

8th Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Global Bioenergy Partnership
Menara Thamrin Building – Jalan M.H. Thamrin, Kav. 3
7th Floor (FAO Representation in Indonesia) - Papua Room
Jakarta, 18 November 2009

Co-Chair Summary

The 8th Steering Committee meeting of the Global Bioenergy Partnership registered the participation of the following Partners: Brazil, China, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, Paraguay, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States of America, FAO, UNEP, UNIDO and UN Foundation. Colombia, Ghana, Indonesia and Lao PDR participated as Observers.

Opening Remarks

The Steering Committee was opened by welcome addresses of Dana Kartakusuma (Assistant Minister for Technology and Sustainable Development, Ministry of Environment of Indonesia) and Man Ho So (FAO Representative in Indonesia).

GBEP Membership and Chairmanship

Paraguay became a GBEP Partner by signing the GBEP Terms of Reference.

The Steering Committee approved the extension of the Italian Chairmanship and the Brazilian co-chairmanship for another year.

GBEP funding for the next biennium (2010-2011)

The Steering Committee was invited to discuss GBEP's funding arrangements for the next biennium (2010-2011) on the basis of the informal discussion paper "Strengthening GBEP's future role". Besides recent contributions received in the shape both of direct financial contributions and hospitality of meetings, Partners and Observers were encouraged to provide financial support to GBEP future activities. In view of this and in order to further develop and strengthen GBEP's role, the Steering Committee recognized the importance of developing a programme of work for the future underlying the relevance of GBEP. To this end Partners and Observers were invited to send comments on the informal discussion paper by 25 January 2010.

The Co-Chair announced that Brazil, Germany, and UN Foundation had expressed their willingness to financially contribute to GBEP activities. Some delegations, however, expressed their concern with regards to the discussion on funding for GBEP before the outcome of the negotiations in the UNFCCC COP 15 in Copenhagen.

GBEP Programme of Work

1. GBEP Task Force on Sustainability

The United Kingdom, Chair of the GBEP Task Force on Sustainability, updated the Steering Committee on the progress of the Task Force. He reported to the Steering Committee that the Task Force was focusing on developing a set of global, science-based, practical criteria and indicators regarding the sustainability of bioenergy. Besides the development of a provisional list of criteria, good progress had been made on indicators. Work would continue with consideration of the practicality and scientific basis and rationalisation of the current list of candidate indicators, whilst also seeking a means to present all those indicators deemed relevant in the output of the Task Force.

A final report containing all the agreed criteria and indicators, together with recommendations on their use, would be developed for publication and a separate brief report on the work of the Task Force prepared for submission to the 2010 G8 Summit in Canada. The Task Force would reflect on how to package the report for publication and discuss specific proposals at its next meeting in March. Further discussion and endorsement of the report would take place at the next Steering Committee meeting.

Regarding the proposed workstream on indirect land-use change within the Environmental Sub-Group, Germany offered to produce a briefing paper as an input for GBEP's consideration of the issue to inform the Partners. It was clearly understood that this paper is not to be represented as a "GBEP paper".

The Steering Committee commended the work of the GBEP Task Force on Sustainability thus far, recognising the GBEP added value to work on building a global consensus on this issue.

2. GBEP Task Force on GHG Methodologies

The United States and UN Foundation, co-Chairs of the GBEP Task Force on GHG Methodologies, reported to the Steering Committee on the testing of the "Version Zero" of the GBEP Common Methodological Framework for GHG Emissions from Bioenergy, intended to guide policy makers and stakeholders when assessing GHG impacts.

The co-Chairs also proposed next steps which include to continue performing test applications of the Framework; to create an inventory of LCA methodologies offered by users of the Framework; to solicit further stakeholders feedback; to reconvene the Task Force, most likely in Spring 2010, to improve the Framework in response to user experience. Capacity building was considered relevant to be included in the next steps.

