



First Meeting of the Marrakech Process Advisory Committee

Draft Summary Minutes

8 May 2008

Chairpersons: Claudia Mora (Colombia), Ulf Jaeckel (Germany).

Committee members: Paulo Soprano (Italy), Kaarin Taipale (Finland), Gunilla Blomquist (Sweden), John Matuszak (USA), John Dunn (European Commission), Cleo Migiros (Tanzania), Tri Tharyat (Indonesia), Luiz Merico (Brazil), Louise Kantrow (ICC), Birgit Engelhardt (B&I Major Groups/ICC), Bjarne Pedersen (Consumer International).

Secretariat of the Marrakech Process: Arab Hoballah, Adriana Zacarias (UNEP-DTIE), David O'Connor, David Le Blanc, Chantal Line Carpentier, Rui Zhang (UNDESA).

Observers: Rachel McCormick (Canada), Gunnar Kohlin (Environment for Development), Arnold Tukker (SCORE!/TNO, Netherlands), Annika Lindblom (Finland), Jay benforado (USA).

Main conclusions of the meeting:

- The Secretariat will prepare a first draft of the 10YFP, which will be sent to the Committee members by the beginning of June, 2008.
- The Secretariat will prepare a background paper on SCP areas already covered by international conventions and MEAs, to identify synergies, niche areas and gaps as well as to avoid duplications in the 10YFP.
- A second background paper on the "10YFP and the CSD (political and technical constraints) will be prepared by the Secretariat, analyzing and providing different scenarios and options to present the 10YFP at the CSD 19.
- The next meeting of the committee will take place on October 22, 2008 in Paris on the margin of the UNEP Annual Meeting with Business and Industry.

1. Meeting opening

This first meeting of the Advisory Committee of the Marrakech Process was opened by the representatives of the Secretariat, Mr. Arab Hoballah (UNEP) and Mr. David O'Connor (UNDESA). They mentioned the main objectives of the Advisory Committee (AC): to give ownership of the Marrakech Process and 10YFP to the countries, to better engage stakeholders in the Marrakech Process, and to ensure the openness and transparency of the process of elaboration of the 10YFP. The AC should also provide the Secretariat with a sense of feasibility for the 10YFP, improving it and ensuring maximum probability of success at CSD 19.

Mr. Arab Hoballah gave a short summary of the Marrakech Process and its main achievements so far. The Process has two main objectives: support the implementation of SCP and elaborate a proposal for a 10YFP. During the last 5 years the Process has built more cooperation and has brought more political support to the SCP Agenda. Africa and Latin America have developed their own regional strategies on SCP. The European Union is about the release its SCP Action Plan. Marrakech Task Forces have shown themselves to be an effective mechanism for implementation promoting North-South cooperation, developing SCP tools and implementing demonstration projects. Progress has been made in engaging countries with emerging economies in the Marrakech Process, through the national roundtables in Brazil, India, and China. Since the last international meeting in Stockholm, Business and NGOs have been engaged more actively. He also mentioned that we need to be clear on the goals of the 10YFP and on what we want to achieve by 2021. He



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emphasized that the main objective of the 10YFP is to promote SCP to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation while also reducing social inequity. A second important question to answer, he said, is what are the “key programmes” that should be included in the framework. These programmes need to be selected carefully and be the most effective to deliver the shift towards SCP. The Marrakech Process needs to be a transformative process on the ground, and provide to the CSD19 a Framework that is different from and more advanced than what has been agreed in Rio and Johannesburg.

Mr. David O’Connor highlighted the importance of the Advisory Committee to help the Secretariat draft the 10YFP and garner political will. He observed that the 10YFP, in contrast to most other topics in the CSD’s work programme, is not defined already in inter-governmental agreements. Rather, the JPOI calls for its creation, and so the 10YFP will have to be created from scratch. This makes it all the more important to engage Governments and other stakeholders in the process of defining elements of the 10YFP at an early stage. Mr. O’Connor also reminded participants that, in addition to the 10YFP on SCP, there will be 4 other topics: waste, transport, chemicals and mining on the agenda of the CSD in 2010/2011. It will important to consider how to position the 10YFP in relation to these other themes.

