



Economic Commission for Africa

Sustainable Consumption and Production for Sustainable Growth and Poverty Reduction

Report of the Sixth Session of the **Committee on
Food Security and Sustainable Development**

& the **Regional Implementation Meeting for the Eighteenth
Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development**



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***Sustainable Consumption and Production for Sustainable
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Commission on Sustainable Development

All meeting documents can be accessed at <http://www.uneca.org/csd>

Contents

- I. Introduction 1
- II. Attendance 1
- III. Opening of the Meeting..... 2
- IV. Account of Proceedings..... 6
- Annex I: Participants..... 35

Acronyms

A21	Agenda 21
ACPC	African Climate Policy Centre/ECA
ADLI	Agricultural Development-Led Industrialization
ADMARC	Agricultural Marketing and Development Cooperation
AfDB	African Development Bank
AGRA	Alliance for Green Revolution in Africa
ALSF	African Legal Support Facility
AMESD	African Monitoring of the Environment for Sustainable Development
AMV	African Mining Vision
ARSCP	African Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production
ARSO	African Standards Organization
ASP	African Stockpile Project
ASM	Artisanal and Small Scale Mining
AU	African Union
AUC	African Union Commission
BIPP	Bankable Investment Project Profile
CAADP	Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme
CBO	Community-Based Organization
CDM	Clean Development Mechanism
ClimDev-Africa	Climate for Development in Africa
CSD	Commission on Sustainable Development
CSO	Civil Society Organization
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility
CFSSD	Committee on Food Security and Sustainable Development
ECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EITI	Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative
ERDI	Ethiopian Research and Development Institute

EU	European Union
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
FSSDD	Food Security and Sustainable Development Division/ECA
GCOS	Global Climate Observing System
GEF	Global Environment Facility
HRD	Human Resources Development
FAO	United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization
IBC	Institute for Biodiversity Conservation
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
ICCM	International Conference on Chemicals Management
IEC	Information, Education and Communication
ISS	Institute for Security Studies
ISWM	Integrated Solid Waste Management
JPOI	Johannesburg Plan of Implementation
KPCS	Kimberley Process Certification Scheme
M & E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MAP	Maghreb Arab Presse
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
MEA	Multilateral Environmental Agreement
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development
PASDEP	Plan for Accelerated Sustainable Development to End Poverty
PPP	Public Private Partnership
PFIA21	Programme for Further Implementation of Agenda 21
REC	Regional Economic Community
RECP	Resource Efficiency and Cleaner Production
R & D	Research and Development
RIM	Regional Implementation Meeting
SAICM	Secretariat of the Strategic Approach for Integrated Chemicals Management

SADC	Southern African Development Community
SCP	Sustainable Consumption and Production
STAP	Short Term Action Plan
TFP	Total Factor Productivity
UNCCD	United Nations Conference to Combat Desertification
UNDESA	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFPA	United Nations Fund for Population Affairs
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNLO-AU	United Nations Liaison Office with the African Union
WAEMU	West African Economic and Monetary Union
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization
WSSD	World Summit on Sustainable Development

I. Introduction

1. The Sixth Session of the Committee on Food Security and Sustainable Development (CFSSD-6) took place from 27 to 30 October 2009 at the headquarters of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The meeting was held under the theme: “*Sustainable Consumption and Production for Sustainable Growth and Poverty Reduction*”.

2. The objectives of CFSSD-6 were twofold: to review implementation of the 2008/2009 work programme of the ECA Food Security and Sustainable Development Division (FSSDD) including guidance on further work during the 2010/2011 biennium for the programme budget of the ECA strategic framework; and to provide a platform for the Africa Regional Implementation Meeting (RIM) for the Eighteenth Session of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD-18). The RIM was organized in collaboration with the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO).

3. The RIM reviewed progress in the implementation of Agenda 21 (A21), the Programme for Further Implementation of Agenda 21 (PFIA21) and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI) commitments relative to the thematic areas of Transport, Chemicals, Waste Management, Mining, and A Ten-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP). In this context, the meeting drafted and adopted the RIM Outcome Document as the regional input to the deliberations of CSD-18.

II. Attendance

4. The meeting was attended by representatives of the following member States: Algeria, Cape Verde, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Chad, Republic of the Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Gabon, the Gambia, Ghana, Republic of Guinea, Kenya, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa, the Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

5. The African Union Commission (AUC) and the African Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production (ARSCP) took part in the deliberations of the Committee.

6. Observers from the following member States of the United Nations were present: the European Union, India and the Russian Federation.

7. Observers from the following United Nations Agencies were present: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Liaison Office with the African Union (UNLO-AU), United Nations Fund for Population Affairs (UNFPA), World Food Programme (WFP) and the Secretariat of the Strategic Approach for Integrated Chemicals Management (SAICM).

8. Observers from the following major groups were present: Bahai International Community, Agricultural Marketing and Development Cooperation (ADMARC), Ethiopian Research Institute (ERDI), Institute for Security Studies (ISS), Institute for Biodiversity Conservation (IBC), Maghreb Arab Presse (MAP), Voices of African Mothers and WIMSA.

III. Opening of the Meeting [Agenda item 1]

9. Opening remarks were made by Honourable Japhet Kareke Mbiuki, Assistant Minister for Agriculture of Kenya, and Chairperson of the outgoing Bureau of the Committee. Mr. Josué Dioné, Director of the Food Security and Sustainable Development Division (FSSDD) of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) made welcome remarks on behalf of Mr. Abdoulie Janneh, United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of ECA. Statements were heard from His Excellency, Ambassador Mohamed A.A. Alahraf, Vice-Chairperson of the Bureau of the Eighteenth Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD-18) and Dr. James N. Mbata, representing Her Excellency, Tumisiime Peace, Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture of the African Union Commission (AUC). His Excellency, Mr. Mitiku Kassa, State Minister for Disaster Risk Management and Food Security of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia delivered the opening statement.

10. In his opening remarks, Honourable Japhet Kareke Mbiuki, Assistant Minister for Agriculture of Kenya, and Chairperson of the outgoing Bureau of the Committee, welcomed participants to the meeting and expressed his appreciation to the Government and Peoples of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia for hosting the meeting, and for their warm welcome. He observed that climate change was causing setbacks to hard-won development gains on the continent, and therefore required urgent attention. In concluding, he thanked

the Secretariat for organizing the meeting, and the other members of the outgoing Bureau for their work in steering the work of the Committee for the past two years.

11. In his opening remarks made on behalf of ECA Executive Secretary, Abdoulie Janneh, Mr. Dione, Director of FSSDD, welcomed participants to the meeting before recalling the following major objectives of the meeting:

- (a) To review implementation of the 2008-2009 ECA work programme on Food Security and Sustainable Development;
- (b) To give guidance on further work during the 2010-2011 biennium; and
- (c) To provide a platform for the Africa Regional Implementation Meeting (RIM) for CSD-18.

12. He indicated that significant progress had been made in implementing ECA activities for the Subprogramme on Food Security and Sustainable Development during the 2008-2009 biennium. This, he said, has contributed to achieving notable results in key areas of focus, including the significance of climate change for the growth and development prospects of Africa and the issues at stake for the region, particularly in the upcoming Copenhagen Summit on Climate Change. In this regard, he made reference to implementation of the Climate for Development in Africa (ClimDev-Africa) Programme and establishment of its African Climate Policy Centre (ACPC) at ECA. He also noted the support being provided to the African regional preparatory process for the Copenhagen Summit.

13. He referred to the pertinence of the theme of the meeting, which he said, was inspired by the thematic cluster of issues that will be considered during the 2010-2011 CSD cycle, namely: Transport, Chemicals, Waste Management, Mining, and A Ten-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP). He expressed appreciation for the collaboration among ECA, UNDESA, UNEP and UNIDO in the preparation and organization of the RIM and the production of the ECA flagship publication “Sustainable Development Report on Africa”. He stated that the Secretariat would seek the Committee’s guidance in coming up with a theme for its next session.

