stock of sustainable development efforts, including the decisions from the UNCED and WSSD, which have remained unimplemented or cannot find their place in international negotiations.

The US looked forward to seeing Rio+20 achieve practical and concrete solutions, while Ghana said the spirit is weak and pace is slow in preparation for Rio+20, and called for a reinvigoration of its preparation. Bolivia and Sudan highlighted need to strengthen the Rio Principles, especially common but differentiated responsibilities. Ethiopia said that poverty and inequity are two main challenges, which should be addressed in Rio. Uzbekistan expressed concern about the environmental effects of dams.

ESCAP said Rio+20 provides an opportunity to mobilize political commitment and reported that it is preparing a green growth road map, which will be an input to Rio+20. UNDP said Rio+20 should strengthen institutions of all three pillars of sustainable development.

NGOs said civil society organizations should be fully involved in the Rio+20 process, and suggested establishing a treaty to evaluate and prevent the risks of new technologies. Business and Industry said Rio+20 should be a catalyst for change. Scientific and Technological Community committed to make significant efforts for Rio+20.

On **governance and institutions**, the EU called for UNEP to be transformed into a specialized agency, which was supported by Italy, and the need to strengthen ECOSOC’s role on sustainable development and improving the functioning of the CSD. The US supported strengthening the role of UNEP and Spain called for strengthening international architecture for sustainable development.

The G-77/China cautioned that all structures involved be flexible and promote synergy as much as possible, rather than result in creating new bureaucracies. China said Rio+20 will provide an important opportunity to strengthen and improve global governance. Saudi Arabia, with China and South Africa, supported strengthening existing institutions, instead of creating new ones. Ghana said institutions such as UNEP would become more efficient and effective through more synergies and provision of more resources. South Africa said that any institutional framework should enhance coordination and collaboration in implementing the JPOI targets.

Grenada, for AOSIS, called for institutional arrangements that are more inclusive and supportive of the needs of islands in global arrangements, and the integration of all UN institutional mechanisms dealing with islands.

Algeria, for the African Group, called for accountability and transparency. France highlighted the importance of new indicators and sustainable governance.

UNEP said there is a need for a strong UNEP at the global level, as well as strong governance at the national and regional levels.

On *green economy*, the EU said that to enable the transition toward an inclusive green economy, the right regulatory and market conditions must be put into place, *inter alia*: removal of environmentally harmful subsidies; the use of fiscal incentives; enhanced access to finance; improved private sector engagement; and involvement of all relevant stakeholders. With Belgium, Switzerland and Spain, he urged the adoption of a UN Green Economy Roadmap that includes a menu of actions, a timetable for implementation, targets and indicators.

Switzerland, the US, Spain and Croatia supported transition to a green economy. Italy said green economy is a driving force for achieving sustainable development and for eradicating poverty, and that small- and medium-sized enterprises can play a key role in developing green economy.

China said they hope Rio+20 will develop green economy in a way that provides preferential treatment for developing countries in terms of market access, technology transfer and intellectual property rights, while not being used to create new barriers to trade. The Russian Federation, India and Saudi Arabia said that green economy must not be used as a pretext for creating trade barriers.

AOSIS suggested that Rio+20 consider the notion of the “blue-green” economy. Senegal and Sudan noted that green economy has not been clearly defined, and there is a need to know its cost-benefit and possible risks. Algeria, for the African Group, underlined: a sustainable balance between economic growth and environmental protection.

Venezuela said they saw an imperialist approach of green capitalism and Bolivia called for greening nature, not money and profit.

UNEP said that green economy is not intended as a trade barrier, but rather to enhance sustainable development and welfare of the people. UNIDO called attention to the manufacturing sector in implementing green economy and eradicating poverty, and introduced its Green Industry Initiative. Workers and Trade Unions said green economy is needed to help achieve equity and justice, and highlighted creation of green jobs, climate change, food, energy and unemployment.

On *stakeholders*, Croatia stressed the need for supporting local development and engaging all stakeholders. The US stressed transparent, inclusive participatory governance and called for inclusion of the private sector. Spain highlighted active participation of civil society.

