



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



Minutes of the Fifth Meeting of the Bureau of the
19th Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development
(4 March 2011, UN Headquarters, New York)

Introduction

1. The fifth meeting of the Bureau of the 19th session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD-19) took place on 4 March 2011 in New York. 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

Agenda Item 1: Exchange of views on the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting (IPM)

2. Minister Borbély welcomed the participants to the fifth Bureau meeting. Sharing his view on the IPM, he mentioned that the discussions were productive and substantive. The discussions during IPM clearly revealed areas where there was convergence of views as well as those on which further discussions would be needed. Similar view was shared by other Bureau Members. It was felt that areas with divergent views would be sorted out during the course of negotiations.

3. The Chair's draft negotiating document, after incorporating the factual comments, will be sent to Chair for his clearance. Subsequently, it will be posted on the website as an advanced unedited copy until it is issued as an official CSD-19 document as part of the report from IPM.

Agenda Item 2: Preparation for the CSD-19

4. The Bureau Members discussed the organization of work of the CSD-19 and decided to organize the thematic negotiations in 2 parallel working groups. The first working group will cover the themes of transport, chemicals, mining and interlinkages, cross-cutting issues and means of implementation while the second working group will deal with a 10 Year Framework of Programmes on SCP (10YFP) and waste management. The following Bureau members were assigned the responsibility of guiding and facilitating negotiations: Mr. Meñez (transport and mining); Mr. Vergara (chemicals); Mr. Merabet (waste management); and Amb. Goledzinowski (preamble, SCP and interlinkages, cross-cutting issues, and means of implementation).
5. The meeting decided that the negotiations should follow a flexible approach that would allow the possibility of moving from one theme to the other within each working group. The meeting recognized that it would also depend upon the state of play during the course of negotiations, as well as on their pace.
6. For the High-level segment (HLS) of the CSD-19, the Bureau decided not to have more than 2-3 keynote speakers. With regard to the Ministerial roundtables during the HLS, the Secretariat was requested to circulate a proposal on the themes of the roundtables including panellists to be invited. The Bureau will make a decision after receiving the proposal.
7. The Secretariat informed the Bureau that the Ministerial roundtables are usually co-chaired by two ministers, one from the North and one from the South. However, the list of Ministers attending the session would become available only very close to the opening of the HLS. The Bureau requested the Secretariat to come up with a proposal, and a decision to this effect will be made in due course. Minister Borbély asked the Secretariat to prepare an amended organization of work for CSD-19 based on these discussions.
8. Minister Borbély informed the Bureau that he had a very good meeting with the Secretary-General who accords high priority to the sustainable development agenda.
9. The Secretariat also drew the attention of the Bureau to the Learning Center and Partnership Fair, which form an official part of the CSD meetings. The Secretariat every year receives excellent proposals for Learning Center which are appreciated by all participants. A number of side events will also take place, but these do not constitute the official part of the meeting.

Agenda item 4: Other Business

10. Minister Borbély and other Bureau Members will meet with Major groups at 5:00 pm on Sunday, 1 May 2011 followed by a Bureau meeting at 6:00 pm same day.