14. He expressed appreciation for the presence of Africa’s partners at the meeting. He then announced the CSO Side Event on CSD processes led by UNDESA and the World Bank’s Consultations on Environment Strategy. In ending, he thanked members of the outgoing Bureau and all those who contributed to the successful convening of the meeting.

15. In his statement, His Excellency, Ambassador Mohamed A.A. Alahraf, Vice-Chairperson of the Bureau of CSD-18 thanked the Chairperson for inviting him to the meeting, the Government of the Democratic Republic of Ethiopia for its hospitality, and the Secretariat for their important work on food security and sustainable development issues. He noted the significance of the ECA work on peace and security and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in Africa. He also noted the difficulty posed by the multiple crises, including food and energy insecurity, financial insecurity, environmental degradation, amidst the impending climate change.

16. He referred to the Sirte Declaration on Agriculture and observed that many programmes were being implemented in Africa towards realizing food security. In relation to the drafting of the RIM statement, he conveyed the appreciation of CSD-18 Bureau members for the valuable contribution of ECA to the convening of their upcoming meeting. He noted that in spite of progress made, Africa still had a long way to go in fulfilling the commitments contained in Agenda 21 (A21), the Programme for Further Implementation of Agenda 21 (PFIA21) and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI). He advised that Africa should concentrate on the challenges and obstacles as well as the approaches and priorities needed to enhance implementation progress. In this regard, he stressed the importance of adequate financing, technology transfer, capacity-building, and the need to take the three pillars of sustainable development into account in the implementation of commitments.

17. He called for international cooperation in support of Africa's aspirations for improving the health and living conditions of its peoples, while at the same time reducing environmental degradation. He apprised the Committee of the work so far undertaken by the CSD-18 Bureau. He placed emphasis on the implementation of CSD decisions and recommendations, and the need to build on achievements. He urged ECA to give due attention to the issue of implementation and affirmed that the Commission would shed more light on this matter in its upcoming session.

18. Speaking on behalf of the Commissioner of Rural Economy and Agriculture of the African Union Commission, Dr. James N. Mbata expressed the AUC interest in being part of this important gathering discussing issues pertaining to agriculture, food security, poverty alleviation and sustainable development on the continent. He recalled that in the recent past, the issues of global food crisis, economic meltdown, high energy and transportation costs, climate change and desertification and droughts, have all negatively impacted the continent. These, he said, had undermined some of the recent gains made by many African countries towards attaining the MDGs related to food security and poverty reduction.

19. Dr. Mbata pointed out that climate change impacts were already being felt in Africa. He cited as an example the devastating floods that had killed many people and ravaged many homes in parts of West Africa. He said that empirical evidence suggested that an estimated 30 per cent of Africa's coastal infrastructure and settlements would be flooded if the current trends in global warming remained unchecked. He reasoned that the continent needed to evolve models of development that would mitigate the impact of climate change and ensure balanced and judicious use of limited resources to satisfy current needs and also meet the needs of future generations.

20. He then highlighted several strategies and programmes initiated by AUC and its development partners to address the challenges facing the continent. These included the:

- (a) Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP);
- (b) Framework and Guidelines for Land Policy in Africa;
- (c) Africa Monitoring of Environment for Sustainable Development (AMESD); and
- (d) Climate for Development in Africa (ClimDev-Africa) Programme.

21. In concluding, Dr. Mbata said that he hoped that the Committee meeting would, through its deliberations, reach conclusions and provide useful recommendations that would help to develop and support appropriate policies and frameworks that were owned and driven nationally by African countries and which could be translated into concrete actions capable of impacting on poverty reduction, economic growth and sustainable development.

22. H.E Mitiku Kassa, State Minister, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of Ethiopia, welcomed participants on behalf of the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia. He pointed out the importance of the theme of the meeting and the urgency of the challenge of food security in Africa where the agricultural sector was underdeveloped and was mainly rain fed. He said that in order to get out of this insecure situation, food supply and food access had to increase through improving agricultural productivity, facilitating marketing activities, building coping mechanisms and designing and implementing viable food security programmes. He then highlighted the major programmes launched by the Ethiopian Government in its fight against poverty and chronic food insecurity in the country.

23. The Minister made mention of the Government's Plan for Accelerated and Sustained Development to End Poverty (PASDEP). He pointed out that the focus of CAADP in Ethiopia was to strengthen and add value to the Agricultural Development-Led Industrialization (ADLI) strategy of the country. He said that Ethiopia signed the compact on 28 August 2009 with the objective of institutionalizing the CAADP framework into national agriculture sector policies, strategies and programmes. The State Minister also reaffirmed government commitment to ensuring efficiency and effectiveness in public expenditure, sustaining the 10 per cent economic growth over the next five years, and achieving the Maputo AU Summit recommendation of allocating 10 per cent of the national budget to the agricultural sector.

24. In concluding, the State Minister expressed his confidence that the Sixth Session of CFSSD would successfully attain its objectives, namely, to review implementation of the 2008/2009 work programme of the ECA Food Security and Sustainable Development Division, provide guidance on further work for the next biennium, and provide the platform for the RIM. Finally, he assured the Committee of the support of the Ethiopian Government in all its areas of interventions, and declared the Sixth Session of the Committee Meeting officially opened.

IV. Account of Proceedings

Election of the Bureau [Agenda item 2]

25. The Committee elected the following countries to constitute its Bureau on the basis of rotational subregional representation:

Chairperson:	South Africa
First Vice-Chairperson:	Democratic Republic of the Congo
Second Vice-Chairperson:	Morocco
Third Vice-Chairperson:	The Gambia
Rapporteur:	Mauritius

Adoption of the Agenda [Agenda item 3]

26. The Committee adopted the following agenda:

1. Opening of the Meeting
2. Election of Officers

3. Adoption of the Agenda and Work Programme
4. Introduction and Objectives of the Meeting
5. Presentation on Follow-up on Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development outcomes: Sustainable Consumption and Production for Sustainable Growth and Poverty Reduction
6. Review of the Implementation of Activities of the FSSDD 2008/2009 Work Programme and Presentations on Key Parliamentary Reports
7. Presentation on Climate for Development in Africa (Climdev-Africa) Programme and its African Climate Policy Centre
8. Regional Implementation Review on Transport
9. Regional Implementation Review on Chemicals
10. Regional Implementation Review on Waste Management
11. Regional Implementation Review on Mining
12. Regional Implementation Review on Sustainable Consumption and Production
13. Drafting of the Meeting Report
14. Consideration and Adoption of the Africa RIM Statement to CSD-18
15. Presentation and Adoption of the Report of the Meeting
16. Theme, Dates and Venue of CFSSD-7
17. Any Other Business
18. Closing of the Meeting

Introduction and Objectives of the Meeting [Agenda item 4]

27. Under this agenda item, the Secretariat made a brief presentation on the introduction and objectives of the meeting. It provided an overview of the meeting format, the expected outcomes and outputs, guided by the objectives of the meeting. The presenter urged participants to complete the evaluation form to enable the Secretariat to determine the extent to which the meeting objectives and expected outcomes had been met, in order to improve on organization and servicing of meetings, and to serve the Committee better.

28. The Committee thanked the Secretariat for the presentation and stressed the importance of aligning the objectives of the meeting with global and regional initiatives aimed at addressing food security and sustainable development.

Presentation on Follow-up on the implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development Outcomes: Sustainable Consumption and Production for Sustainable Growth and Poverty Reduction [Agenda item 5]

29. The Secretariat presented the report entitled “Follow-up on implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD): sustainable consumption and production for sustainable growth and poverty reduction in Africa.” The presentation highlighted that the SCP approach aimed to use goods and services to meet basic needs and bring a better quality of life, while minimizing the use of natural resources and toxic materials and reducing emissions of waste and pollutants. In this connection and given that SCP was the common string that ran through the agreed follow-up actions under the different thematic issues, “Sustainable Consumption and Production for Sustainable Growth and Poverty Reduction” was deemed a fitting theme for the review.

