



**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA**

**AIDE-MEMOIRE**

**Ad Hoc Expert Group Meeting on the Sustainable Development Report  
on Africa (SDRA) 2008-2009**

**Sustainable Consumption and Production for Sustainable Growth and  
Poverty Reduction**

**Organized in collaboration with  
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)  
and  
United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)**

**24 to 26 June 2009  
Addis Ababa Ethiopia**

## 1.0 Background and justification

The Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI) adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in 2002 called on UN Regional Commissions in collaboration with other institutions and bodies, to organize regional and sub-regional reviews to take stock of the implementation of the JPOI, Agenda 21 (A21) and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 (PFIA21). This call was reinforced by the UN General Assembly Resolution 58/218. In this context, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), in collaboration with sister UN agencies and other partners, has been organizing Africa Regional Implementation Meetings (RIMs), under the auspices of its Committee on Food Security and Sustainable Development (CFSSD), in preparation for, and in order to provide regional perspectives to the review and policy sessions of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD).

In preparation for the RIMs, regional review studies and reports on the thematic cluster of issues under consideration for the relevant CSD cycle are commissioned. The reports provide an assessment of actions taken and progress made by member States in the implementation of commitments contained in the JPOI, A21 and PFIA21 relative to the different thematic areas. They provide documentation of good practices and success stories in the implementation process, identify implementation challenges and constraints, and reflect on lessons learned and the way forward to accelerate the implementation process. The reports provide the basis for discussions at RIMs.

The Sustainable Development Report on Africa, which ECA launched in the 2004-2005 biennium, is informed by the regional review reports. The main objective of the SDRA is to serve as a tool and medium for monitoring and assessing sustainable development in Africa, and to promote the balanced integration of the economic, social and environmental pillars in the formulation and implementation of development policies, strategies and programs in the region.

In preparation for the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> sessions of the CSD (CSD 18 and 19), ECA, in collaboration with UNEP, UNIDO and other partners, will convene the Africa RIM from 26 to 30 October 2009 in Addis Ababa Ethiopia. The RIM will review Africa's progress in the implementation of commitments and targets on the thematic cluster of issues for the upcoming CSD cycle, namely: mining; transport; chemicals; waste management; and sustainable consumption and production. As inputs to the upcoming RIM, ECA, UNEP and UNIDO commissioned the preparation of regional review reports on each of the thematic cluster of issues.

The reports examine concrete actions taken and progress made, implementation constraints and challenges lessons learned and the way forward, taking into account the commitments and targets contained in the JPOI, A21, and PFIA21 as summarised in Annex 1. The review reports will inform the SDRA 2008-2009 to be jointly produced by ECA, UNEP and UNIDO. It is proposed that this third issue of the SDRA be produced under the overall theme: ***Sustainable consumption and production (SCP) for sustainable growth and poverty reduction.***

## 2.0 Objectives of the Expert Group Meeting (EGM)

The overall objective of the meeting is to enable participants to deliberate on and enrich the thematic regional review reports, prior to their presentation to the Africa RIM. The specific objectives of the EGM are to:

- (i) Review the regional thematic review reports on mining, transport, chemicals, waste management and sustainable consumption and production, with a view to identifying gaps, providing expert inputs, and proposing revisions that should form the basis for finalizing each of the reports;
- (ii) Identify, discuss and document the inter-linkages between the different thematic cluster of issues with a view to promoting synergies in the implementation of commitments under the JPOI, PFFIA21 and A21; and
- (iii) Identify key indicative elements and consolidate these into a working report for the upcoming Africa RIM with a view to informing Africa's main inputs to CSD 18 and 19. The key elements in this working document will include major trends and emerging issues; implementation progress and achievements made; current and future implementation challenges and constraints; lessons learned; and recommended priority policy measures and actions to accelerate implementation of commitments in each of the thematic issues. The working report will also serve as an input to other forums in the lead up to CSD 18 and 19.

The key inputs to the discussions at the EGM will be the draft regional review reports on each of the thematic cluster of issues namely; mining, transport, chemicals, waste management and sustainable consumption and production.