On the *pillars of sustainable development*, France said at Rio+20, governments must take decisions on three pillars of sustainable development, and Spain and Finland called for their integration.

On *assistance*, Pakistan urged developed country partners to fulfill their commitments in financial resources, technology transfer and capacity building, and said developed countries should bring their consumption to a sustainable level.

CLOSING PLENARY

The closing plenary opened at 4:12 pm on Friday afternoon, 13 May. Chair Borbély noted that negotiations on MOI, and chemicals and waste management remained outstanding, but that the plenary would address the remaining procedural items on the agenda. The Commission adopted the draft programme of work for the biennium 2012-2013 for the Division of Sustainable Development (E/CN.17/2011/11) and the provisional agenda for CSD 20 (E/CN.17/2011/L.1). The plenary was suspended at 4:18 pm, while the Bureau met and held consultations.

At 2:52 am on Saturday morning, the plenary was reconvened by Chair Borbély to introduce a Chair’s text reflecting his proposed compromise on outstanding issues. He asked delegates to reflect on the importance of the moment, noting that many people in the room were probably not happy. He proposed the text be approved.

Argentina, for the G-77/China, said that while as a group they appreciated the text provided, and there were many aspects of the text with which they agree, there were important points on which they did not. She then went through the text identifying a number of changes including insertion of language on foreign occupation, and removing reference to the “transition to a cleaner and more resource-efficient economy,” which had replaced reference to “green economy,” but which she characterized as “undefined.” The G-77/China underscored a number of instances in the text on MOI and in various sections missing references to adequate and reliable funding and technology transfer, or to new and additional funding.

The US said that if at this hour the text was to be opened up, parties would need a break to consider their positions. The EU appreciated the work of the Chair and the Bureau and expressed their “deep sadness,” saying that while the Chair’s text is not perfect, it is an acceptable and a good one. He said the proposals from the G-77/China appear to re-open the whole text, and that the EU was not willing to go down that path.

The G-77/China emphasized that the text has both agreed paragraphs that they continue to accept and new provisions that have not been agreed and cannot be accepted.

Chair Borbély noted it is not the first time that the CSD had arrived at a point at which agreement could not be reached on all issues. He proposed the package text for approval, asserting there was no other alternative.

Sudan, for the Arab Group, expressed “outrage” that the document did not include reference to the plight of peoples under foreign occupation. He said the Group totally rejected the text’s adoption.

Japan supported the package text and said that after two years of discussions and two weeks of negotiations, it would be a disappointment to lose all of these efforts.

Chair Borbély suspended the meeting at 3:28 am to allow delegations to consult. The plenary reconvened at 4:12 am. The US, noting that they are not entirely happy with the package, said they could support the proposal “as is,” but that it would be very difficult to entertain any changes.

The G-77/China reiterated that they appreciate the effort of the Chair, but requested finding commonly agreed text on issues that are problematic. She said they did not foresee being in a position of being told to “take it or leave it.” The Arab Group said “take it or leave it” leaves them nowhere at all. Chair Borbély said that all possibilities to have an agreement have been explored. He emphasized that the text is balanced, even if nobody is 100% satisfied. He asked if the Commission was ready to adopt the outcome document. Pakistan noted the importance of the work to broaden and strengthen the scope of sustainable development. He noted that it is never too late to bridge gaps, but that consensus currently eludes the Commission. He said his delegation was willing to work until it was reached.

Nigeria said the way negotiations were going reflected a rocky road towards Rio+20, and called for further negotiations to “remove the rocks.” Venezuela noted willingness to engage to reach a successful outcome, but said it was clear there is no consensus. She said the “take it or leave it” position that negotiators find themselves in is disrespecting the voice of 131 countries. Egypt referenced similar language on foreign occupation in other outcome documents and highlighted that the situation in Palestine has deteriorated significantly.

Canada said the text is not attractive to anyone, but expressed support. Syria expressed surprise and disappointment that language on colonial and foreign occupation could not be adopted, which was agreed on at UNCED, the WSSD, and CSD 17. He opposed the package text. Saudi Arabia said it was unfortunate to be asked to accept the text that implied stepping back from previous agreements reached at various sessions of the CSD, including accepting a new reality in MOI that there will be no additional funding.