30. The presenter highlighted the fact that the report had drawn on the five thematic review reports commissioned by ECA, UNEP, UNIDO and the Africa Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production (ARSCP), on mining, transport, chemicals, waste management and SCP, including the Ten-Year Framework of Programmes on SCP. Each of the thematic reports provided the status of implementation of commitments contained in A21, PFIA21 and the JPOI.

31. The presentation provided a consolidated overview of progress and achievements made in the implementation of commitments in the five thematic areas. It outlined implementation challenges and constraints, the lessons learnt and the way forward, including policy measures and actions needed to accelerate implementation in each of the thematic issues.

32. The Committee thanked the Secretariat for the presentation and pointed out that progress had been made in SCP around the continent but little information highlighting successful interventions had been disseminated to countries. In addition, the use of legal instruments (for example, “polluter pays” principle) was not well understood by countries. The Committee expressed concern about weakness in the use of such economic instruments as taxes and subsidies to support the enforcement of environmental regulations. In particular, it was noted that the “polluter pays” principle was too narrowly defined and that it should be applied not only to waste management but also to use as a strategic tool by environment ministries to enforce rules related to environmental pollution.

33. The Committee noted the fragmented approaches to implementing activities in the five thematic areas. It therefore recommended that an analysis be carried out on the reasons

behind the fragmented approaches, in order to provide clear guidance on how they could be harmonized.

34. The Secretariat concurred with the Committee's observations, and pointed out the need to identify, document and disseminate best practices. In addition, the Secretariat pointed out that it had already started disseminating information on successful SCP initiatives through its website, CDs, and publications. With regard to the "polluter pays" principle", while recognizing that the principle needed to be applied strategically, the Secretariat pointed out that the focus is moving towards self-regulation and "pollution prevention pays". The Secretariat also noted that capacity building on the application of these alternatives was crucial. On the issue of fragmented approaches, the Secretariat responded that initiatives on coordinating and harmonizing various approaches were already underway.

Progress on Implementation of Activities of the Subprogramme "Food Security and Sustainable Development" during the 2008-2009 Biennium [Agenda item 6]

35. Mr. Josué Dioné, Director of FSSDD presented the progress report on implementation of the activities of the 2008-2009 biennium. He noted that on the indicator of achievement of the subprogramme: *increased number of member States with national sustainable development plans and strategies, or number of national plans and strategies, including poverty reduction strategies that incorporate interrelationships between agriculture and the environment* had jumped from 20 in 2007 to 30 in 2009. Mr. Dione singled out activities that had been completed and those that were yet to be finalized, lessons learnt and recommendations for the way forward. He also highlighted other results achieved including:

- (a) Adoption by all AU member States of the ECA-advocated regional value chain approach to agricultural development and transformation in Africa;
- (b) Adoption by all 53 AU member States of the AUC-ECA-AfDB Land Policy Framework and Guidelines;
- (c) Adoption by all 53 AU member States of a Common African Negotiating Position on Climate Change in preparation for the United Nations Climate Change Summit scheduled to take place in Copenhagen in December 2009; and

- (d) Adoption by the 17th Session of the CSD, of policy options and other practical measures to expedite food security and sustainable development on the continent.

36. On lessons learnt and the way forward, Mr. Dioné highlighted the need to mainstream and sustain the ECA work programme on climate change and development, especially in the crucial area of sustaining the work through a dedicated “Climate Change and Development Subprogramme”. He also cited the need to develop and implement an effective programme to advocate, support and monitor implementation of the outcomes of CSD policy sessions and to continue addressing the challenge of building consensus on policies and strategies at regional level. He also noted the need for strong political commitment at the highest level for achieving food security and sustainable development.

37. The Committee thanked the Director for his enlightening presentation and urged that the “Environmental Accounting” he mentioned as one of the training workshops that had not been conducted in the biennium be pursued, as this activity would help to ensure efficient management and use of natural resources through cost/benefit analysis. It also suggested that the Secretariat should consider organizing training on “Strategic Environmental Assessment” to strengthen the capacity of African countries to mainstream environmental concerns into development policies and programmes and to develop appropriate strategies to address them. On the issue of strengthening the capacity of African countries to address the challenges of climate change adequately, the Committee endorsed the proposal of establishing a new subprogramme on climate and development at ECA.

Progress in the Implementation of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) [Agenda item 6 bis (i)]

38. The presentation provided a broad outline of the CAADP objectives, principles, implementation progress and discussed challenges, lessons learnt and the way forward. The major value added of the CAADP framework was that for the first time in the history of agricultural strategy development and cooperation in Africa, there was a broad consensus on objectives, targets, implementation processes and partnership principles. As a consequence, the chances for different parties to work together to accelerate growth in the agricultural sector and make progress towards poverty reduction objectives were better than ever before.

39. Regarding assessment of CAADP performance, the presentation indicated that the CAADP framework had suffered from many shortcomings, which had impeded

implementation. Initially, CAADP was expected to facilitate the launching of selected flagship programmes/projects at national, regional and continental levels. Therefore, Bankable Investment Project Profiles (BIPPs) were prepared as an entry point. However, many BIPPs failed to attract significant national and development partner support. This led to the realization that CAADP was a framework and should be treated as such. In this regard, the CAADP framework was now expected to assist AU member countries to develop programmes and projects in line with NEPAD principles, values and targets. This change in conception marked a significant departure in the approach and responsibilities of key stakeholders. The effective implementation of CAADP started in 2006, three years after its adoption.

40. The presentation noted that the approach of conducting roundtables and establishing compacts at national level, which had been adopted by the CAADP Secretariat, had many weaknesses. The relevance and influence of the compacts had steadily faded and would eventually vanish. On the implementation of the four pillars, the presentation stressed that the pillars were being implemented in a “silo” approach, whereby each pillar was assigned to a specific agency with little synergy between the assigned agencies. This was leading to coordination failure in terms of investment opportunities.

41. The presentation shed light on the proposed redirection of CAADP implementation strategy by focusing the objective of CAADP on facilitating the structural transformation of African agriculture. In this context, CAADP should spearhead the establishment of an African common market for agricultural products as a way to promote the African agricultural sector. This could be done through the development of a regional strategic agricultural commodity value chain, and the promotion of private agribusiness and agro-industries, which remained at the infancy level in most African countries.

42. The presentation concluded with the following recommendations:

- (a) Establishment of an enabling environment to attract private sector investment in agriculture;
- (b) Creation of preferential investment zones in identified commodity belts; and
- (c) Establishing regional centres of excellence for technology development and transfer, as well as for knowledge management and market intelligence.

43. Following the presentation, the delegation of Senegal informed the Committee about a trial agricultural insurance scheme that was introduced to reduce agriculture risks as a

way to deal with food insecurity and climate-related risks in the rural areas of Senegal. The Committee was further informed that migration from rural to urban areas during the dry season was a common phenomenon in that country in spite of hardships experienced in cities and towns. In this regard, the Committee recommended that:

- Measures to reduce poverty in rural areas, such as off-farm activities during the dry season should be promoted in the rural areas of Africa;
- Initiatives such as rain water preservation and harvesting for irrigation purposes should be encouraged; and that
- Given the important role of women in agriculture, their access to land, finance and other support services should be facilitated.

44. On recommendations and the way forward for CAADP implementation, the Committee noted that there was no mention of food reserves as one of the strategies. It also noted that although regional centres of excellence for technology development and transfer had been proposed in the new strategy, there was also need to strengthen already existing initiatives.

45. In response, the Secretariat said that establishing labour-intensive agribusiness in rural areas would be an effective tool for absorbing temporarily unemployed farmers, thereby contributing to food security. Further, in terms of food reserves, the Committee was informed that a study had been conducted to develop new mechanisms to support food reserves as an insurance against weather fluctuations and other natural risks. In particular, reference was made to CAADP pillar 3, which proposed mechanisms for dealing with food emergencies using both food and cash reserves. It was pointed out that several initiatives existed for establishing food reserves either at regional level, as in the case of the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) and at national level, such as in Malawi.

