



**European Regional Consultation Meeting for the 8th UNEP Global Civil Society Forum,
And annual meeting of UNEP National Committees and partner NGOs
Geneva, 23-25 October 2006
International Environment House, 15 Chemin des Anémones, 1219 Chatelaine
(Conference Room 3)**

Draft Agenda

1. Opening of the meeting and welcoming remark by the Regional Director.
2. Tour de Table introduction of partner NGOs, adoption of the Agenda and election of co-chairs/facilitators.
3. Report on the outcome of the 7th Global Civil Society Forum and the 9th Special Session of the UNEP.GC/GMEF.
4. Briefing on new developments in UNEP and future implications and perspectives in the design and implementation of UNEP's work, and preparations for the 24th Session of the Governing Council.
5. Presentations and dialogue sessions on key issues for the twenty-fourth session of the Governing Council/ Global Ministerial Environment Forum (GC-24/GMEF), Nairobi, 5-9 February 2007. [(Chemicals, Gender, Water, and Globalization), as well as discussions and updates on the IEG process, Bali Plan, Procurement, and State of the Environment).
6. Briefings on international and regional processes (Environment for Europe/NGO update; Outcome of the High-level Panel on System-wide Coherence, and implications and opportunities for NGOs; Review of CSD 14 session & preparations for CSD 15 focusing on policy issues; Public Participation in the implementation of the Carpathian and Caspian Conventions).
7. Briefings/presentations on the work of Geneva-based UNEP Units.
8. Capacity building/experience sharing workshop on working at the local level, increasing networks, contact and influence. Creating national coalitions for the environment with other civil society organizations.
9. UNEP and Civil Society engagement (Follow up of civil society requests at the 6th and 7th GCSF and future perspectives and new possibilities of mutual engagement for UNEP national committees).
10. Civil society participation in and contribution to the 8th Global Civil Society Forum (elements for regional statement, election of civil society representatives for the 8th GCSF to be held in February 2007 in Nairobi); and election of representatives from Europe for the Global Steering Committee of civil society organizations.
11. Other business and evaluation of the meeting.
12. Concluding remarks by the Regional Director and closing of meeting.

Organization of Work

DAY ONE – Mon., 23rd October 2006:

- 09h15 - 09h30 Item 1** **Opening of the meeting**
- Welcoming remark by the Regional Director [*Frits Schlingemann*], and
 - Presentation of organization of work.
- 09h30 - 10h00 Item 2** **Tour de Table introduction of partner NGOs and participants,**
- Adoption of the Agenda
 - Election of three co-chairs/facilitators.
- 10h00 - 10h30 Item 3** **Report on the outcome of the 7th Global Civil Society Forum and the 9th Special Session of the UNEP.GC/GMEF:**
- UNEP/GC23 [*Mr. Nilvo Silva / UNEP/DRC*]; 15 min
 - NGO/CSO representative [*Rappourter*]; 15 min – followed by Q&A session
- 10h30 - 10h45** **Coffee break** (*served in conference room*)
- 10h45 - 11h30 Item 4** **New Development in UNEP and future implications and perspectives in the design and implementation of UNEP's work (including Bali Plan), and briefing on the preparations for the 24th Session of the UNEP/GC (FS)**

Presentations and dialogue sessions on key issues for the twenty-fourth session of the Governing Council/ Global Ministerial Environment Forum (GC-24/GMEF), Nairobi, 5-9 February 2007. [*Chair introduces main points on Ministerial themes to set the stage for discussion, and co-chairs lead the participants through the discussion*].

- 11h30 - 12h30 Item 5.a** **Chemicals Management**
- State of Chemicals management: [*Matthew Gubb - UNEP/CHEMICALS*]
 - Information on heavy metals: [*Brenda Koekkoek - UNEP/CHEMICALS*]
 - Role of Civil Society in Chemicals Management and National SAICM Implementation: [*Gustavo Manez - UNITAR*]
 - Brief update from the Basel Convention: [*Speaker TBC*]
- 12h30 - 12h40** **Discussion and Q&A from the floor**
- 12h40 - 14h00** **Visits to UNEP/Geneva Units and lunch.**
- 14h00-15h00 Item 5.b** **Gender and the Environment**
- Recent examples and initiatives on gender mainstreaming in environmental policies and programmes: including the outcome of High-level Panel on System-wide Coherence & gender equality architecture: [*Irene Dankelman, WEDO*]
 - Gender-differentiated impacts of environmental conditions: [*Sascha Gabizon, WECF*]
- 15h00 - 15h10** **Discussion and Q&A from the floor**
- 15h10-16h10 Item 5.c** **Water and the Environment**
- Briefing on the updated “Water policy and strategy of UNEP, 2007-2012”, and Feed back from the 2006 World Water Week in Stockholm [*Felix Dodds*]
 - IUCN Water Programme [*Dr. Ger Bergkamp*]
 - Role of Rainwater Harvesting [*Ms. Vessela Monta, IRHA*]
- 16h10 - 16h20** **Discussion and Q&A from the floor**
- 16h20 - 16h30** **Coffee break** (*served in conference room*)
- 16h30 - 17h30 Item 5.d** **Globalization, Ecosystem Services, and Human wellbeing**
- Payments for ecosystem services: An example of sustainable globalization [*Joshua Bishop, IUCN*]

- UNEP Economics and Trade Branch [*Benjamin Simmons and Fulai Sheng*]
- Vice Yu [*Global Governance for Development Programme, The South Centre*]

17h30 – 17:40

Discussion and Q&A from the floor

17h45 – 18h00

Establishment of working Groups (Chemicals, Gender, Water and Globalization), and discussions amongst participants

19h00

Closure of day one

19h30-21h30

Working dinner for the *Globalization Working Group* hosted by Economics and Trade Branch (ETB) – *by invitation and venue to be confirmed.*

DAY TWO - Tue., 24th October 2006:

09h30- 10h00

Brief round up on the discussions of previous day, progress of working groups, and introduction of themes for day two.

