

11th Meeting of the GBEP Steering Committee
George C. Marshall Conference Center, U.S. Department of State
21st Street and Virginia Avenue, NW
Washington D.C., 20 May 2011

Chair Summary

The 11th Steering Committee meeting of the Global Bioenergy Partnership was held in Washington D.C. on 20 May 2011, kindly co-hosted by the Government of the United States of America and the UN Foundation. Argentina, Brazil, France, Germany, Ghana, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, Paraguay, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, United States of America, ECOWAS, FAO, IDB, IEA, and UN Foundation participated in the meeting. The meeting was co-chaired by Italy and Brazil.

Opening Remarks

The Steering Committee was opened by welcome speeches of Dr. Kerri-Ann Jones, Assistant Secretary of State of USA, and Melinda Kimble, Senior Vice-President of UN Foundation.

Dr Corrado Clini, GBEP Chair, welcomed Min. Mariangela Rebuá as new co-chair of the GBEP Steering Committee.

GBEP Membership

The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) became Partner by signing the GBEP Terms of Reference.

GBEP Programme of Work

1. GBEP Task Force on Sustainability

Sweden, Chair of the GBEP Task Force on Sustainability, updated the Steering Committee on the work of the Task Force. He reported to the Steering Committee that the discussion in the Task Force led to consensus on a set of 24 relevant, practical, science-based, voluntary sustainability indicators for bioenergy. He also announced that the Task Force will continue working - mostly through e-group discussion - to refine the methodology sheets for the agreed set of indicators, as well as the content of the GBEP report on sustainability indicators for bioenergy. The main objective is to finalize this report by autumn 2011.

The Steering Committee welcomed the work of the Task Force and endorsed the set of 24 sustainability indicators for bioenergy. It also endorsed the next steps towards the finalization of the report, expected by autumn 2011 for submission to the G20 Summit.

A Partner stressed the importance to spread the agreed list of 24 sustainability indicators for bioenergy through the GBEP website. In light of this suggestion and in order to facilitate the dialogue with stakeholders, the Chair proposed to send the agreed indicators to private sector and civil society stakeholders with a letter co-signed by the GBEP chair and co-chair. The Steering Committee welcomed this proposal.

2. GBEP Technical Working Group

Brazil, co-Chair of the Technical Working Group (TWG), informed the Steering Committee that a consensus was reached on the scope and programme of work for a GBEP Working Group on Capacity Building for Sustainable Bioenergy.

The Steering Committee welcomed the agreement and endorsed the establishment of the new GBEP Working Group. Upon the kind request of Partners, Brazil and Italy accepted the co-chairmanship of the new Working Group *ad interim*.

GBEP Report to the G8 Deauville Summit 2011

The Steering Committee endorsed the text of the GBEP Report to the G8 Deauville Summit 2011, previously discussed and agreed by the Task Force on Sustainability. The Report provides an overview of the work of GBEP and its progress since reporting to last year's G8 Summit.

The GBEP Chair committed to submit the Report to the French and Italian Sherpa, and invited GBEP colleagues of the G8 to do the same through their respective Sherpa.

GBEP funding and arrangements

Partners and Observers were invited to continue contributing both financially and in-kind to the GBEP's future activities and programme of work. In this context special thanks were expressed to Partners and Observers that recently contributed.

Several Partners expressed their willingness to continue contributing to GBEP activities both financially and through projects.

Next steps

- **GBEP Report to the G8 Deauville Summit 2011 (26-27 May 2011).** The same report will also be submitted to the Summit of the G20 Ministries of Agriculture (France, 22-23 June 2011)
- **13th Task Force on Sustainability and 1st Working Group on Capacity Building for Sustainable Bioenergy** – Rome September/October or Japan November 2011 (tbc).
- **GBEP Report to the G20 Cannes Summit 2011 (3-4 November 2011).** Further details will be circulated by the GBEP Secretariat in due course.
- **12th GBEP Steering Committee meeting** to take place in November 2011 (third week of November) kindly hosted by the Government of Japan. Further details will follow.