46. The Secretariat noted the need to balance physical reserves which were costly to maintain, with cash reserves, as decisions to establish food reserves were mainly based on the financial capacities of countries. The Secretariat pointed out that regional centres of excellence were in line with pillar 4 of CAADP, which called for the establishment of multi-country agricultural research centres through regional cooperation. It informed the Committee that the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), funded by the Bill Gates and Rockefeller Foundations, was supporting regional centres of excellence in agriculture. The Secretariat

would push for systematic development of regional research centres along value chains of strategic commodities, so as to streamline efforts ranging from research to technology transfer. Moreover, efficient utilization of limited resources called for establishment of such regional research centres, to avoid duplicating research and to ensure synergies.

Report on the Status of Food Security in Africa [Agenda item 6 bis (ii)]

47. The Secretariat presented the report on the status of food security in Africa, highlighting the:

- (a) Context of the current debate on food security in Africa – namely the global food price surge;
- (b) Food security issues and challenges on the continent;
- (c) Global food price surge and its impact on the food trade balance;
- (d) Policy responses – macroeconomic implications and food price impacts; and
- (e) Recommendations on the way forward

48. The Committee noted that there were cultural barriers to low intake of animal proteins in rural areas, as many households raise animals not for food, but as savings or capital assets to be mobilized on special events (such as social ceremonies and for dowry payments) or to cope with shocks (economic or weather related). It also noted that all the countries listed as best performers in the area of agricultural productivity growth were large countries in terms of surface area and population.

49. In response, the presenter recalled the main features common to these countries during the period 1994-2003, were similar growth patterns in Total Factor Productivity (TFP) and increased labour and land productivity, attributed to increased use of fertilizer per hectare and worker. A related issue was that most of the growth could be explained by efficiency gains rather than technological change. This might be related to the size dimension (scale-effect), an issue that should be further investigated.

50. The Senegalese delegation briefed the Committee on the strategy adopted by the Government of Senegal to tackle the food crisis. The strategy comprised a two-track programme that aimed at subsidizing the consumption of the poorest and at boosting agricultural production. The production track had put strong emphasis on intensification in order to improve food security all year round and to reduce the annual rural-urban migration, thereby

alleviating the pressure on urban households. The delegation indicated that the promotion of sustainable urban agriculture was an option worth pursuing owing to its contribution to improved food security and nutrition, to alleviate poverty – especially among women - and to better manage the environment. This contribution illustrated key strategies that African governments were using to respond to the food crisis and manage disasters.

51. The Committee expressed the view that agricultural intensification through irrigation and multi-cropping could help achieve food security and sustainable development. Regarding the gender dimensions of food security – namely the role and constraints facing small farmers, particularly women farmers, the Committee recommended that greater emphasis should be put on women farmers associations to facilitate their access to agricultural inputs and services, as well as markets.

52. Complementing this recommendation, the presenter pointed out that the global food crisis was presenting market opportunities for women, as - with the exception of rice in most cases - the costliest commodities in the African context were vegetables, fruits and vegetable oils, which were mostly produced by women. Additionally, aquaculture presented an opportunity that should be effectively explored by small farmers. Adopting an integrated approach would help increase supplies, diversify low-input production, improve incomes and local nutrition security, as well as restore wetlands, thereby mitigating the potential impacts of extreme events on seashores.

53. The Committee noted that it was important to document and share information, for example, through a clearinghouse system, Information, Education and Communication (IEC) campaigns on, for example, best practices for building food security in the context of the food crisis. In order to enhance food security and strike a better balance with the current focus on high potential areas, the Committee stressed the need to consider the following:

- (a) Promoting traditional, underutilized crops and, therefore changes in eating habits;
- (b) Improving livestock contribution to food security, strengthening the livelihoods of pastoral communities and rehabilitating marginal lands;
- (c) Controlling transboundary pests and diseases that affect production and marketing of both crop and livestock products;
- (d) Providing affordable credit and subsidized inputs to small holders in order to boost production;

- (e) Studying the role of strategic food reserves as a stop-gap measure for emergencies;
- (f) Establishing a well-connected early warning system in the region and other food emergency preparedness mechanisms;
- (g) Documenting and assessing initiatives such as weather-based insurance schemes, which are ongoing in Ethiopia, Malawi, South Africa and are at design stage in Senegal, disseminating the outcomes and assisting African countries to apply and/or upscale best practices identified; and
- (h) Supporting research, monitoring, evaluation and extension services of agricultural and related institutions involved in food security-related work.

54. The Committee pointed to Africa's rich and diverse food varieties. In this regard, ECA could consider supporting the dissemination of knowledge in this area, as well as promoting largely untapped sources of food for improved nutrition and market opportunities. This could be done through inventories and food fairs.

Climate for Development in Africa (Climdev-Africa) Programme and its African Climate Policy Centre (ACPC) [Agenda item 7]

55. Under this agenda item, the Secretariat outlined progress made in implementation of ClimDev-Africa), and establishment of ACPC. The ClimDev- Africa Programme was a joint initiative of AUC, ECA and the African Development Bank (AfDB). Establishment of the Programme had been in response to a call made at the highest political level in Africa, namely the AU Summit, for these institutions to develop and implement a major plan on climate change and development in Africa in collaboration with relevant partners.

56. In this context, the Programme was formulated in collaboration with the Secretariat of the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS) and was endorsed by the AU Summit, and by the African Ministers of Finance, and of the Environment. The overall goal of ClimDev-Africa was to promote sustainable attainment of the MDGs and overall sustainable development in Africa. More specifically, the programme had set out to scale-up the capacities of key institutions and stakeholders, with a view to improving access to climate-related data and observations, information services, policies, investment processes and risk-management practices in climate-sensitive sectors such as agriculture, water and other natural resources, energy and health.

57. ClimDev-Africa would be implemented at the regional, subregional and national levels with the active involvement of the RECs, regional and subregional climate institutions, river/lake basin organizations, national weather, climate and water services and other public authorities, research institutions, civil society organizations (CSOs) and the media. Programme implementation rested on two key instruments: the ECA-based African ACPC as its policy arm and the AfDB-based Special Climate Change Funding Mechanism as its financial arm.

58. ACPC had been supporting the African regional processes on climate change in preparation for the climate change negotiations in Copenhagen. AfDB has already disbursed about \$US30 million to support generation of climate and weather-related data and information by regional and subregional climate centres. In order to ensure the sustainability of climate-related work and to maximize impact, the Secretariat introduced a proposal on the establishment of a climate and development programme at ECA, for the consideration of the Committee.

59. In the ensuing discussions, the Committee commended the Secretariat, AUC and AfDB for developing the programme, which it considered timely, given the significance of climate change for Africa's growth and sustainable development prospects. The Committee sought clarifications on the following: whether in addition to adaptation issues the programme would address issues related to mitigation, technology transfer and financing; how it would link to and support national initiatives, policies and programmes on climate change; its relationship with regional and subregional climate centres; its relationship with the ClimDev Special Fund and with global ones such as those administered by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and, how funds could be accessed.

60. In its response, the Secretariat assured the Committee that other aspects of climate change would be given due attention. However, emphasis was being placed on adaptation, identified by member States as the priority for the region. On the link between the programme and national initiatives, the Secretariat gave assurance that member States would benefit from studies and capacity-building activities to help mainstream climate change in development planning, promote knowledge management, networking and the sharing of best practices, and enhance implementation of pilot projects. Regional and subregional institutions would also benefit, as demonstrated by the grant of \$US30 million already allocated to them by AfDB. The ClimDev Special Fund should be regarded as complementary to existing international funds on climate change. In order to ensure easy access to the Fund, its administration would take into account the lessons learnt from already established funds.