Chair Borbély suspended the plenary at 4:45 am for further consultations.

At 7:19 am the plenary resumed with Chair Borbély noting that there was no consensus in some areas of the text, and declared he was not willing to give up. He asked delegates to join in one last attempt to reach consensus. He said the Commission could continue negotiations during a resumed session to be held at a later date. The G-77/China asked under which procedure the CSD would adopt a decision to continue negotiations at a later date, and what conditions have to be taken into account. The Secretariat said this type of request for one additional meeting to complete the work is not uncommon.

On the financial side, the G-77/China asked what support would be provided to help developing country delegates attend such an extra meeting. Tariq Banuri, Director of the UN Division for Sustainable Development, said support comes from the regular budget, that there is no additional allocation under that budget and that they would have to check on whether arrangements could be made under the Trust Fund. He said the Secretariat would make every effort, but could not give a clear commitment at this time.

Chair Borbély noted that during the interim he would work with Bureau members to close the gap between positions on the text. The G-77/China said they can agree to a resumed session if there is an idea of place and date and assurances of financial support to attend the meeting, and wanted to know precisely which text the resumed session would be based on. The Secretariat said the location would be UN Headquarters, but that

the date could not be scheduled at this time. The Chair noted that the text would be available in the e-room and that negotiations would resume on the basis of the text as of 5:00 pm Friday. The G-77/China responded it would be very difficult to make a decision when there were so many unknowns. She stressed that a resumed session would be reopening issues that are stumbling blocks.

In response to a question from the US, Chair Borbély clarified that the 5:00 pm text included portions in brackets indicating lack of consensus. Saudi Arabia, supported by Venezuela, underscored that during negotiations delegations had to look at the entire package when making concessions, so until the total package is agreed, all text remains open for negotiation. The EU asked for a break for his group to consult.

When the meeting resumed at 8:31 am, Saudi Arabia called for a quorum count. A count by the Secretariat found only 24 delegations present, when 27 of the 53 members is required for a quorum. The Chair announced that he had decided to no longer seek a resumed session of the Commission, and instead would leave the text as-is, brackets and all, in the hope that someday in the near future it could serve as the basis for consensus in other sustainable development work.

The EU expressed deep disappointment that “two weeks with a lot of promise for an extremely good result” had dissipated over a few issues it felt could have been resolved had there been the will to do so. Palestine regretted that CSD 19 had not been able to agree to adopt language on occupied territories agreed at previous CSD sessions, and thanked delegations who had insisted on its inclusion despite pressure to compromise. The G-77/China expressed its disappointment at the Commission’s outcome, and reiterated that it is critical to get MOI along the lines agreed in the Rio Principles, Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Declaration and the JPOI. Algeria said the outcome of this CSD session is a failure of the entire international community, and not one or more groups. He also expressed regret that language on foreign occupation could not be agreed.

The Chair moved to adopt the Commission’s draft report (E/CN.17/2011/L.2), which was agreed. He gaveled the meeting to a close at 8:52 am on Saturday, 14 May 2011.

CSD 20 REPORT

Chair Borbély opened the first plenary of the twentieth session of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD 20) at 4:18 pm on Friday, 13 May, to elect its officers. Mazhit Turmagambetov, Vice-Minister of Environmental Protection, Kazakhstan, was elected by acclamation as the new Chair. One additional Bureau member was elected by acclamation: Bosiljka Vuković (Montenegro) for the Eastern European Group. Other Bureau members will be elected at a subsequent meeting as other regional groups had not yet agreed on nominations. The first meeting of CSD 20 was adjourned at 4:26 pm.

A BRIEF ANALYSIS OF CSD 19

It was nearly 9:00 am on Saturday morning when CSD 19 finally came to a close. With governments unable to agree on a final outcome text, CSD 19 ended in a debacle.

Two weeks before, delegates arriving in New York were conscious that their decisions would not only affect the

thematic cluster but would have an impact on the future of the Commission itself and shape preparations for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCSD or Rio+20) in 2012. They knew that the CSD has been facing questions about its relevance in light of its lackluster performance. Many have called for its reform, and some have even whispered that it should be replaced or abolished. However, as the last CSD session before the UNCSD, delegates and observers alike perceived this as an appropriate point at which to reflect on both the Commission's record and its impact on the Rio+20 agenda's two major themes: (a) a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication; and (b) the institutional framework for sustainable development.

