

## **6<sup>th</sup> GBEP Technical Working Group meeting**

Hague Academy of International Law  
Peace Palace, Carnegieplein 2  
The Hague, Netherlands  
19 March 2010

### **Chair Conclusions**

The GBEP Technical Working Group (TWG) held its sixth meeting on 19 March 2010. Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Germany, Ghana, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, UK, USA, FAO, IDB, IEA, UN Foundation, UNEP and UNIDO participated in the meeting which was co-chaired by Brazil and Italy.

### **Background**

Further to the invitation of the 6<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee (SC) meeting (Rome, December 2008) to explore the opportunity to extend the GBEP programme of work to technology development, deployment and cooperation for sustainable bioenergy, the TWG worked on the scope and programme of work for a new Task Force on this issue.

The 7<sup>th</sup> SC meeting (New York, May 2009) decided not to formally establish a new Task Force for the time being but invited the TWG to start informal discussions on the new focus area. The 5<sup>th</sup> TWG (Paris, July 2009) worked both on the scope and programme of work of the new Task Force, and on gathering and exchanging of information. Partners decided to start gathering information on three tasks:

- Financing options for bioenergy projects (GBEP Secretariat);
- Analytical tools to assess sustainable bioenergy potential and to devise and implement a strategy for realization of this potential (GBEP Secretariat in cooperation with FAO and UNEP);
- Overview of bioenergy technologies (UNIDO).

The 8<sup>th</sup> SC meeting (Jakarta, 18 November 2009) invited Partners and Observers to submit written comments in order to revise the scope and programme of work of the new Task Force. The revised scope and programme of work – dated 3 March 2010 – reflects all comments received by the GBEP Secretariat.

The aim of the 6<sup>th</sup> TWG meeting was to discuss and work towards agreement on the revised scope and programme of work for a new Task Force on Financing, Capacity Building and Technology Cooperation for Sustainable Bioenergy.

### **New focus areas for GBEP**

The GBEP Secretariat presented the revised scope and programme of work for the new Task Force, highlighting three new focus areas for GBEP to be developed within three tasks:

1. Information sharing and coordinated action to facilitate financing of sustainable bioenergy;
2. Building capacity for bioenergy policy-making, including implementation of GBEP sustainability indicators;
3. Cooperative development and implementation of bioenergy technology action plans.

Part of Task 1 and 2 above are already under development with the finalization of two reports by the GBEP Secretariat: 1. Financing options for bioenergy projects; and 2. Analytical tools to assess sustainable bioenergy potential and to devise and implement a strategy for realization of this potential. Furthermore, the report UNIDO is currently developing – and which will reflect the new developments of the GBEP discussion in the bioenergy technology area – will contribute to Task 3 above giving an overview of bioenergy technologies.

The GBEP Secretariat also gave an overview of the timeline proposed for this new Task Force, clarifying that it will concretely start working with meetings not before April 2011. At that time the work of the other two Task Forces on GHG and on Sustainability will have finalized key outputs of their current activities which will fit into the programme of work of this new Task Force. In the meantime the Secretariat will continue working in order to finalize the two reports mentioned above.

The need to have a more thorough understanding of current activities of Partners and Observers was highlighted during the meeting, as well as the need to identify which GBEP members are best placed to contribute to each envisaged task and where synergies may arise. The Secretariat announced the circulation of a “Draft list of ongoing activities related with financing, capacity-building and technology cooperation for sustainable bioenergy” that will be further developed with inputs from Partners and Observers in order to be used as reference for this new activity.

### **Conclusions and next steps**

The TWG gave a positive response to the revised scope and programme of work for a new Task Force on Financing, Capacity Building and Technology Cooperation for Sustainable Bioenergy, and invited Partners and Observers to send their comments with a view to finalizing it and having it endorsed by the SC at its May meeting. The TWG also supported the finalization of the two documents under development by the GBEP Secretariat on “Financing options for bioenergy projects” and “Analytical tools to assess sustainable bioenergy potential and to devise and implement a strategy for realization of this potential” with a view to publishing them.

- ❖ **Partners and Observers are invited to send comments to the Secretariat by 9 April 2010** on the following documents:
  - “Draft scope and programme of work for a new GBEP Task Force on financing, capacity building and technology cooperation for sustainable bioenergy” (draft dated 3 March 2010)
  - “Funding options for bioenergy projects” and “Collation of analytical tools to build country capacity for assessing sustainable bioenergy potential and to devise and implement a strategy for realization of this potential”
  - “Non-comprehensive list of ongoing activities related with financing, capacity-building and technology cooperation for sustainable bioenergy”
- ❖ **The GBEP Secretariat will develop revised version of these documents to be circulated by 23 April 2010**
- ❖ **7<sup>th</sup> Technical Working Group meeting (Tunis, 5 May 2010)**
- ❖ **9<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee meeting (Tunis, 7 May 2010)**