



Second Intersessional Meeting of the PrepCom, New York, 15-16 December 2011

Swiss statement on agenda item “Structure and format of the outcome document”

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- Rio+20 should amplify the implementation of sustainable development. Therefore, the outcome document should be structured and formatted in a way that will help to accelerate implementation.
- Switzerland therefore has a preference for the option of a short political declaration as well as an annex. The annex would be an integral part of the outcome containing more specific measures and would go beyond a compendium of individual commitments.
- The political declaration should contain high-level policy messages in particular on the two main themes of the conference. The messages should be focused and action oriented.
- As mentioned yesterday, we are of the view that one of the main outcomes for the theme green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication should be an international green economy roadmap. The Roadmap could part of the annex.
- The international green economy roadmap should consist of two levels, one being the policy and the other the operational level:
- At the policy level, it is crucial that common goals as well as concrete targets and timelines for the transformation towards a green economy are formulated. Such international goals and targets for specific sectors and for common enabling conditions will lay out the pathway for individual and collective actions for transforming our economies.
- Specific goals and targets should be formulated for the following key areas and enabling conditions: Sustainable agro-food systems, sustainable public procurement, sustainable energy resources for all; secure water supply, management and use; sustainable management of fragile ecosystems such as mountains, drylands, and forests; resource productivity and environmental performance of economic activities over their whole life cycle; trade in sustainable biodiversity products and services; and green economy education programmes; development national green economy action plans; measurement of the total environmental impact of production and consumption; ecological market transparency and trade; fossil fuel subsidies reforms.

- At the operational level, the green economy roadmap needs to bring together best practices and tools for implementing the measures and for meeting the goals and targets. This could be done by including a toolbox which assembles the instruments and measures that can be applied.
- Regarding the institutional framework for sustainable development, the outcome document should contain a separate part that outlines the elements of a comprehensive reform package.
- The outcome should therefore contain measures for improving governance for sustainable development in a holistic manner, governance in the environmental pillar, and governance on the national and local level.
- Regarding the international level, we propose to include reform measures such as establishing a peer review mechanism, more effective involvement of civil society, presentation of national commitments for sustainable development in support of candidacies, and regular high-level segments. The conclusion that such reforms are best put in practice by replacing the CSD with a Global Sustainability Council as a subsidiary organ of the UN General Assembly.
- We further consider it crucial for the Rio+20 conference to settle on an ambitious reform package for strengthening international environmental governance. The outcome document should therefore include reform measures which are based on the Nairobi-Helsinki Outcome. It should include elements such as universal membership of the IEG anchor institution, reinforced relationship between a strengthened IEG anchor institution and the MEAs and enhanced synergies within thematic clusters.
- Again, the political declaration should contain the main reform elements for each of the three aspects of IFSD, but the detailed measures would be put in the annex.