8th GBEP Technical Working Group meeting
Münchenbryggeriet,
Nobelterassen, Södermälarstrand 29
Stockholm (Sweden), 18 March 2011

Co-Chair Conclusions

The GBEP Technical Working Group (TWG) held its eighth meeting in Stockholm on 18 March 2011. Brazil, Colombia, Egypt, Germany, Ghana, Indonesia, Japan, Mauritania, Mexico, Netherlands, Paraguay, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States of America, ECOWAS, FAO, IDB, IEA, UN Foundation and UNEP (IEA and UNEP via teleconference) participated in the meeting which was co-chaired by Brazil and Italy; the latter kindly substituted ad hoc by the GBEP representative of the Inter-American Development Bank for this meeting.

Further to the invitation of the 9th and 10th Steering Committee meetings respectively in Tunis and in Rome in 2010 to continue working together towards a swift agreement on the scope and programme of work of the new GBEP Task Force, the 8th Technical Working Group (TWG) in Stockholm was invited to consider a revised scope and programme of work for a new Working Group on Capacity Building. The revised scope and programme of work, dated 3 March 2011, reflected comments expressed by GBEP Partners and Observers at and further to the TWG meeting in Tunis (May 2010).

GBEP Working Group on Capacity Building (WGCB)

The GBEP Secretariat presented the revised scope and programme of work for the new Working Group, highlighting the following main items:

- **Name** - the new group of experts was proposed to be called Working Group. It differs from Task Forces only because it doesn’t have a defined, discrete task or set of tasks. In particular, the two groups (WG and TF) have the same status within the GBEP structure and both report to the Steering Committee only;

- **Scope** - the scope of the new WG will mainly focus on the implementation of the tools developed in the GBEP Task Force on Sustainability and the Task Force on GHG Methodologies, but other capacity building activities may also be developed (e.g. workshops, training courses, study tours, etc.);

- **Project Teams** – project teams will be voluntarily formed by interested Partners and Observers to carry out specific capacity building activities in cooperation. They will share relevant information and lessons learned with the WG;

- **GBEP Secretariat role and support** - within this new WG the GBEP Secretariat will continue to act as the main coordinator of communication and activities. It will also be available to support Partners and Observers in the development of activities;

- **Financial implications** - activities of the new WG will be developed thanks to in-kind contribution of Partners and Observers as well as voluntary financial contributions needed to cover GBEP Secretariat day-to-day costs as well as other agreed activities (e.g. workshops). Expenditures related to bilateral and/or multilateral activities to be
developed within Project Teams will be decided and managed directly by the interested team members.

Discussion of the Technical Working Group highlighted the following:
- doubts were expressed about the choice of the name of the group of expert (Working Group) with respect to name previously used in the GBEP context (Task Force);
- need to clarify in the document that Working Group and Task Forces have the same status within the GBEP structure and that one is not subordinate to the other;
- need to make an explicit reference to the work of the Task Force on Sustainability and Task Force on GHG methodologies, as well as further clarify that the outcomes of these two Task Forces will represent the basis of the work of this new WG. The overarching principle is that the activities developed within the WG will be country driven;
- need to further clarify that financial implications of activities in the project teams will be agreed and managed directly by the team members.

The TWG Co-Chair noticed that in the introductory text of the scope and programme of work under discussion, the Working Group was named “Working Group on Capacity Building for Sustainable Bioenergy”, while in the title of the document the reference to sustainable bioenergy didn’t appear. For consistency purposes it was suggested to insert “for Sustainable Bioenergy” also at the end of the title of the document and therefore in the title of the Working Group itself.

The GBEP Secretariat mentioned that an “Inventory of current initiatives on sustainable bioenergy development” (divided into National, Regional and International/Global Initiatives) was produced by the GBEP Secretariat few years ago and kept updated so far. It is available on the GBEP website and further updates will be possible thanks to the further contributions of Partners and Observers in terms of suggested initiatives to be included.

The TWG agreed to ask the GBEP Secretariat to further work on the draft scope and programme of work in cooperation with Partners and Observers in order to address concerns expressed in the meeting and facilitate a swift agreement on the scope and programme of work of the new Working Group. Further work will also be done by the GBEP Secretariat in order to keep the above-mentioned inventory updated in cooperation with Partners and Observers.

**Next steps**

- The GBEP Secretariat will circulate via email the most updated version of the “Inventory of current initiatives on sustainable bioenergy development” and kindly ask Partners and Observers to provide relevant information and initiatives, in order to continue keeping it updated and available on the website.
- **By 27 April 2011** the GBEP Secretariat will circulate a revised scope and programme of work of the new GBEP Working Group in order to address concerns and facilitate a swift agreement. To this end the GBEP Secretariat will consult with Partners and Observers.
- **9th GBEP Technical Working Group (TWG) - Washington D.C., 19 May 2011 (tbc)**