61. The Committee endorsed the proposal tabled by the Secretariat on the establishment of a subprogramme at ECA on climate change and development, as it felt that this would go a long way towards addressing climate and the development challenges it posed for the continent in an effective and sustainable manner. The Secretariat thanked the Committee for this significant endorsement.

62. In complementing the Secretariat's presentation, the AUC delegation informed the Committee that AUC would provide political leadership for the Programme and was in the process of establishing its governing structure. The Committee was also informed that a donor pledging meeting for the programme was soon to be organized by the Commission to ensure adequate resources. The delegation briefed the Committee on the climate change and desertification unit that was being established at the Commission, to complement the activities of ACPC.

63. Furthermore, the delegation emphasized the important role played by the Commission in the development and adoption at the highest level, of a common African negotiating position on climate change. The common position would embody all issues that were relevant to the current climate change negotiations, namely; shared vision, mitigation, adaptation, technology development and transfer, and financing.

Regional Implementation Review on Transport [Agenda item 8]

64. Under this agenda item, the Secretariat made a presentation on the transport situation in Africa. It pointed out the importance of adequate transport infrastructure and efficient services for achievement of sustainable development. The presentation then focused on the status of and trends in all modes of transport (road, railways, maritime, air and inland waterways), highlighting the progress and efforts being made by African countries.

65. The Secretariat also presented the major challenges and constraints facing the transport sector in Africa, summarized as follows:

- Lack or inappropriate pursuit of transport policies;
- Inadequate infrastructure network;
- Inadequate financing; lack of human and institutional capacity; inadequate transport facilitation measures resulting in high transport costs and delays;
- Inadequate safety and security;

- Need for modernization of fleets used in all transport modes;
- Inadequate consideration of environmental issues and anti-pollution measures;
- Under-exploitation of the possibilities offered by ICT;
- Lack of reliable transport databases; and
- Need to mainstream HIV/AIDS control and also gender issues in transport policies and programmes.

66. Recommendations for overcoming the challenges outlined above included the need for an integrated approach to transport policy development, taking all modes of transport into account, the need to pursue reforms in the sector in order to attract private sector participation, as well as the need to promote public-private partnerships (PPPs).

67. The Committee commended the Secretariat for the presentation and provided additional information on progress in the transport sector in their countries. In addition, it recommended the following:

- (a) Studies should be conducted to provide informed solutions to addressing the challenges caused by traffic jams in African cities, attributed to poor transport infrastructure;
- (b) In view of the specific geographic locations of Small Island Developing States (SIDs), special attention should be paid to generating adequate data for the transport sector in these countries;
- (c) Partnership among neighbouring countries and harmonization of policies should be fostered, because transportation by its very nature has to be trans-boundary;
- (d) Countries should be encouraged to implement decisions taken at regional, subregional and at national levels, in order to accelerate progress towards sustainable development of the transport sector in Africa; and
- (e) Animal transportation, which constitutes a non-motorized means of transport, and forms the major form of transport in the rural areas of Africa, should be adequately addressed in the report.

Regional Implementation Review on Chemicals [Agenda item 9]

68. UNIDO presented the findings, conclusions and recommendations from its review of the current status of environmentally sound management of chemicals in Africa,

conducted for ECA as part of the preparations for the RIM, with inputs from the experts at the ARSCP. The review was informed by national reviews including from Morocco, Nigeria, South Africa and the United Republic of Tanzania. The presentation noted that chemicals used were diverse, serving applications in agriculture, health and disease control, industry and households. The use of chemicals was on the rise, a trend expected to continue, due to industrialization, urbanization, population growth and overall trends in socio-economic development. Production of chemicals was limited to a few African countries in the North and South of the continent.

69. Policy and legislation for environmentally sound management of chemicals was to a large degree driven by MEAs, in particular the Basel, Montreal, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, which had been ratified by most countries and were at different stages of domestication and implementation around the continent. SAICM was providing further impetus for improved chemicals management. However, the scope and diversity of the MEAs were beyond the absorption and implementation capacities of many African countries, demonstrating need for the harmonization and integration of MEAs with risk-based prioritization of commitments at the national level.

70. Significant progress had been made with implementation of sector policies and establishment of institutions for environmentally sound management of chemicals, but opportunities for effective risk-based management are severely limited by lack of information on chemicals use, safe alternatives and technical and institutional capacities at the national level. Moreover, National Cleaner Production Centres (NCPCs) are developing capacity for chemicals management at enterprise level, whilst the problem of obsolete pesticides and chemicals is being addressed through such initiatives as the African Stockpiles Programme. Main implementation challenges pertain to accessing information on chemicals and methods for their environmentally sound use and disposal, strengthening institutions and policy-making processes, and fostering cooperation in the development and transfer of safe alternative chemicals.

71. Africa had been expecting continuous support for sustainable industrial development from the international community, with environmentally sound management of chemicals becoming an integral element of financial, technical and other support provided by development partners. Moreover, African countries recognized that they stood to benefit from enhanced compliance with MEA provisions. They also acknowledged that their effective participation and engagement in international chemicals negotiations had been limited. Thus, their national development needs had not been addressed adequately in past negotiations.

72. The Committee thanked UNIDO for the presentation and for highlighting the many problems African countries face in relation to sound chemicals management. The Committee suggested that the mining sector should be given particular emphasis, as it used dangerous chemicals such as cyanide for gold extraction. Further, the Committee appreciated that elimination of contaminants was difficult, as was storage of hazardous chemicals. It also noted that most African countries had ratified the conventions related to the management of chemicals but that their domestication presented serious difficulties due to capacity constraints.

73. The Committee heard a short statement from the SAICM Secretariat. African countries had been particularly active within the SAICM policy framework and had endorsed the Strategic Approach at the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment held in Brazzaville, Congo in 2006. The Committee also heard that the second session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM) held in Geneva in May 2009 had adopted a resolution in relation to linkages between ICCM and the CSD. The resolution invited CSD to highlight the importance of sound chemicals management in achieving the MDGs, the need to mainstream chemical management in development strategies, and to explore the role that the private sector could play.

74. The Committee also heard a short statement from the Focal Point for SAICM in Africa, in relation to the African position paper submitted to the RIM on chemicals management. The Focal Point recalled that the resolution of the May 2009 ICCM session encouraged Strategic Approach stakeholders to participate in the work of CSD on chemicals. The Africa Core Group on the Strategic Approach agreed that a position paper should be developed for the RIM. The African region had, under the Strategic Approach, adopted a regional plan of action, as well as a regional SAICM coordination mechanism and welcomed consideration of chemicals management by CSD 18 and 19. It also called upon the Commission to further develop the link between economic growth, industrialization, poverty reduction and human health in implementing the Strategic Approach on chemicals management. The region looked forward to sound chemical management under the guidance of the CSD and requested that the position paper be made part of the RIM report. The full report may be accessed at the meeting website, <http://www.uneca.org/csd>.

Regional Implementation Review on Waste Management [Agenda item 10]

75. Under this item, UNIDO presented the findings, conclusions and recommendations from its review of the present status of environmentally sound management of wastes in

Africa, that had been conducted for ECA as part of the preparations for the RIM, with inputs from the experts at ARSCP. In qualitative terms, it was found that waste management problems in Africa were varied and complex, facing infrastructure, technical, socio-economic, organizational, management, regulatory and legal challenges. Waste continued to be typically disposed of without consideration for environment and human health impacts, leading to accumulation of wastes, including hazardous and medical wastes, in cities, towns and uncontrolled dumpsites. Waste management policies were being developed and enacted, spurred by commitments under relevant MEAs, in particular the Basel and Bamako Conventions, but the gap between policy/legislation and waste management practices was widening due to capacity constraints and/or non-existence of suitable waste management facilities.

76. Improving the environmentally sound management of the various waste streams in Africa would require the simultaneous creation of sufficient capacity for environmentally sound management, including recovery and recycling, of wastes and implementation and enforcement of waste regulations and international conventions. This would be critically dependent on access to best practice technologies, practices and systems for reduction, recycling, collection, transport and final disposal of various wastes, finance for investments, as well as the human and institutional capacity of government agencies, effective engagement of the private sector, CSOs and society at large. African countries were counting on support from the international community for transfer and dissemination of appropriate technologies, implementation of international agreements, making inventories of wastes, in particular hazardous and radioactive wastes, raising awareness, and achieving cultural change for integrated waste management.