The failure of CSD 19 to adopt a negotiated outcome dealt a blow to the standing of this UN body, and sowed doubts regarding the ability of governments to collectively and effectively address crucial sustainable development issues. It also laid bare the pitfalls that await countries as they prepare to mark the 20th anniversary of the Rio "Earth Summit" with another highly visible gathering. This brief analysis will address some lessons emerging from CSD 19, and how they might affect the status and role of CSD 19 in the wider context of preparations for Rio+20. It will also attempt to respond to an obvious question: can anything be salvaged from the wreck?

BORN IN RIO

The CSD, whose genesis dates back to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, also known as the Earth Summit, in 1992, was meant as a body (the only high-level one in the UN) designed to holistically address the three pillars of sustainable development—environmental, social and economic. When pressed hard to deliver, CSD sessions produced substantive outcomes: over the years, sensible decisions were taken on a wide range of issues to guide governments, UN agencies and stakeholders. The CSD came to be known as a valuable platform for addressing all sustainable development items, for exchanging success stories, engaging with major groups and forging partnerships.

CSD advocates point out that there are many issues—for example, transport and mining in the current cycle—for which there is no institutional home in the UN system, so discussing their sustainable development dimensions could not be realized without a vehicle such as CSD. They also point out that there are issues with many disparate institutional homes where work is going on in a fractured, incoherent way and synergies and co-benefits are not being realized. It was envisioned early on that better synergies and coordination could be catalyzed by the CSD. Last but not least, the CSD is one of the few places in the global intergovernmental community where—potentially at least—the linkages and cross-fertilization between the pillars of sustainable development can be fully identified, explored and exploited. So what went so terribly wrong?

TO DIE IN RIO?

The road to the failure of CSD 19 has many points of origin. For example, the CSD has not been successful, in most cases, in attracting the interest of ministers of economy, finance and trade, who exercise the most influence over national budgets and development plans, strategies and priorities. Instead, the CSD has turned into a gathering of representatives from

environment ministries, leading developing countries to repeatedly warn that the CSD leans too heavily on one pillar—environment—threatening to throw it out of balance. CSD 19 confirmed this mold: for example, the ministerial roundtable on sustainable consumption and production was packed with senior representatives from environment ministries (rather than ministers for industry and commerce), while the roundtables on transport and mining were almost empty, marked by the absence of ministers responsible for those sectors.

"CSD decisions are another problem," commented a long-time observer. "With few exceptions, they resemble a do-it-yourself guide on any number of issues." True, government delegates have long questioned their value: since they are recommendations, there is no enforcement. They are a result of consensus with all that implies. Too often, they are read in national capitals and filed away: governments have their own, more detailed and project-focused national priorities. Some delegations complain that even some UN institutions ignore CSD outcomes, pointing, as an example, to the lack of substantive follow-up to CSD 17's recommendations on sustainable agriculture. In the view of many, the inability of the CSD to ensure national implementation is its weakest point, another is the absence of review of past decisions, both of which lead some to discount the value of the CSD.

Another shortcoming is the nature of the sessions themselves. The politicized debating format that has evolved over the years at the CSD has led to a well-known UN phenomenon where carefully crafted language acquires a life of its own. Divorced from reality on the ground, the formulations live in a virtual reality, passing from one UN document to another. Their rank is almost biblical, and any semantic infringement can make or break a conference. This is what happened at CSD 19, when differences over references to new financial resources or rights of peoples under foreign occupation robbed the international community of valuable groundbreaking decisions, such as the 10-Year Framework Programme (10YFP) on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP), and decisions on issues without an institutional home in the UN system, such as mining and transport.

Not all is well with multi-stakeholder dialogues either. Welcomed as innovative in the early years, the dialogues have diminished in both stature and attendance. The Major Groups themselves expressed dismay over the latest one, which ended "in a whimper" after an hour of statements read out at machine-gun speed, with no "interaction." Some participants said that the format had out-lived its utility.

