

Global Bioenergy Partnership

2nd Meeting of the Technical Working Group New York, 26-27 February 2007

Chair Summary for consideration by the Steering Committee

Participants

The 2nd Technical Working Group meeting of the Global Bioenergy Partnership registered the participation of the following Partners: Canada, China, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russian Federation, United Kingdom, United States of America, FAO, UNCTAD, UNDP, UNEP, UNIDO, UN Foundation, IEA, EUBIA. Brazil participated in the meeting as observer.

GBEP Programme of Work – sustainability and trade

UNEP and Italy presented proposals to develop the GBEP work programme on the themes of sustainability and trade.

The TWG agreed that work on these themes should commence with the development of a background document/database that assembles existing information on the current state of bioenergy development. The objective of background work will be to learn from country experiences in developing bioenergy.

The report/database should build upon existing documentation/data. Types of information to be covered include:

- policies, strategies, legislation from various sectors guiding and influencing bioenergy development;
- data – both on fuels and feedstocks;
- best practices selected/submitted by Partners.

Information collection should focus on G-8+5 countries, complemented by information on additional countries where readily available.

FAO was invited and agreed to organize a core group of Partners to work on the report/database. Additional human resources are required to undertake this work (estimate: 4-6 months consultancy). United Nations Foundation and Italy offered to provide human resources and/or financial support to this effort.

GBEP Secretariat will circulate a specific information request to all Partners at the beginning of March. Responses to this request are voluntary and should be returned to the core group which will collect and compile the information by the end of March. A preliminary summary report will be prepared for presentation at the 3rd meeting of the Steering Committee on 8 May 2007.

GBEP Programme of Work –Methodologies to measure GHG emission reductions

The TWG agreed on the importance of involvement in the activities of other fora/initiatives currently working on methodologies for measuring the reduction of GHG from bioenergy use although the comment was made that it is still too early to include collection of these methodologies in the GBEP Programme of Work.

GBEP Programme of Work - Awareness Raising and Information Management

GBEP Secretariat presented the proposed GBEP Visual Identity: logo, leaflet and website look to the TWG which:

- welcomed the new GBEP logo;
- acknowledged the draft GBEP leaflet; It will be finalised following the collection of partner comments on the text circulated in hard copy during the meeting. An electronic copy will be sent by email.
- agreed that the website should be up and running as soon as possible, starting possibly with a placeholder/under construction page pending full development of the site. It was suggested that the website include a “news” feature.

GBEP Secretariat presented an overview of bioenergy web resources to highlight existing information and remaining gaps. The TWG confirmed that information provision remains a priority activity for GBEP. Partners are invited to work with the Secretariat to develop concrete proposals on the focus of GBEP activities in this area.

GBEP Membership

The TWG agreed on the following priorities:

- to consolidate the participation of the +5 countries;
- to involve other countries that are key actors in the development and deployment of bioenergy, keeping the overall number of the partners within manageable limits;
- to establish a dialogue with the private sector and NGOs on the international context of bioenergy within which GBEP is developing its activities.

Experts from the private sector, NGOs and other organizations could be invited to participate in technical consultations/workshops organised within the context of the GBEP programme of work.

Next Steps

GBEP will hold a consultation meeting with representatives from the private sector during the World Biofuels Markets conference in Brussels on 7 March 2007. A GBEP consultation meeting with NGOs is scheduled to take place during the CSD in New York on 7 May 2007.

The next Steering Committee meeting will be held on 8 May 2007 during CSD in New York.

The Partnership will report to the G-8 summit in Heiligendamm, 6-8 June 2007.