2. Introduction and Welcome of Co-chairs:

Co-Chair Mr. Ulf Jaeckel welcomed the AC on behalf of Mr. Michael Muller who was not able to attend the meeting. Co-Chair Ms. Claudia Mora welcomed the Advisory Committee. Both co-chairs mentioned the objectives of the AC that include the need to be open and transparent so that it can deliver the tasks and responsibilities as reflected in its TOR. The objectives of this first meeting were to: reaching an agreement on how to move forward, agreeing on the procedures and process for the functioning of the AC, and engage in a reflection on the content of the 10YFP. The Co-chairs reminded participants that the AC was one of the key instruments for creating an understanding of the 10YFP before the CSD discussions start.

AC representatives of the regions, of the Task Forces and of Major Groups presented the state of advancement of Marrakech-related activities in their sphere of interest. Many members underlined their expectations for the AC as ensuring an open, transparent and constructive process of preparation of the 10YFP and welcomed this original way for CSD to involve all stakeholders earlier on in the development of the program. As mentioned by some participants, one of the challenges of the 10YFP is to transform the concerns into something concrete and actionable. Inputs from the Task Forces and the regions should be pursued actively. Many participants mentioned the importance of fully involving the regional Economic Commissions in the preparation of the 10YFP.

3. Development of the 10YFP

A key item discussed in the meeting was the development of the 10YFP and the steps forward. The Secretariat made a short presentation of the current state of preparation of the 10YFP. Ms. Adriana Zacarias recalled the JPOI agreed language “*Encourage and promote the development of a 10-year Framework of programmes in support of regional and national initiatives to accelerate the shift towards sustainable production and consumption to promote social and economic development within the carrying capacity of ecosystems by addressing and, when appropriate, delinking economic growth and environmental degradation through improving efficiency and sustainability in the use of resources and production processes and reducing resource degradation, pollution and waste*”. The main principles of the 10YFP, as it has been agreed at the last international meeting on Stockholm, are to be flexible and applicable to all regions (responding to the national and regional priorities); to be a framework for action giving clear roles and responsibilities to all



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relevant stakeholders. The 10YFP could work as a “brokering system” bringing together the demand for SCP and the supply of technical and financial services and support.

The main question, she mentioned, is to identify the core programmes that should be in the 10YFP. In order to select them, the Secretariat has carried out a mapping exercise of all the regional consultations, identifying the key priorities and needs to promote SCP. There are common priorities for all regions, but they vary in scope and they are also a mix of sectoral priorities (such as energy, waste management, water, mobility, housing and agriculture, tourism) and needs for institutional capacity building, policies and programmes (see ppt for details). This leads to a second question: how to cluster the programmes of the 10YFP? and what framework could make programmes greater than the sum of the parts?

Ms. Chantal Line Carpentier continued the presentation mentioning some criteria for prioritization of programmes and discussed the level of details to be presented and negotiated in the 10YFP. Questions for the AC included:

What should be the dimensions of the 10YFP?, What are the boundaries of the 10YFP? What are the core programmes that should be included in the 10YFP? How to mobilize resources to support the implementation of the 10YFP? How to better involve other Ministries and Major Groups?

4. Discussions

The main points that emerged from the discussion were the following:

There is a sense of urgency. We have 18 months to the review year of the CSD – drafts of the Secretary General’s reports on CSD topics for CSD 18 have to be cleared by December 2009. All participants expressed the need to get concrete material in hands in order to begin consultations, raise awareness, and work with all stakeholders including delegations. It was agreed that the first draft of the 10YFP for review by the AC should be as short as possible.