Clearly, the CSD cannot continue in its current mode. "This session may signal the end of CSD as a negotiating body," said a weary delegate. "This is the last time the CSD will be held in this format, if it wants to survive," echoed another.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT ON LIFE SUPPORT?

Among the CSD 19 decisions "that may have been," the 10YFP stands out. Speaker after speaker, including UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon and national environment ministers, stressed how important a successful CSD 19 outcome on the 10YFP was for setting the tone and establishing positive momentum for the Rio+20. Without changing consumption and production patterns—from squandering natural resources to the

excessive life-styles of the rich—there can be no meaningful realization of the “green economy” concept.

Heading into this year’s session, a substantive outcome on SCP from CSD 19 was seen as a measure of the utility of the 10YFP process and as a means of redeeming the CSD as an institution. Agreement to establish a 10YFP covering the period 2011-2021 could have been a milestone in the CSD’s history. Governments have embraced the 10YFP, especially the EU, which considered it the single most important deliverable outcome that CSD 19 could produce. The question now remaining is whether the failure of CSD 19 to agree on a formal decision on 10YFP on SCP is the Framework’s death knell, or if the process is sufficiently robust to proceed under its own steam, given continued support from a large number of governments and pledges from several UN agencies.

While several participants lamented the fact that CSD 19 had “thrown the wheat out with the chaff,” in other words, the good with the problematic, dissipating what had been significant, and what many characterized as “laudable,” texts on transport and waste management, and mining in particular, which would have been the first significant outcome on these issues in a global forum. Others noted that progress on SCP at CSD 19 had not been perfect. Some questioned whether the current approach to SCP will result in implementation of the concept in developed and developing countries and would have preferred a practical approach, defining SCP as “doing more with less.”

Yet while the 10YFP had been CSD 19’s flagship issue it was not to blame for the Commission’s failure to reach consensus on an outcome. As exhausted negotiators continued their consultations into the early morning, a number of factors coalesced towards failure. The Chair’s text proposed as a package early on Saturday morning, as a final attempt at compromise on issues that remained problematic in the negotiating text, contained elements that could not be accepted by the G-77/China, including the very active Arab Group and ALBA countries.

Three issues emerged as central: peoples’ rights in occupied territories; transitioning to a cleaner and more resource-efficient economy; and means of implementation. Although occupied territories has been a perennial issue in many negotiations and had been resolved at CSD 17 in the Chair’s package text in a manner barely satisfactory to a number of developed country parties, the package proposed at CSD 19 contained language on “removing obstacles” to realizing “rights of peoples living under foreign occupation,” which proved untenable to those in the Arab Group, who preferred language from CSD 17 on “the rights peoples living under colonial and foreign occupation, which are incompatible with the dignity and worth of the human person and which must be combated and eliminated.” A number of delegates felt this reflected rising tensions in the Middle East.

On a cleaner and more resource-efficient economy, which had been compromise language replacing “green economy,” the G-77/China felt that this term was as undefined and ambiguous as the green economy. Lastly, the text on means of implementation remained one of the most controversial and complicated issues facing CSD 19. The G-77/China preferred to keep MOI under each individual thematic section as well as in a separate section of its own, while the US and several others preferred to move all elements of MOI into a separate section

of its own to avoid duplication. Compromise had been reached in which the G-77/China had traded deletions of specific MOI clauses under various sub-items in return for promises to address the same issues in the MOI section. However a number of these trade-offs were not reflected in the Chair’s package text.

These issues made it impossible for the G-77/China to accept the Chair’s package text as a whole, while the EU, US, Canada and Japan made it clear they refused to open the document for amendment during the closing plenary. With apparent deadlock looming, at around 6:00 am on Saturday morning the idea of a resumed session, to take place in several weeks, was floated and by 8:00 am appeared close to consensus pending answers to logistical questions. However, the G-77/China argued that the basis of the resumed meeting would have to be the negotiating text rather than the Chair’s package text and that the entire text must be open for re-negotiation, which the EU could not accept. During hasty informal consultations the EU stressed that large portions of the text had already been agreed, but the G-77/China said these had only been provisionally agreed subject to agreement on the final package. When the plenary reconvened at 8:31 am, Saudi Arabia asked if there was a quorum present to make a decision on a resumed meeting of CSD 19. With a quorum of 27 members necessary to proceed, only 24 exhausted delegations remained, dealing the coup de grace to negotiations at CSD 19 and possibly to the CSD itself.