77. In commending UNIDO for the useful and informative presentation, the AUC delegation noted that the presentation included a component on MEAs and took the opportunity to brief the Committee on the Africa component of the EU-supported ACP MEA programme housed at the AUC. The programme was formulated in response to weak and/or lack of implementation and enforcement of important MEAs to which countries in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific regions were Parties, due to lack of capacity. In Africa, the programme was aimed at building national capacity to meet the obligations under selected MEAs, and would be implemented over a period of four years.

78. Activities carried out so far included identifying capacity needs and priorities through stakeholder workshops, which had identified biodiversity, sustainable water management, pollution abatement, waste management, land management and desertification control as priority areas. Capacity needs identified by stakeholders included strengthening institutions

such as the Basel Regional Training Centre in Dakar, capacity-building in legal drafting, information exchange and enforcement. On the basis of the priorities identified, AUC had submitted its work plan to EU and it was expected that implementation of activities would commence in early 2010. Focal points have already been identified in member States and in the RECs. Replication and sustainability were inbuilt into the programme, and the first phase would entail the convening in 2010 of the First Conference of Parties (COP-1) to the Bamako Convention. This phase would also support implementation of other regional conventions such as the Maputo, Nairobi and Abidjan Conventions.

79. Additional funding would be channelled through the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) to support implementation of the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM)-related activities. Funding would also be channelled through the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations to address issues related to obsolete pesticides, including the further implementation of the African Stockpile Project (ASP). In concluding, the delegation noted that the presentation had not address the ASP adequately and wanted to know the reason for this.

80. The Committee thanked UNIDO for the useful and clear presentation and pointed out that it was important to specify the type of waste in the discussions, as different waste types required different legislation and rules governing their management. The Committee noted that it was crucial to address waste recycling and recovery, which were often missing links in waste management initiatives. It was briefed on of the waste recycling and recovery projects being implemented in Senegal. The delegation emphasized that sanitation was an important area relevant to waste management, and should be given due attention. It clarified that the Basel Regional Training Centre located in Dakar, Senegal, had been established to build the capacities of French-speaking African countries to manage wastes effectively.

81. The delegation reiterated the need to deal with sanitation issues in Africa adequately. It noted that heavy investments were required to deal with the problems, which had been compounded by the recent floods. The delegation warned that if the cycle of floods continued, the region could face ecological and health problems of catastrophic proportions. In this respect, the delegation called for support from all development actors to support Africa's efforts in the sanitation subsector.

82. Further, the Committee pointed to the need to address the link between poor management of wastes and public health problems adequately. It acknowledged that countries had ratified relevant Conventions on waste management, but asserted that a great deal remained to be done in terms of implementation. It stressed the need to prioritize waste

management problems by, among other measures, strengthening the capacity of countries to manage waste, providing information and sensitizing people about the dangers of poor waste management, and putting necessary infrastructure for proper waste disposal in place. The Committee noted that the CDM of the Kyoto Protocol provided an opportunity to institute proper waste management practices. In this context, the work of the World Bank in the Republic of Guinea and of the UNICEF assistance to that country in developing guidelines for waste management, were noted. The Committee emphasized the need for regional and international cooperation to tackle waste management challenges in the region effectively.

83. In response, UNIDO welcomed the AUC initiative on MEAs and its efforts at developing the capacities of African countries to manage waste effectively. The presenter pointed out that the ASP on obsolete pesticides was covered in the chemicals report, given the emphasis placed on waste prevention. He agreed with delegates that sanitation was closely linked to public health, but pointed out that the review was limited to solid wastes, as sanitation had been covered in a previous CSD cycle.

84. He concurred with the suggestion to classify the different waste types, in order to ensure that legislation and management regimes would be applied appropriately. However, he noted that for countries to deal effectively with the different waste categories, regional approaches were required, to leverage use of the economies of scale thereby created. He pointed out that proper management of organic wastes would enable countries to produce biogas, usable as an alternative source of energy that reduces methane emissions. In concluding, the presenter stressed the need for greater regional cooperation to enable countries to streamline approaches to waste management in Africa.

Regional Implementation Review on Mining [Agenda item 11]

85. The Secretariat presented the Africa Review Report on Mining. The presenter pointed out that Africa had significant mineral reserves and that mining could support Africa's industrialization. However, although mining was taking place in many African countries, it was not integrated into broader social economic development. AU had developed a vision, which advocated transparent, equitable and optimal mineral exploitation to underpin broad-based sustainable growth and social development, and this was consistent with sustainable development principles.

86. The presenter outlined that the Africa Mining Review was based on paragraph 46 of the JPOI, which contained the following commitments: developing effective and

transparent regulatory frameworks; promoting transparency and accountability; facilitating improved governance and public participation; addressing environmental, economic, social and health impacts and benefits; improving value addition, research and development and technological information; supporting artisanal and small-scale mining; and building human and institutional capacities.

87. In terms of global trends and emerging issues, metals intensity of use had increased, leading to high prices and the mining of lower grades with more waste and higher energy use. Improvement in the political and economic climate had resulted in higher mining investment in Africa. Globally, regulatory regimes were more transparent with reduced arbitrary decision making while the engagement of stakeholders in regulatory processes was a key trend. At subregional level, harmonization of policies and standards was becoming common, while there was a global trend towards comprehensive social and environmental impact assessments and use of environmental and social funds. The increased demand for minerals had led to larger exports of ores and concentrates, contrary to the desire for beneficiation. However, donor support for building human and institutional capacities had increased in various areas, including in small-scale mining and for consolidating geo-scientific information.

88. With respect to progress towards implementing their commitments, most African countries had rewritten their mining codes, but more with a view to attracting foreign direct investment (FDI). These were not particularly development-oriented and were not based on full stakeholder consultations. At subregional level, the harmonization of regimes made progress in the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU) and SADC. At the regional level, the 2007 Big Table had led to the establishment of the Africa Legal Support Facility (ALSF) to help negotiate improved mineral contracts and the International Study Group on Africa's Mineral Regimes to develop new SD- friendly systems, as called for by the first AU Conference of African Ministers responsible for Minerals.

89. Although many countries had signed global initiatives (for example, at least 20 were signatory to the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI), transparency, accountability, governance and public participation remained problematic. Local participation by nationals in mineral projects remained weak and not well-promoted except by a few countries. Revenue distribution was also a challenge, as most governments retained mineral revenues while economic linkages continued to be weak. The high cost of infrastructure in rural areas, especially for energy projects, prevented the opening of some mines. Value addition presented its own challenges due to lack of research and development (R & D)

infrastructure and innovation strategies. Major challenges, therefore, were the lack of human and institutional capacities, exacerbated by poor staff retention in government ministries.