The Steering Committee welcomed the work of the GBEP Task Force on GHG methodologies so far, as well as the proposed next steps.

3. GBEP informal discussion on Deployment of Technologies for Sustainable Bioenergy

The GBEP Secretariat, on behalf of UNIDO as leading Partner, reported to the Steering Committee on the progress of the informal discussion about the establishment of a task force on deployment of technologies for sustainable bioenergy.

The 5th meeting of the Technical Working Group (TWG), held in Paris on 10 July 2009, agreed that tasks 1, 3 and 4 of the draft scope and programme of work for a potential new task force could be further refined in order to allow it to be revisited by Partners within the TWG. It was noted that task 2 and part of task 4 required that the work on sustainability had been completed to be further pursued.

On *Task 1* the GBEP Secretariat developed a matrix containing information on available funding options for bioenergy projects.

On *Task 3* FAO and UNEP, supported by the Secretariat, collated analytical tools to build country capacity for assessing sustainable bioenergy potential and to devise and implement a strategy for realization of this potential.

On *Task 4* UNIDO drafted a report on bioenergy technologies development status and their realizable potential in the future, underlining where international cooperation could focus to make it achievable, barriers to be removed and driving forces to be exploited.

The Steering Committee, while recognising that technology deployment was the logical next step for GBEP, requested further discussion on the draft scope and programme of work. It was recalled that there was no agreement as yet to pursue this programme of work. Partners and Observers were invited to send inputs by 25 January 2010 in order to modify the current draft with a view to discussing it in March at the next meeting of the Technical Working Group. The issue will be included in the agenda of the next Steering Committee. Input from the private sector was also considered important to this end.

Next steps

- **GBEP side event “Measuring GHG emission reductions from the use of bioenergy towards a low carbon future” – Copenhagen (UNFCCC COP 15), 16 December 2010**
GBEP is planning to organize a side event in the occasion of the UNFCCC COP 15 in Copenhagen. The United States will kindly host the side event in the US pavilion. Further details will be provided by the GBEP Secretariat in due course. GBEP Partners and Observers are kindly invited to participate.
- **Partners and Observers are invited to send comments on the informal discussion paper “Strengthening GBEP’s future role” by 25 January 2010.**
- **Partners and Observers are invited to send comments on the current version of the draft scope and programme of work v2 (draft 1 May 2009) for a new GBEP Task Force on Deployment of Technology for Sustainable Bioenergy by 25 January 2010. Comments on the documents for tasks 1, 3 and 4 are also welcomed by the same date.** A revised version of the proposed scope and programme of work will be circulated on 1 March 2010 in order to be discussed at the next TWG meeting.
- **GBEP Round Table with the private sector – Amsterdam, 16 March 2010**
GBEP is planning to organize a round table with leading industry representatives on the occasion of the “World Biofuels market Congress” that will take place in Amsterdam from 15 to 17 March 2010. Further details will be provided by the GBEP Secretariat in due course.

- **7th TF on Sustainability, 7th TF on GHG Methodologies (pending confirmation), 6th TWG on Technologies for Sustainable Development – The Netherlands, 17-19 March 2010**

The Netherlands will kindly host next TF and TWG meetings. Further details will be provided by the GBEP Secretariat in due course.

- **The Steering Committee agreed that a letter to the Executive-Secretary of IRENA should be sent inviting the agency to the 9th GBEP Steering Committee in Tunisia, in order to present its views and plans in the field of bioenergy.**

- **9th GBEP Steering Committee – Tunisia, May 2010**

The 9th GBEP Steering Committee meeting will be host in Tunisia in the beginning of May 2010 (possibly during the week 3-7 May 2010). It was agreed that the involvement of the African Development Bank, based in Tunis, would be important since the bank has projects in the field of renewable energy. It will be explored the possibility to have TF and technical meetings prior to the Steering Committee meeting. Further details will be provided by the GBEP Secretariat in due course.