10h00 - 10h45 Item 6

Briefings on Global/International and Regional processes.

- Briefing on the Implementation of the Aarhus Convention, and meetings of the Task Force on Access to Justice and Public Participation in International For a, and Electronic Information Tools, and the Compliance Committee: (*Michael Stanley-Jones UNECE*);
- Public participation in the implementation of the Caspian Convention: [*Mr. Rafiq Verdiyev*]
- Public participation in the implementation of the Carpathian Convention: [*Monika Ochwat & Tamara Malkova – ANPED Carpathian Working Group*].

10h45-11h00

Coffee break (*served in conference room*)

11h00 - 12h45 Item 6

Continuation of **agenda items 6.**

- Sixth Ministerial Conference “Environment for Europe” Belgrade (Serbia) 10-12 October 2007
 - Road map to Belgrade 2007: NGO perspective on overall process and opportunities and challenges for CSO (*Ms. Victoria Elias and Environmental Ambassadors*);
 - Progress in Education for Sustainable Development: [*Michael Stanley-Jones, UNECE*]
 - Making Sustainable Production and Consumption an overarching Objective for Europe: [*Janis Brizga, Green Liberty/ ANPED*]
- Review of CSD 14 session & preparations for CSD 15 focusing on policy issues, and outcome of CSD capacity building session: [*JGS*];
- Outcome of the Sustainable criteria for bio-energy conference: [*Jürgen Maier, German NGO Forum on Environment and Development*];
- Briefing on Workers' Health Action Plan and future developments [*Anabella Rosemberg, Trade Union Advisory Committee to the OECD*]

12h45 - 14h00

Working Lunch at Auberge de Chatelaine, Avenue de Chatelaine 62-64, 1219 Chatelaine.

14h00-16h00

Working Groups discussion on key issues for GC-24/GMEF.

16h00 – 16h15

Coffee break (*served in conference room*)

16h15 - 18h15 Item 5

Presentations and dialogue sessions on other issues for the twenty-fourth session of the Governing Council/ Global Ministerial Environment Forum (GC-24/GMEF)

16h15-16h45 Item 5

Discussions and updates on the IEG process

- Overview of UN Reform: [Tony Hill, UN NGLS]
- Presentation on IEG process and the way forward: [Felix Dodds]
- Outcome of the High-level Panel on System-wide Coherence dialogue with Major Groups and stakeholders: [Daniel Mittler, Greenpeace International]

16h45 – 17h15 Item 5

Sustainable Procurement

- Some perspectives on sustainable procurement and role of NGOs: [Chris Church, Community Environment Associates (CEA)]
- Current practices in green/sustainable procurement in Europe: [Wolfgang Teubner, Executive Director, ICLEI]

17h15 – 17h45 Item 5

State of the Environment

- Update on the GEO 4 preparations in relation to GC-24/GMEF themes: [Diana Rizzolio, GRID-Europe]

17h45 - 19h00

Brief progress report from the working groups discussion on key issues for GC-24/GMEF.

19h00

Closure of day two.

DAY THREE - Wednesday, 25th October 2006

09h00-09h30

Brief round up on the discussions of previous day and the outcome of the Working Groups themes and reflection on the elements for the regional statement [Co-Chairs to update the meeting]

09h30 - 10h30 Items 7

Briefings on the work of Geneva based UNEP Units and activities Environmental Diplomacy; Environment and Security initiative and Sustainable Consumption.

10h30-10h45

Coffee break (served in conference room)

10h45 - 12h45 Item 8

Capacity building/experience sharing workshop on implementing regional and international processes into local actions. How to lobby at local level, increasing networks, contact and influence. Creating national coalitions for the environment with other civil society organizations & networks. [FD & JGS];

12h45 – 13h00

Questions and answers session

13h00 - 14h25

Visits to UNEP/Geneva Units and lunch/Working Group discussion on Regional Statement.

14h30-15h30 Item 9

UNEP and Civil Society engagement (follow-up paper on the requests of the 6th and 7th GCSF on the role of UNEP national committees)

- Presentation on the role of UNEP national committees: [JGS & VE];

15h30-16h30 Item 10

CSO participation in and contribution to the 8th GCSF.

- Discussion and adoption of regional statement;
- Suggestion/election of civil society representatives for the 8th GCSF (5-6 February 2007);
- Election of representatives from Europe for the Global Steering Committee of civil society organizations.

16h30-17h00 Item 11

Other business and written evaluation of the meeting.

17h00 Item 12

Concluding remarks by the Regional Director and closing of meeting.