90. To bridge the above challenges, the presenter proposed the following:

- (a) Various policy regimes had not delivered on long-term sustainable development in Africa. There was need to invest in new development-based mineral regimes as envisioned in the AMV, for which an action plan should be developed with the help of AUC, UNECA, AfDB, working with RECs. The pace of harmonization of regimes should be improved and the ALSF operationalized to support improved mineral contracts. In the short term, AfDB should create a fund to provide access to transaction advisors;
- (b) While transparency and accountability were difficult to achieve, member States should adopt and apply international initiatives. They should also develop a think-tank stakeholder approach to addressing issues. This would require strengthening capacities of oversight bodies, such non- governmental organizations (NGOs), community-based organizations (CBOs), civil society and the legislature. Transparency initiatives such as the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCS) should be extended to other high-value minerals such as coltan and gold;
- (c) To improve governance and participation, Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) should be embedded in policy and legislation to promote community participation and benefits sharing, as well as in modalities to promote participation of nationals in mineral ventures. AfDB should be requested to establish venture capital funds to promote African entrepreneurship in mining projects. Mineral concessions should promote broader economic and social development goals, and community upliftment;
- (d) To improve environmental, economic, social and health impacts and benefits, ESIAAs should be mandatory and include obligatory environmental and social funds. Compliance should improve if mineral contracts become open to broader scrutiny by informed stakeholders. To bridge the infrastructure gap, capacity should be established for resource-based development corridors, to enable collateral use of mining infrastructure by other economic activities. Such continental bodies as AUC, ECA and AfDB, should speed up the implementation rate of Short-Term Action Plan (STAP) programmes, such as the energy projects;

- (e) To improve value addition, research and development and technological information flow, member States should provide specific policy direction and incentives to create value added. They should also invest in creating knowledge-based institutional capacities (Human Resource Development (HRD), Research and Development (R&D) infrastructure, and innovation systems, among others). Special purpose funds to support knowledge creation, such as innovation funds, should be considered;
- (f) For Artisanal and Small-scale Mining (ASM), member States should develop ASM assistance programmes and regimes that are rooted in rural development objectives; and
- (g) In respect of human and institutional capacities, member States should forecast and accordingly invest in building sustainable internal capacities through well planned training and retention schemes, leveraging current and future donor support for this purpose.

91. The Committee thanked the Secretariat for an insightful presentation. It noted that although the need for environmental remediation was well known, in actual practice, rehabilitated mine sites represented a small fraction, due partly to high costs and limited knowledge of technologies. It would be useful therefore, to exchange knowledge on successful best practice models. The Committee further suggested that consideration should be given to African eco-labelling in the report. The Committee noted that the report did not include abandoned and derelict mine sites, which were a problem in some member States, including acid mine drainage. Beneficiation was also missing, as was reference to women in mining.

92. Damage caused by coastal mining should also be included. In respect of research and development, the report should also deal with policy and technology issues. The Committee heard that South Africa has included sustainable development issues in its mineral policy and that elements of this were being strengthened through a sustainable development strategy for mining. A mining charter was also being reviewed with a view to improving compliance. Other actions taken in support of sustainable development and mining could be found on the Internet. The Committee expressed concern about the preoccupation of transparency initiatives with the extractive sector and further noted that some countries were already advanced in such directions.

93. In response, the Secretariat acknowledged the comments of the Committee and emphasized the need for environmental and social plans to be negotiated upfront and with a robust monitoring and auditing programme instituted. Generally, mining companies operating

in Africa accepted that they must pay for environmental rehabilitation and the technical processes were agreed to beforehand as part of mining plans and agreements. Successful models were available, including in South Africa with respect to the gold-mining waste dumps located in Johannesburg.

94. While mining legacies should be included in the report, beneficiation was already included under value addition. Similarly, policy-related research and development was included under innovation systems. The Secretariat acknowledged the need to include the effects of coastal mining and to add reference to women in mining. In respect of transparency initiatives such as EITI, it was pointed out that these were voluntary and that although such initiatives were increasing scrutiny of transparency, a country that engaged all stakeholders transparently would not need to subscribe to such initiatives.

Regional Implementation Review on Sustainable Consumption and Production [Agenda item 12]

95. The Secretariat of the African Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production (ARSCP) made this presentation. The Committee heard that the African region encompassed a vast area of widely differing economic, demographic, social and development situations and trends. The following major emerging issues related to SCP were identified: African economies remained insufficiently diversified; sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) was not on track to achieve any of the MDGs and many Africans remained trapped in dire poverty; the population growth rate was still high and the SSA population was very young, Africa had the highest urbanization rate in the world, which had a strong impact on patterns of consumption; and the continent was lagging behind all others in energy use, with energy production relying heavily on fossil fuels despite its significant renewable energy potential.

96. The presenter pointed out that in much of Africa, the main challenge was to satisfy the basic needs of the population, while at the same time addressing the environmental pillar of sustainability. Policies and actions supporting SCP serve to bolster poverty reduction efforts and support sustainable long-term growth, thus helping to meet the MDGs. Since there were many opportunities to “leapfrog” towards more SCP patterns, Africa had managed to record a great many achievements on various SCP issues, notably, the launching of the African 10-Year-Framework Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production (African 10-YFP on SCP), the establishment of ARSCP and the Marrakech Taskforce on Cooperation with Africa. Implementation of the eco-labelling project - the African Eco-labelling Mechanism - has also been noteworthy.

97. Despite the achievements, the impact and penetration of SCP activities were still very limited in most countries. Not many key activities had been conducted as part of implementing the African 10-YFP and since SCP was a relatively new concept in the region, not many integrated SCP-specific examples existed. In addition, there are a significant number of implementation challenges and constraints including:

- Poor education and lack of awareness on the benefits of SCP among all stakeholders;
- Government failures such as lack of legislation and/or enforcement;
- Lack of human and technical capacity;
- Economic challenges such as the financial instability of NCPCs, under-pricing of natural resources, lack of SCP-appropriate financial incentives and investment financing mechanisms.

98. In conclusion, the ongoing economic and social restructuring in Africa offered a unique opportunity to establish more resource-efficient SCP patterns and change towards SCP as a systemic challenge. Business people, consumers and policy makers could not usually solve problems alone but had to work together in a 'triangle of change'. Lessons learnt from niche experiments and pilot studies and their sharing and replication throughout the region would help in mainstreaming SCP in national policies and strategies and in achieving the aim of changing the socio-economic landscape towards more SCP patterns and Green Economies in Africa.

99. The presentation recommended a focus on concrete priority SCP projects at the regional level and on mobilizing support for their implementation. A detailed description of the nine priority projects identified in the Outcome Document of the Africa RIM for CSD-18 can be found at the meeting website, <http://www.uneca.org/csd>.

100. These projects included, among others:

- Capacity-building for national SCP action plans;
- African Local SCP Initiative;
- Regional Programme on Resource Efficiency and Cleaner Production (RECP), including building the capacity of NCPCs and SCP institutions;
- African Eco-labelling Mechanism; and
- Promoting an Integrated Solid Waste Management (ISWM) System in Africa.

101. The Committee thanked the presenter for the useful and clear presentation and pointed out the need to dispose of plastics adequately, in light of their adverse impact on the environment, public health, livestock husbandry, water resources and coastal areas. In this regard, it recommended that AUC and ECA should promote biodegradable packaging technology, and eco-labelling in African countries. It affirmed that it was crucial that Africa adopt precautionary and pollution prevention approaches rather than only place emphasis on the principle of ‘polluter pays’. Further, the Committee pointed out a number of crucial constraints that impede sustainable development in Africa, including lack of focus on identifying priority intervention, needed because problems are multifaceted while resources are limited; limited funding for eco-labelling certification; and the difficulty of correcting the prevailing under-pricing of environmental goods and services.

102. The Committee raised concerns about the ability of African countries to acquire a high level of proper/clean packaging technology and the role of development partners in availing the required technology. It asserted that member States were not expecting a prescription from the AUC and ECA on how to tackle problems; rather they were expecting technical guidance that would help governments to pursue evidence-based policy options. The Committee acknowledged the importance of Africa establishing its own, fair eco-labelling mechanism in order to promote African exports and that this mechanism should take the specificities of the African production and consumption environment into account.

103. The presenter thanked the Committee for its comments. On the issue of plastics recycling technology, she indicated that technology was widely available and accessible to African countries, but it was important for every country to identify its own priorities and policy options on how best to deal with plastics. Policy options depended on a number of factors, including the size of the plastics industry, the country’s financial capacity, availability of recycling technology and capacity, and prevailing consumer preferences. In this regard, the presenter emphasized the need to change consumption patterns by undertaking extensive awareness campaigns and to institute economic incentives that encourage proper utilization and recycling of plastic products. Further, the presenter explained that the ‘polluter pays’ and the precautionary principles were complementary and should be applied in an integrated fashion.