### **3.0 Format of the meeting**

The meeting will be divided into three parts:

- (i) A plenary session for presentation of the key findings in each of the thematic reports;
- (ii) Five break out thematic sessions for detailed presentation and experts critical examination and discussion of each of the reports in order to provide recommendations and inputs for strengthening and finalizing the report; and
- (iii) Plenary presentation and discussion of main comments and recommendations for improving the reports, key indicative elements for a working report for the upcoming Africa RIM (see 2 (iii) above), and inter-linkages between the themes

### **4.0 Expected outputs of the EGM**

The main outputs of the expert group meeting will be:

- (i) The Report of the EGM, including expert inputs, comments and recommendations for enriching all the regional review reports;
- (ii) A consolidated working report for the RIM, summarizing main elements, including major trends and emerging issues; implementation progress and achievements made; current and future implementation challenges and constraints; lessons learned; and recommended priority policy measures and actions to accelerate implementation in each of the thematic issues. This report will also highlight inter-linkages between issues under consideration in the thematic cluster. Apart from the RIM, these key elements will serve as inputs to other forums on Africa's regional inputs to CSD 18 and 19;
- (iii) Web publications; and
- (iv) Press releases and news stories.

## **5.0 Participation**

The meeting will bring together about 45 national and international experts and practitioners in the fields of mining, transport, chemicals, waste management and sustainable consumption and production. Other participants will include experts from UN and other bodies including, UNDESA, UNIDO, UNEP, AUC, NEPAD Secretariat, and RECs.

## **6.0 Date and venue**

The meeting will be held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 24 to 26 June 2009 at the United Nations Conference Centre (UNCC) at ECA.

## **7.0 Administrative arrangements**

ECA, UNEP and UNIDO will sponsor some participants and provide them with round-trip economy class air-tickets and pay them, on arrival in Addis Ababa, a daily subsistence allowance (DSA) for the duration of the meeting. Kindly refer to the accompanying information note for details on administrative arrangements including hotel accommodation.

## **8.0 Contacts**

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## Annex 1:

### Indicative list of broad commitments/goals contained in the JPOI, PFIA21 and A21 which serve as the basis for progress review and preparation of each thematic report

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<p><b>1.0 Sustainable consumption and production</b></p> <p>(a) Development and implementation of the Africa 10-Year Framework of programmes on SCP;</p> <p>(b) Increasing investments in Cleaner production and eco-efficiency;</p> <p>(c) Development of policies and strategies on SCP patterns and integration of these into sustainable development policies, programmes and strategies including PRSPs;</p> <p>(d) Promoting regional and national programmes for energy and material efficiency;</p> <p>(e) Enhancing corporate environment and social responsibility and accountability;</p> <p>(f) Encouraging relevant authorities at all levels to take sustainable development considerations into account in decision-making, including on national and local development planning, investment in infrastructure, business development and public procurement;</p> <p>(g) Encouraging the development and strengthening of awareness and educational programmes to promote sustainable consumption and production patterns; and</p> <p>(h) Undertaking research and development of core indicators on consumption and production.</p>
<p><b>2.0 Mining</b></p> <p>(a) Enhancing the contribution of the mining, minerals and metals sector to the sustainable development of Africa by supporting the development of effective and transparent regulatory and management frameworks and value addition, broad-based participation, social and environmental responsibility and increased market access in order to create an attractive and conducive environment for investment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Establish partnerships to further existing activities at the national and international levels among interested Governments, intergovernmental organizations, mining companies and workers and other stakeholders to promote transparency and accountability for sustainable mining and minerals development</li><li>▪ Support efforts to address the environmental, economic, health and social impacts and benefits of mining, minerals and metals throughout their life cycle, including workers' health</li><li>▪ Enhance the participation of stakeholders, including local and indigenous communities and women, to play an active role in minerals, metals and mining development throughout the life cycles of mining operations</li><li>▪ Improve value-added processing, upgrade scientific and technological information and reclaim and rehabilitate degraded site</li></ul> <p>(b) Fostering sustainable mining practices through the provision of financial, technical and capacity-building support to developing countries and countries with economies in transition for the mining and processing of minerals, including small-scale mining</p>
<p><b>3.0 Transport</b></p> <p>(a) Development and promotion of an integrated approach to transport policy-making at national, regional and local levels for transport services and systems to promote sustainable development in Africa including policies and planning for land use, infrastructure, public transport systems and goods delivery networks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Develop and implement transport strategies for sustainable development, reflecting specific regional, national and local conditions</li></ul>