4.1 Contents and boundaries of the 10YFP

It was mentioned by the Co-chairs as well as other participants that the next months should be devoted to setting the “boundaries” and the scope of the 10YFP. In this regard:

- A lot of initiatives on SCP led by different stakeholders exist, a small fraction of which have an “official” Marrakech Process label. The Marrakech Process has strived to build cooperation and partnerships with existing initiatives in order to come up with a broad and meaningful 10YFP, however more efforts are needed in this regard. The Secretariat is exploring the usefulness of a clearinghouse of existing initiatives and meetings to address this issue. This clearinghouse can provide a source of best practices, tools, and indicators to be shared among countries, which will integrate all the best practices and tools that have been already developed and collected by the Marrakech Task Forces and other partners.
- It was mentioned that given the existing agreements and commitments (e.g. convention on biodiversity, on hazardous waste, etc.), the 10YFP should focus on identified gaps and put an emphasis on implementation at the global, regional, and national levels. A review of the connections between the 10YFP and commitments included in multilateral environmental agreements (MEA) and other agreements relevant to SCP has to be undertaken.

- Attention needs to be paid to the mandate included in the JPOI, as the ultimate guide to what the 10YFP should or should not cover.
- Whereas the Marrakech Process so far has focused heavily on regions, some participants mentioned that taking into account what is done on SCP in other contexts is relevant as well.

4.2 Level of details of the 10YFP

There was a discussion on how “detailed” the 10YFP should go in terms of level of details of the programmes of the 10YFP. The Secretariat clarified that, while the presentation to the Committee reflected only very broad programmes, work was underway to identify potential activities at the detailed level that would be included into those programmes. A first list of potential activities will be included in the first draft of the 10YFP that will be circulated to the Committee members shortly, for discussion. Starting now, a work of prioritization of such activities, based on what exists and what value added the 10YFP could bring, has to be undertaken. Results from this exercise will be presented at the next Committee meeting.

It was mentioned by the Co-chairs and various participants that the 10YFP should not be prescriptive. It has to recognize as well that “one side fits none” and it needs to recognize regional differences.

4.3 The 10YFP and the CSD

The content of the 10YFP in terms of programmes has to be distinguished from negotiations at the CSD. It is possible, for instance, that a negotiated agreement at CSD19 could simply take the form of a short paragraph indicating the CSD’s endorsement of the 10YFP. In such a case, the 10YFP itself would be a separate document, possibly annexed to the CSD19 decision. For this to happen, substantial consensus on the 10YFP would have to have been achieved during CSD-18. In terms of the architecture of the 10YFP, the right pitch has to be found between a loose collection of regional frameworks and a more constraining global agreement, which some participants underlined, had very little chance to be adopted.

Given the reluctance of some countries to adopt new commitments at CSD, efforts should also focus on the review year of the CSD and on the way to promote SCP-related processes and mechanisms beyond what can be agreed upon at CSD. In this perspective, many people mentioned that the Marrakech Process has a value in itself, if only by facilitating exchanges between actors, the creation of new initiatives, and sharing of best practices. Therefore, it will be important to find ways by which the value-adding activities undertaken under the Marrakech Process umbrella can be continued independently of CSD decisions on the 10YFP.

In any case, it is important to be able to discuss, disseminate and agree on substance (the content of the framework of programmes), in particular with government delegations, and avoid arguing on the wording of the document for negotiation for as long as possible. Some participants felt that the discussion on words should wait for after the conclusion of discussions in the review year, in so far as the content of those discussions is generally a good indicator of how much can be achieved in the negotiation year.

It was mentioned that the relationship between the 10YFP and the other topics already discussed or that will come up at CSD has to be carefully analyzed. In particular, as far as programmes targeted at particular sectors are concerned, a clear understanding has to be reached well in advance on how the SCP approach differs from what has already been discussed in those sectors. It was discussed that the 4 other topics that will be discussed in the cycle of CSD18 and 19 (waste management, chemicals, transport, and mining) have not been chosen

because of a special relationship with SCP. Therefore, the 10YFP should not focus only on those topics. The format of the CSD outcome on the 10YFP has to be investigated. In particular, the possibility to have a separate CSD agreement on the different topics of the cluster, as opposed to an omnibus agreement, has to be investigated. It was suggested that the Secretariat should prepare a paper analyzing previous decisions of the CSD and provide different formats and scenarios to present the 10YFP at the CSD 18 and 19.