SHIFTING FOCUS TO RIO

The question now on many people’s minds is how the CSD 19 disaster might affect the preparatory process for Rio+20. Some say it has illuminated the difficulties in handling Rio’s ambitious agenda. The discussions in New York have shown that the green economy remains a hate object for some developing countries: Venezuela termed it as “green capitalism,” and Bolivia urged that “the green of nature prevails over the green of money and profit.”

There were signs that those who insisted on choosing the green economy as one of the two themes of UNCSO were having second thoughts: could it have been better if SCP was a theme, rather than green economy? To this, an astute delegate reacted that the UN General Assembly resolution establishing the Rio+20 agenda referred to “themes to be discussed and refined during the preparatory process.” Thus, there is still time to correct the thrust of the UNCSO—and it is here that the significance of the still-born decision on SCP lies: it could be salvaged from the wreckage of CSD 19 and have a life of its own. In fact, SCP might be a building block to the “green future,” as described so passionately by the EU.

Yet according to several delegates, what happened at CSD 19 is bound to raise interest in the problem of the institutional framework for sustainable development, and thus shift attention away from both SCP and the green economy. As one seasoned participant noted, “CSD 19 throws into sharp relief that those interested in sustainable development can forget about the CSD, and if they don’t resolve the institutional crisis facing the sustainable development at Rio+20, they can forget about the issue entirely.” Institutional issues are one of the themes under the Rio+20 agenda but are still largely unknown: the clamor for a United Nations Environment Organization seems to have subsided and talk of a world umbrella sustainable development

organization is still esoteric. Some say a new Sustainable Development Council is critically necessary, while others support a reformed CSD and a strengthened UNEP. Others were quick to point out a scenario absent an international framework to govern sustainable development is not acceptable. However, concrete proposals remain scarce. It is against this foggy background that CSD emerges as a candidate for institutional reform. Its main advantage is that it is an existing structure. However, if the CSD continues, it needs to focus on its strengths: engaging stakeholders and experts for dialogue with governments.

TO BE REBORN IN RIO?

This is not the first time the CSD failed to adopt a consensus decision: in 2007, CSD 15 also ended in a stalemate. But this latest experience has brought home a truth that has been obvious for a number of years: the Commission needs fixing and is no longer sustainable. Governments have been reflecting on what added value the CSD brings to the sustainable development policy process, whether it's worth retaining, and if it is, what improvements might be undertaken, and if not, what might replace it. The ball is now firmly in the court of the Rio+20 preparatory process. As an observer commented, the same governments that brought down CSD 19 are now responsible for creating more reliable structures that will have the capacity to discuss, review and implement hard decisions in a way that will be perceived as truly balanced by all.

But perhaps the horizon is not all that bleak. Sometimes it takes a disaster or a collapse to make people get serious about reform. As one delegate noted "What happened at CSD 19 might serve as a wake-up call for those involved in the Rio+20 process."

UPCOMING MEETINGS

MDGs Follow-up Ministerial Meeting: This meeting is co-organized by the UN Development Programme (UNDP), the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Bank and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). It will bring together ministers and representatives of international organizations and civil society, and will aim to bridge the outcome of the 2010 MDGs Summit with concrete and effective actions through a global dialogue among a broad range of stakeholders. **dates:** 2-3 June 2011 **location:** Tokyo, Japan **contact:** Takafumi Iwasaki **phone:** +81-3-5501-8000 ext. 2759 **email:** mdgs.followup@mofa.go.jp **www:** http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/event/2011/4/0426_01.html

UNCSD Subregional Preparatory Meeting for the Caribbean: The Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), with technical support from the UN Economic and Social Commission's (ECLAC) Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean, will hold a UNCSD preparatory event for the Caribbean. **date:** 20 June 2011 (tentative) **location:** Georgetown, Guyana **contact:** Garfield Barnwell **email:** sdp@caricom.org **www:** <http://www.caricom.org>

