



**Brief note on the lunch discussion for the Global Bioenergy Partnership
New York, United Nations, September 15th, 2005**

Following the G8 endorsement of the launch of the Global Bioenergy Partnership, the Italian Government organised a meeting in September for the identification of the Partnership contents.

A White Paper on Bioenergy, prepared by the Italian Ministry for the Environment and Territory, in cooperation with Imperial College London and Itabia, gave first thoughts on the discussion.

In order to exchange ideas and suggestions on the Partnership, Corrado Clini, Director General of the Ministry for the Environment and Territory, invited representatives of G8 Countries plus China, India, Brasil, Mexico, South Africa, FAO, UNDP, World Bank and United Nations Foundation, for a lunch on the occasion of the UN Summit.

The following points were highlighted during the discussion:

- Addressing Bioenergy issue is very timely. It meets either energy security needs or environmental needs.
- Bioenergy is a top priority in the international agenda. There is a direct link with next two Commission on Sustainable Development cycles: **2006-2007** will focus on **energy** and climate change, **2008-2009** will focus on **agriculture**.
- **Biofuels** are obtained from agricultural feedstocks, which in many cases compete internationally with **subsidized products**. Therefore, they are affected by protective legislation and are subjected to the rules currently under discussion in the **WTO's Doha** Work Programme.
- By 2050 world food demand will double and the value of land will increase. Therefore oil and land are key factors to be taken into account to determine the **economical evaluation of biofuel**. The World Bank is preparing a report on the Economic aspects of biofuels.
- The Partnership can work on the identification of **projects** that act as a model for electrification and work on international **common standards**. Need of the involvement of the private sector.
- Importance of small scale initiatives for addressing needs of least developing countries.