4.4 Process for the preparation of the 10YFP

The 10YFP will be drafted by the Secretariat (UNDESA and UNEP). The Division for Sustainable Development in DESA is in charge of preparing the official documentation for the CSD (Secretary General's reports) and will do that in close cooperation with UNEP and the AC.

As stated in the TOR of the AC, the Committee members will have a crucial role in disseminating the successive drafts of the 10YFP to their constituencies, gathering feedback, and providing it to the Secretariat. Many participants agreed on the need for greater involvement of the Task Forces, the regions, and the Major Groups. The creation of regional Task Forces was also mentioned.

Task Forces, the AC, and Major Groups can also help build political will at their country and region level by taking advantages of opportunities to raise awareness and inform decision-makers over the next 18 months. Many controversial issues and misunderstandings could be ironed out if all these groups are involved in the outreach process.

Involvement of the UN agencies in the preparation of the 10YFP has to be stepped up.

Each of the above will help develop the political will and support for a successful CSD 19.

The first draft of the 10YFP will be sent to AC members by early June. It was also agreed that the objective should be to arrive at a consensus document within the AC for the next Committee meeting in October.

4.5. Engaging Stakeholders in the formulation of the 10YFP and Implementation – Calendar of events.

The next round of regional consultations will start with the 5th ARSCP meeting in Johannesburg, South Africa, from June 4 to June 6, 2008. A European meeting on SCP will be held in Prague, Czech Republic, in June and will focus on the European Action Plan for SCP and the 10YFP. Asia and the Pacific is organizing its Roundtable on SCP in September in the Philippines, which will focus on the Marrakech Process and 10YFP. North America's representative informed the meeting of plans for organizing the first regional consultation, bringing in industry and other stakeholders. ICC is co-organizing with UNEP the Annual Dialogue with Industry and Business that will focus on SCP and Climate Change, to be held 23-24 October in Paris. B. Perderson also mentioned 3 meetings: one in Johannesburg, another in Republic of Korea and the other on "World Action Day" on Education for Sustainable Consumption, where Consumers International is working with the MTF on Education for Sustainable Consumption.

Participants requested receiving advance notice of and information and documents on regional meetings.

4.6. Communication Strategy

The Secretariat informed the meeting that a Communication Strategy has been developed. UNEP and



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UNDESA are working jointly in its implementation. As requested at the last international meeting, the improvements on the “Branding of the Marrakech Process” have been done (logo, slogan, templates for publications), the Marrakech Process Newsletter was launched last March, Fact sheets on the 7 Marrakech Task Forces have being developed. UNEP and UNDESA have up-graded the websites on the Marrakech Process making them more informative on the outcomes and user friendly. The Secretariat is developing a PR strategy and involving journalists to write articles on the achievements and best practices of the Marrakech Task Forces and various stakeholders.

5. Next International Expert Meeting on the Marrakech Process

Arrangements for the **next international meeting** are ongoing. Final confirmation by China has not yet been received. The Secretariat needs to expedite this process and secure a firm commitment, so that fundraising for the meeting can begin. It was clarified that the agenda of the next international meeting would be elaborated together with the Advisory Committee.

6. Conclusions and next steps:

1. The Secretariat will send a first draft of the 10YFP to AC members by the first week of June.
2. The Secretariat will explore the usefulness of establishing a clearinghouse of existing initiatives and meetings.
3. A review of the connections between the 10YFP and commitments included in multilateral environmental agreements (MEA) and other agreements relevant to SCP will be undertaken by the Secretariat.
4. A review of previous CSD decisions will be undertaken to help inform decisions about the content, boundaries, and level of detail that should be reflected in a draft 10YFP submitted to countries for negotiation.
5. Next meeting of the Advisory Committee will take place on October 22, 2008 in Paris on the margin of the UNEP Annual Dialogue with Business and Industry.