Fifth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention (PIC COP 5): The fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade (PIC COP 5)

will consider the recommendation of the Chemical Review Committee to list endosulfan and azinphos methyl in Annex III to the Convention. **dates:** 20-24 June 2011 **location:** Geneva, Switzerland **contact:** Rotterdam Convention Secretariat **phone:** +41-22-917-8296 **fax:** +41-22-917-8082 **email:** pic@pic.int **www:** <http://www.pic.int/>

UNCTAD Public Symposium: Making Trade and Finance Work for People and the Planet: Organized by the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the Symposium will focus on two themes: global and regional initiatives for financial and monetary reforms for sustainable development; and making the transition to a green economy fair and equitable. Participants will be invited to discuss these issues, in particular in relation to key international meetings on sustainable development, such as the upcoming G-20 Summit, the Rio+20 process and the thirteenth UNCTAD Conference, to be held in 2012. **dates:** 22-24 June 2011 **location:** Geneva, Switzerland **contact:** Civil Society Outreach (CSO) Unit, UNCTAD **phone:** +41-22-917-5048 **fax:** +41-22-917-0056 **email:** cso@unctad.org **www:** <http://www.unctad.org/>

6th International Conference on Waste Management and Technology: This meeting, organized by the Basel Convention Coordinating Centre for Asia and the Pacific, aims to promote exchange of knowledge and experience on waste management and technology among the international experts. **dates:** 30 August - 1 September 2011 **location:** Suzhou, China **contact:** Basel Convention Coordinating Centre for Asia and the Pacific **phone:** +86-10-6279-4351 **fax:** +86-10-6277-2048 **email:** icwmt@tsinghua.edu.cn **www:** <http://conf.bccr.cn/english/>

UNCSD Regional Preparatory Meeting for Latin American and Caribbean: The UN Economic Commission for the Latin American and Caribbean Region (ECLAC) will hold a regional meeting in preparation for the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD or Rio+20). **dates:** 7-9 September 2011 **location:** Santiago, Chile **contact:** Joseluis Samaniego **fax:** +56-2-208-0484 **email:** joseluis.samaniego@cepal.org **www:** <http://www.uncsd2012.org/rio20/index.php?menu=26>

GSP 4: The fourth meeting of the Secretary-General's High-level Panel on Global Sustainability (GSP 4) will take place in New York, on the margins of the 66th session of the UN General Assembly. **dates:** 18-19 September 2011 **location:** UN Headquarters, New York **contact:** GSP Secretariat **phone:** +1-917-367-4207 **email:** gsp-secretariat@un.org **www:** <http://www.un.org/wcm/content/site/climatechange/pages/gsp>

Conference on the Green Economy and Sustainable Development: Bringing Back the Social Dimension: The UN Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD) will host a conference on the green economy and sustainable development, focusing on the social dimension. The conference will examine the social impacts and distributional consequences of policies and processes associated with green economy; the potential and limits of structural and institutional change; and the agency and social mobilization for institutional and policy change. The policy reports presented at the conference will aim to inform the UNCSD preparatory process and subsequent policy discussions. **dates:** 10-11 October 2011 **location:** Geneva, Switzerland **contact:** Kiah Smith **email:** smith@unrisd.org **www:** <http://www.unrisd.org/>

UNCSD Regional Preparatory Meeting for Africa: The UN Economic Commission for Africa and partners will convene a regional preparatory meeting for the UNCSD. **dates:** 10-14 October 2011 **location:** Addis Ababa, Ethiopia **contact:** UNCSD Secretariat **email:** uncsd2012@un.org **www:** <http://www.uncsd2012.org/rio20/index.php?menu=26>

UNCSD Regional Preparatory Meeting in the Arab Region: The UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia and partners will convene a regional meeting in preparation for the UNCSD. **dates:** 18-20 October 2011 **location:** Cairo, Egypt **contact:** UNCSD Secretariat **email:** uncsd2012@un.org **www:** <http://www.uncsd2012.org/rio20/index.php?menu=26>