- Promote investment and partnerships for the development of sustainable, energy efficient multi-modal transportation systems, including public mass transportation systems and better transportation systems in rural areas
  - Use of a broad spectrum of policy instruments to improve energy efficiency and efficiency standards in transportation and related sectors
  - Integrate land-use and urban, peri-urban and rural transport planning, taking into account the need to protect ecosystems
- (b) Technical and financial support provided to Africa by the developed countries to develop affordable transport systems and infrastructure that promote sustainable development and connectivity in Africa;
- (c) Adoption and promotion of measures to mitigate the negative impact of transportation on human health and the environment, including measures to improve efficiency in the transportation sector
- Promote voluntary guidelines for environmentally friendly transport, and actions for reducing vehicle emissions of carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, particulate matter and volatile organic compounds
  - Use of economic instruments for the mitigation of the negative environmental impact of aviation in the context of sustainable development
  - Accelerating the phasing-out of the use of leaded gasoline as soon as possible, in pursuit of the objectives of reducing the severe health impacts of human exposure to lead
- (d) Development of partnerships at the national level, involving Governments, local authorities, non-governmental organizations and the private sector, for strengthening transport infrastructures and developing innovative mass transport schemes.

#### **4.0 Waste management**

- (a) Prevent and minimize waste and maximize reuse, recycling and use of environmentally friendly alternative materials, with the participation of government authorities and all stakeholders. Among others: encouraging production of reusable consumer goods and biodegradable products and developing the infrastructure required;
- (b) Develop waste management systems and extend waste service coverage. Among others develop and promote integrated management solutions to minimize urban and industrial waste generation and to promote recycling and reuse;
- (c) Ratification and implementation of relevant international instruments on hazardous waste, including the Bamako Convention, the Fourth Lome Convention and Basel Convention and its protocol on liability and compensation for damage resulting from the transboundary movement and disposal of hazardous wastes;
- (d) Preventing international illegal trafficking of hazardous wastes and to prevent damage resulting from the trans-boundary movement and disposal of hazardous wastes in a manner consistent with obligations under relevant international instruments;
- (e) Global and regional cooperation, including exchange of information and experience and transfer of appropriate technologies to improve the management of radioactive wastes.
- (f) Support the clean-up of sites contaminated as a result of all types of nuclear activity and to conduct health studies in the regions around those sites, as appropriate, with a view to identifying where health treatment may be needed and should be provided;
- (g) Sound management of radioactive waste including
- Sound storage, transportation, transboundary movement and disposal of radioactive waste guided by all the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development and by Agenda 21.
  - Provision of technical assistance to African countries to enable them to develop or improve procedures for the management and safe disposal of radioactive wastes
  - Intensify safety measures with regard to radioactive wastes

## **5.0 Chemicals**

- (a) Sound management of chemicals throughout their life cycle for sustainable development, as well as for the protection of human health and the environment. Among others:
  - Achieve, by 2020, sound management of chemicals to ensure the minimization of significant adverse effects on human health and the environment
  - Promote reduction of the risks posed by heavy metals that are harmful to human health and the environment, including through relevant studies on for instance mercury and its compounds.
  - Assessing risks and establishing risk reduction programmes
- (b) Promote and take actions for the ratification and implementation of relevant international instruments on chemicals, including: the Rotterdam Convention on Prior Informed Consent Procedures for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade, and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants.
  - Promote efforts to prevent international illegal trafficking of hazardous chemicals and hazardous wastes and to prevent damage resulting from the transboundary movement and disposal of hazardous wastes in a manner consistent with obligations under relevant international instruments, such as the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal
  - Provide technical and financial support to African countries to assist them in implementing relevant international instruments on chemicals and strengthening their capacity for the sound management of chemicals
- (c) Developing a strategic approach to international chemicals management (Based on the Bahia Declaration and Priorities for Action, of the Intergovernmental Forum on Chemical Safety (IFCS,);
- (d) Encouraging partnerships to promote activities aimed at enhancing environmentally sound management of chemicals. Among other promote international and regional cooperation and coordination;
- (e) Developing and promoting coherent and integrated information on chemicals, such as through:
  - National pollutant release and transfer registers
  - Globally Harmonized System (GHS) for the classification and labelling of chemicals
  - Information exchange on toxic chemicals and chemical risks and implementing
- (f) Cooperation in the development and transfer of technology of safe substitutes and in the development of capacity for the production of such substitutes.