



UNITED NATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS
DIVISION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
(CSD SECRETARIAT)



**Minutes of the Fourth Meeting of the Bureau of the
19th Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development
(28 February 2011, UN Headquarters, New York)**

Introduction

1. The fourth meeting of the Bureau of the 19th session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD-19) took place on 28 February 2011 in New York, prior to the beginning of the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting (IPM).
2. The following attended the meeting:

Bureau Members

H.E. Mr. László Borbély, Minister of Environment and Forests (Romania)
H.E. Mr. Silvano Vergara Vásquez, Deputy General Administrator of the National Environmental Authority (Panama)
Ambassador Andrew Goledzinowski, Deputy Permanent Representative (Australia)
Mr. Eduardo Meñez, Minister Plenipotentiary (Philippines)
Mr. Abdelghani Merabet, Third Secretary (Algeria)

Secretariat

Mr. Tariq Banuri, Director, DSD/DESA
Mr. Aslam Chaudhry, Chief, Global Policy Branch, DSD/DESA
Mr. David O'Connor, Chief Policy Analysis and Networks Branch, DSD/DESA
Ms. Irena Zubcevic, Senior Sustainable Development Officer, DSD/DESA
Ms. Federica Pietracci, Sustainable Development Officer, DSD/DESA
Ms Vivian Pliner (DGACM), Secretary of the CSD

3. Proposed agenda was adopted. It is attached at Annex 1.

Agenda Item 1: Exchange of views on the preparations for the IPM

4. Minister Borbély welcomed the participants to the fourth Bureau meeting and thanked the Bureau Members and Secretariat for their efforts during the course of the preparatory process leading up to the IPM. He noted with appreciation the commitment demonstrated by several Bureau members by attending various intersessional meetings.
5. Concerning the 10 Year Framework of Programmes on SCP (10YFP), he mentioned that: (i) its adoption at CSD-19 would be very important for advancing the sustainable development agenda, (ii) the SCP meeting in Panama was very important in building understanding and bringing convergence among different positions on the subject, (iii) positive messages emerged from the UNEP ministerial lunch as contribution to CSD19 which was held last week in Nairobi, and (iv) based on his consultations with several delegations, he is very confident on a good outcome on the 10YFP at CSD-19.

6. To facilitate the deliberations of IPM, the Chair proposed the idea of distributing a resource paper to the delegations. The paper is intended to focus deliberations alongside the interactive thematic discussions on the five themes of the cycle as well as on interlinkages, cross-cutting issues and means of implementation with the intention to facilitate discussions at IPM which in turn would produce the Chair's Negotiating Text. It is based on recommendations formulated in the way forward section of SG reports and elements identified in the intersessional meetings of CSD19.

7. After carefully considering the merits and demerits of this proposal, the Bureau decided to distribute the resource paper in the afternoon of the first day of IPM. To this effect, the Chair will give heads -up to the delegations at the opening session.

8. The Secretariat informed the Bureau that all organizational and logistical preparations for the IPM are in place; panelists have been lined-up and that documentation including background papers are available at the CSD-19 website.

Agenda item 2. Discussion on the format of Chair's negotiating text

9. The Secretariat briefed the Bureau about the template to be used for the preparation of Chair's negotiating document that will need to be produced and distributed by the Chair on the last day of the IPM. In this regard, a sample from the last policy session (CSD-17) was shared. The Bureau agreed to using this template.

10. A three-step process was agreed for preparing the Chair's summary. First, the team leaders of note-taking teams will present the summary of each session to the Bureau member assigned to chair that particular session for his review and clearance. Second, the session's summary will be rolled into an overall summary to avoid repetitiveness and ensure consistency with the overall template. Third, the consolidated summary will be reviewed regularly by the whole Bureau during the course of the week and consolidated into a comprehensive draft negotiating document to be presented by the Chair at the end of the week.

Agenda item 3. Status of documentation on 10YFP

11. Minister Borbély mentioned that at the Panama meeting the Bureau requested UNDESA and UNEP to produce a joint background paper on 10YFP. Instead, the Bureau received two papers one from UNEP and the other from DESA. Both papers highlight the areas on which we have broader agreement as well as those on which further discussions are needed.

12. These papers were shared with the Member States and other stakeholders at a briefing session organized by the Bureau to update all stakeholders on the preparations for the IPM. These papers are also available on line at the CSD-19 website.

Agenda item 4. Feedback from the Major groups

13. Mr. Meñez, who is Bureau's focal point for liaising with the Major groups, briefed the Bureau about his meeting with the Major groups that took place on 27 February 2011. This meeting was attended by the representatives of three Major groups (farmers, science and technology and business and industry).

14. The Major groups informed him about the issue papers prepared by them on all themes of the current cycle to facilitate the discussions both at the IPM and CSD-19. They hoped that the proposals put forward by them in the paper would be given due consideration in the preparation of Chair's summary. The Major groups also expect that they will be allowed to make their statements when requested during thematic discussions.

15. While agreeing to Major groups' suggestion, the Bureau decided that in each session 2-3 Major groups would be allowed to speak, but they should decide among themselves as to who would take the floor in each session.

Agenda item 5. Any other business

16. The Bureau decided to meet every day at the end of the day to review the progress and to discuss issues needing Bureau's attention.

ANNEX-1



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AND

**19th Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development
Agenda for the Bureau Meeting
28 February 2011, 8:00 to 9:30 am
Conference Room, 23rd Floor, DC-2 Building, United Nations, New York**

Agenda item 1. Exchange of views on the preparations for the IPM: The Bureau members and Secretariat will exchange views on the substantive and logistical preparations for the IPM. In this regard, issues requiring Bureau's consideration will be brought to the attention of the meeting.

Agenda item 2. Discussion on the format of Chair's negotiating text: The Secretariat will present the format and structure to be used for the preparation of Chair's negotiating text, as well as the process and timeline for the preparation of the text.

Agenda item 3. Status of documentation on 10YFP: The Bureau will review the status of documentation on 10YFP which have been made available to support the proceedings of the IPM. Amb. Goledzinowski will brief about the issues raised on this subject during the general briefing to delegations. The Bureau members may as well share views of their respective regional groups on issues of convergence/divergence.

Agenda item 4. Feedback from the Major groups: Mr. Eduardo Menez will brief the Bureau about the results of his meeting with the Major groups, scheduled for the evening of 27 Feb 2011.

Agenda item 5. Any other business: The Bureau will discuss the schedule of meetings during the course of IPM.