On Thursday morning, delegates met in concurrent Working Groups. Working Group I met to consider the Chair’s draft decision on the future international arrangement on forests (IAF). Working Group II met to discuss draft elements of the ministerial declaration as well as the issue of finance relating to the IAF. Regional group consultations continued throughout the day.

**WORKING GROUP I**

Vice-Chair Reslan Ishar Jenie (Indonesia) opened the discussion on review of the effectiveness of the international arrangement on forests (IAF), consideration of future actions, consideration with a view to recommending the parameters of a mandate for developing a legal framework on all types of forests, and enhanced cooperation, and introduced the Chair’s draft decision. A number of delegations said the Chair’s draft text is a good basis for discussion. JAMAICA, on behalf of the G-77/CHINA, requested additional time to examine the text. LUXEMBOURG, on behalf of the EU, supported by AUSTRALIA and the US, said it is important to give the G-77/CHINA the requested time. The DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO and CUBA noted that only an English version of the draft text had been provided, requested translated versions, and urged the Secretariat to follow UN procedures. The Secretariat noted serious limitations in providing document translation. Vice-Chair Ishar Jenie suspended the meeting to grant the G-77/CHINA time for consultation.

**WORKING GROUP II**

Vice-Chair Denys Gauer (France) opened Working Group II by suggesting that detailed discussion of the draft ministerial declaration be set aside in favor of a general exchange of views on global goals and financial aspects. LUXEMBOURG, on behalf of the EU, stated that he was ready to discuss goals, but not financial aspects. JAMAICA, on behalf of the G-77/CHINA, requested additional time for group consultations. MAURITANIA suggested that initiatives aimed at combating deforestation be focussed on underlying causes. The US expressed willingness to discuss initial general reactions on goals and means of implementation. SWITZERLAND suggested the inclusion of realistic and measurable global goals. MEXICO favored quantifiable global goals associated with clear time frames, with self-defined national targets. NEW ZEALAND suggested the inclusion of realistic and measurable global goals capable of demonstrating the potential of forests to contribute to the social agenda. CANADA supported the inclusion of global goals, but called for addressing deforestation separately from the issue of forest degradation.

LUXEMBOURG, on behalf of the EU, called for establishing quantifiable global goals in order to send a clear message on forests, as well as national targets, which should be related to the global goals. He reminded participants that other processes have succeeded in establishing quantified objectives.

SWITZERLAND stated that the original Economic and Social Council decision establishing the IAF should be reaffirmed in the preamble as well as in a separate paragraph within the text, and preferred that the text include a small number of quantifiable global goals. MEXICO favored quantifiable global goals associated with clear time frames, with self-defined national targets. NEW ZEALAND suggested the inclusion of realistic and measurable global goals capable of demonstrating the potential of forests to contribute to the social agenda. CANADA supported the inclusion of global goals, but called for addressing deforestation separately from the issue of forest degradation.

Vice-Chair Gauer adjourned the meeting in order to allow the G-77/CHINA more time to consider the Chair’s draft declaration.

**IN THE CORRIDORS**

Many have said that the G-77/CHINA has made progress in its initial reading of the draft text, noting agreement, at least in principle, to the idea of “strategic objectives” as opposed to “goals” or “targets.” But, according to some, there remains considerable controversy within the G-77/CHINA over the desirability of a code that might entail.
“Your Meeting” Bulletin

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SUMMARY REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR RENEWABLE ENERGIES - RENEWABLES 2004:
1-4 JUNE 2004

The International Conference for Renewable Energies (renewables 2004) took place from 1-4 June 2004, in Bonn, Germany.

Approximately 3600 participants from 154 countries attended the Conference, including several Heads of State, 121 Ministers and representatives from governments, intergovernmental organizations (IGOs), non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the scientific community and the private sector.

The renewables 2004 programme consisted of nine Plenary Sessions, including a Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue and a Ministerial Segment. The Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue addressed the value of, and opportunities for, renewable energy - policy frameworks and regulatory certainty; and promoting renewable energy - finance and capacity for the future. Other Plenary Sessions addressed best-practice examples and success stories.

The Ministerial Segment included three Ministerial Roundtables that considered policies for renewable energy market development, financing options, and strengthening capacities, research and policy.

"IISD proved to be as professional as their reputation is. The group covered all events taking place at the conference venue itself as well as many side events which were located in the vicinity of the conference hall. IISD produced a well-designed bulletin including informative text and pictures of all important meetings, discussions and results of the main conference events. This bulletin was very useful for participants to follow events they could not attend or were also interested in.

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Dr. Heinrich Schneider
Conference Secretariat
International Conference for Renewable Energies, Bonn 2004

This product was developed in 2003 specifically for large conferences that include both substantive discussions and side events. Building on the success of the Earth Negotiations Bulletin and ENB on the Side, “Your Meeting” Bulletin was created as a conference daily report. IISD Reporting Services was hired to publish in this format at the World Forestry Congress, Renewables 2004 and the IUCN World Conservation Congress.

“Your Meeting” Bulletin is a 4-6 page daily report and summary issue that includes coverage of policy discussions and/or negotiations, and extensive reporting from side events and special events during the conference.

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