104. She informed the Committee that UNEP was working with the African Organization for Standardization (ARSO) on the development of the African eco-labelling mechanism. On the issue of under-pricing environmental goods and services, it was suggested that national governments should act quickly to ensure proper pricing of such goods.

Consideration and adoption of the Africa RIM Statement to CSD-18 [Agenda item 14]

105. Under this agenda item, the Committee considered the draft Africa RIM Statement to CSD-18. Delegations made comments, observations and proposed amendments to the document. An important amendment related to the title of the document, which was changed to “*Outcome Document of the Africa Regional Implementation Meeting: Inputs to the 18th Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD-18), on Transport, Chemicals, Waste Management, Mining and Sustainable Consumption and Production (including the 10-Year Framework of Programmes)*”.

106. Some delegations expressed reservations about the unavailability of the draft document in Arabic. The Secretariat explained that the working languages of ECA were mainly English and French, but that it would endeavour to produce the final document in Arabic to meet the concerns of Arabic-speaking member States. The Committee adopted the draft outcome document as amended and entrusted the Secretariat with the responsibility of transmitting the final document to the CSD Secretariat. The final RIM Outcome Document would be posted at <http://www.uneca.org/csd>.

Consideration and Adoption of the Report of the Meeting [Agenda item 15]

107. Under this agenda item, the Committee considered the draft report of its meeting. Delegations made comments, and proposed amendments to the report. Again, some delegations expressed reservations about the unavailability of the draft document in Arabic. The Secretariat said that it would endeavour to produce the final document in Arabic to meet the concerns of Arabic-speaking member States. The Committee adopted the draft report as amended.

Themes, Dates and Venue of CFSSD-7 [Agenda item 16]

108. In introducing this agenda item, the Secretariat referred to the thematic cluster of issues to be considered during the 2012/2013 CSD cycle. These would include Forests, Biodiversity, Biotechnology, Tourism and Mountains. In this respect, the Secretariat presented the following proposal for the theme of CFSSD-7 for consideration by the Committee: “Managing Africa’s Natural Resource Base for Sustainable Development.” The Committee confirmed the relevance of the theme to Africa’s sustainable development agenda and unanimously adopted

it. The Secretariat thanked the Committee and indicated that this early endorsement of the theme would greatly facilitate its work in preparing for CFSSD-7.

109. In submitting the dates for CFSSD-7, the Secretariat requested flexibility so that the Committee could be held either in October or November 2011. The Committee unanimously agreed to the submission and entrusted the Secretariat with the fixing of a date for CFSSD-7, taking into account the need to ensure that adequate, early logistical arrangements would be put in place for the meeting.

110. On the matter of the venue for CFSSD-7, the Committee agreed that member States be given up to June 2010 to express interest in hosting the meeting. If expressions of interest were not received by 30 June 2010, then CFSSD-7 would take place in Addis Ababa.

Any other business [Agenda item 17]

111. The Secretariat reminded delegates to return their completed evaluation forms, and to review and amend as necessary, the provisional list of participants that was being circulated. Further, the Secretariat appealed to member States to commit resources to interpretation and translation services, in order to ensure that future Committee meetings could be serviced in English, French and Arabic.

112. The delegation of Morocco expressed concern about some of the documents produced by the Secretariat that did not depict the correct border demarcations according to agreed UN protocols, and stressed the need to correct this. The Secretariat informed the delegation that note had been taken of this concern and that the figure in question would be amended in accordance with agreed UN protocols.

Closing of the meeting [Agenda item 18]

113. The delegation of the Republic of Guinea moved a vote of thanks on behalf of the Committee.

114. Ms. Chantal Carpentier made remarks on behalf of DSD/DESA. Ms. Carpentier thanked delegates for honouring their invitations to the meeting. She expressed pleasure at having witnessed a dynamic RIM with demonstrated interest in sustainable development issues, particularly SCP. She thanked ECA and the collaborating agencies for their excellent job in producing rich and informative background documents. She stressed the importance of

RIMs and pointed out that both the background documents and the RIM outcome document would also provide valuable inputs to the United Nations Secretary-General's report to the CSD.

115. Mr. Patrick Mwesigye on behalf of UNEP expressed delight at having been part of the process of producing the RIM documents that would serve as useful inputs to CSD-18. He was particularly pleased that the meeting had proceeded smoothly and had met expectations. He noted the fruitful collaboration among ECA, UNIDO, ARSCP and UNEP in preparing for and organizing the meeting. He pledged continued support and collaboration between UNEP and ECA in responding to Africa's interests and priorities, through its Division of Trade, Industry and Economics (DTIE) and its Regional Office for Africa in Nairobi. Further, he pointed out that Africa was ahead of other regions in implementing its 10-Year Framework of Programmes on SCP. Finally, he thanked delegates for their active participation and interest in ensuring that the region's priorities would be well articulated and presented at CSD-18.

116. Mr. Rene Van Berkel speaking on behalf of UNIDO congratulated the meeting for the successful results achieved. He expressed appreciation of the fruitful collaboration between UNDO, ECA, UNEP, UNDESA and ARSCP in producing the RIM documents and organizing the meeting. He challenged UN agencies to partner effectively with Africa in carrying out SCP- related work. He said that UNIDO was keen to work with individual member States to develop programmes aimed at implementing the recommendations of the meeting. He concluded by thanking delegates for their active participation and valuable inputs to the deliberations.

117. Speaking on behalf of the ECA Executive Secretary, Mr. Josué Dioné expressed appreciation to all delegates for their attendance and active participation in the meeting. He thanked member States for their guidance and support to the ECA work on sustainable development issues. He also expressed appreciation for the valuable inputs provided by the meeting to the RIM outcome document. He invited member States to send more inputs on country experiences, including success stories, which together with the inputs received during the RIM, would be incorporated into the final Regional Review Reports on the thematic cluster of issues for CSD-18.

118. Mr. Dioné assured the Committee that the Secretariat would disseminate the RIM Outcome Document and the final regional review reports to all member States. He said that the Secretariat would work with CFSSD-6 Bureau members in the best way possible, to feed these inputs to the CSD-18. In this regard, he pointed out that it was very fortunate that Africa's Vice-Chairperson of the CSD-18 Bureau Ambassador Alahraf, was present throughout the

deliberations. He thanked Ambassador Alahraf through the Libyan delegation, for sparing time to attend and support the Africa RIM.

119. He thanked the CFSSD-6 Bureau in general, and the Chairperson particularly for having led the meeting ably and productively. He thanked all sister UN agencies, in particular, UNIDO, UNEP, UNDESA, SAICM and other partner organizations such as ARSCP, for their substantive collaboration and inputs to the meeting. In conclusion, Mr. Dione expressed gratitude to the team of interpreters, and to colleagues in FSSDD and other ECA Divisions and SROs, for all the technical and logistical support and tireless dedication and efforts towards ensuring a successful meeting.

120. In his closing remarks, the Chairperson of the CFSSD-6 Bureau expressed appreciation to the Secretariat and delegates for their support throughout the meeting. He noted that the next important step was to begin implementing the meeting outcomes to ensure that the Committee at its next meeting would hear concrete implementation progress and achievements. He then declared closed, the Sixth Session of the Committee on Food Security and Sustainable Development.

Closing Statement by Ambassador Mohamed A.A. Alahraf, Vice-Chairperson of the Bureau of CSD-18 [Agenda item 18 bis]

121. Ambassador Alahraf noted the important outcomes of the meeting and emphasized the need to reflect these fully in the RIM outcome document, including the implementation challenges and obstacles for the consideration of CSD-18. He expressed confidence that Africa's RIM outcome document would provide useful inputs to the Secretary-Generals's report to CSD-18. He expressed appreciation of the active participation of major groups in the main and side events of the meeting and commended them for their efforts. He said that he looked forward to Africa's active participation in CSD-18 and called upon ECA and its partners to work towards ensuring this. In concluding, he expressed hope that the Arabic language would be one of the working languages of future RIMs.

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