UNEP FI Global Roundtable 2011: Organized by the UN Environment Programme Finance Initiative (UNEP FI), this meeting will convene under the theme “The tipping point: Sustained stability in the next economy.” The 2011 Roundtable aims to provide a platform for the global financial sector to: define what it expects to achieve at Rio+20. It will include two plenary sessions, on: Systems, Stability and Sustainability/ Lenses and Clocks; and What the Earth Summit needs to deliver at Rio+20. **dates:** 19-20 October 2011 **location:** Washington, DC **contact:** Cecilia Serin **email:** roundtable@unepfi.org **www:** <http://www.unepfi.org/washington>

UNCSD Regional Preparatory Meeting in the Asia-Pacific Region: The UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and partners will convene a regional meeting in preparation for the UNCSD. **dates:** 19-20 October 2011 **location:** Seoul, Republic of Korea **contact:** UNCSD Secretariat **email:** uncsd2012@un.org **www:** <http://www.uncsd2012.org/rio20/index.php?menu=26>

10th Asia Pacific Roundtable for Sustainable Consumption and Production (APRSCP): The 10th APRSCP is co-hosted by the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Indonesia and Indonesia Solid Waste Association. The objectives of the meeting are to: enhance and strengthen regional cooperation through information and experience exchange in development and implementation of sustainable consumption and production (SCP) strategies; and to review the SCP framework and activities. **dates:** 9-11 November 2011 **location:** Yogyakarta, Indonesia **phone:** +62-21-4267877 **fax:** +62-21-4267856 **email:** Info@The10thAPRSCP.com **www:** <http://www.the10thaprscp.com/>

UNCSD Regional Preparatory Meeting for ECE Region: The UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) will convene a regional meeting in preparation for the UN Conference on Sustainable Development. **dates:** 1-2 December 2011 **location:** Geneva, Switzerland **contact:** UNCSD Secretariat **email:** uncsd2012@un.org **www:** <http://www.unece.org/meetings/meetgen.htm> or <http://www.uncsd2012.org/rio20/index.php?menu=26>

Second Intersessional Meeting for UNCSD: The first PrepCom of the UNCSD called for three intersessional meetings to be convened to prepare for the June 2012 conference. **dates:** 15-16 December 2011 (tentative) **location:** UN Headquarters, New York **contact:** UNCSD Secretariat **email:** uncsd2012@un.org **www:** <http://www.uncsd2012.org/rio20/index.php?menu=25>

Third Intersessional Meeting for UNCSD: The final intersessional meeting for the UNCSD will be convened in March. **dates:** 5-7 March 2012 **location:** UN Headquarters, New York **contact:** UNCSD Secretariat **email:** uncsd2012@un.org **www:** <http://www.uncsd2012.org/rio20/index.php?menu=25>

Third PrepCom for UNCSD: The third meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the UNCSD will take place in Brazil just prior to the conference. **dates:** 28-30 May 2012 **location:** Rio De Janeiro, Brazil **contact:** UNCSD Secretariat **email:** uncsd2012@un.org **www:** <http://www.uncsd2012.org/>

UN Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD): The UNCSD will mark the 20th anniversary of the UN Conference on Environment and Development, which convened in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. **dates:** 4-6 June 2012 **location:** Rio De Janeiro, Brazil **contact:** UNCSD Secretariat **email:** uncsd2012@un.org **www:** <http://www.uncsd2012.org/>

GLOSSARY

10YFP	10-Year Framework Programme
AOSIS	Alliance of Small Island States
BPOA	Barbados Programme of Action
CCI	cross-cutting issues
CSD	UN Commission on Sustainable Development
ECOSOC	UN Economic and Social Council
ESCAP	UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
IL	Inter-linkages
JPOI	Johannesburg Plan of Implementation
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MOI	Means of implementation
ODA	Official development assistance
Rio+20	UN Conference on Sustainable Development (or UNCSD)
SAICM	Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management
SCP	Sustainable consumption and production
SIDS	Small island developing states
UNCED	UN Conference on Environment and Development
UNCSD	UN Conference on Sustainable Development (or Rio+20)
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
WSSD	World Summit on Sustainable Development