



**UNITED NATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS**



**Commission on Sustainable Development
Nineteenth Session
New York, 2-13 May 2011**

Priorities for action on CSD18/19 themes

Prepared by

Major groups

Background Paper No.7
CSD19/2011/BP7

<h1>Transport</h1>	Women	Children and youth	Indigenous people	NGOs	Local authorities	Workers and trade unions	Business and industry	Scientific and tech. communities	Farmers
Support for a modal shift toward integrated, sustainable transport systems	?	?	?	?	?	?		?	
Facilitate proliferation of green technology and knowledge sharing		?		?	?		?	?	
Prioritize local ownership and promote use of traditional low-carbon transport	?	?	?		?	?			
Adopt minimum efficiency standards to combat pollution	?		?		?		?		
Gender and socio-economic sensitivity	?			?		?			
Planning to internalize environmental and social costs		?		?		?			
Elimination of unsustainable transport systems		?							
Promote fair working conditions						?			
Expansion of existing infrastructure and facilitation of food transport									?

Most major groups support the prioritization of integrated and fully sustainable low-carbon transport systems, as well as measures to enhance a large-scale shift away from unsustainable modes. More specifically, workers and trade unions called for “ambitious public investments” that would induce “reductions in the movement of goods and people”, and shift demand away from private modes of transport. There was also broad support for the development and proliferation of green technologies, including more detailed proposals from business and industry relating to the improvement of maritime shipping standards. Children and youth recommended “collaboration between the private and public sector to introduce the use of alternative transportation systems”.

Women, indigenous people and local authorities also called for minimum efficiency requirements to combat various forms of fine particle pollution. Business and industry specifically recommended a number of measures to promote fuel efficiency. Other commonalities between women, children and youth, NGOs and workers and trade unions included the integration of gender and socio-economic perspectives into transport planning, as well as support for policies that would internalize social costs into transport pricing.

Chemicals	Women	Children and youth	Indigenous people	NGOs	Local authorities	Workers and trade unions	Business and industry	Scientific and tech. communities	Farmers
Support for regulatory framework		?		?		?	?	?	?
Greater public awareness of chemical safety and potential risks				?		?	?	?	
Ensure implementation of existing agreements		?		?		?		?	
Application of the precautionary principle	?			?		?			
Support for environmentally safe alternatives and voluntary abatement initiatives							?	?	?
Support for participation of civil society in chemical negotiations		?		?		?			
Financing for cleanup of obsolete chemical stockpiles	?			?		?			
Develop a legally binding instrument on mercury	?			?				?	
Develop global guidelines on nanomaterials	?			?		?			
Progressive ban on hazardous chemicals	?			?					
Manufacturer internalization of environmental and health costs		?		?					
Strengthen national capacity to enforce safe and legal use of chemicals						?		?	
Heavily restrict use of hormone-disrupting substances	?								
Support for a global ban of lead-based paint				?					
Work toward elimination of asbestos-related diseases				?					
Promote public-private partnerships							?		

Most major groups expressed support for the development of a regulatory framework for sustainable chemical management to mitigate possible health and environmental risks. Additionally, most major groups felt that better regulation ought to include more knowledge sharing on chemical safety and public education on the potential toxic risks. Scientific and technological community recommended establishing a “global system for communicating risks and hazards”.

Likewise, there was broad support among respondents for the implementation of existing agreements and protocol on chemical management, as well as a number of recommendations for additional action on specific substances. Women, NGOs and workers and trade unions called for the application of a precautionary (i.e. “no data, no market”) principle in chemical regulation.

Waste management	Women	Children and youth	Indigenous people	NGOs	Local authorities	Workers and trade unions	Business and industry	Scientific and tech. communities	Farmers
Develop political commitment and greater institutional coherence			?	?	?	?		?	
Promote waste hierarchy strategy: Avoid, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle	?	?				?		?	?
Implement producer responsibility schemes	?			?	?	?			
Zero waste target: abolish landfills, total ban or substitution of hazardous materials	?	?	?	?					
Build capacity, improve research, guidance and availability of information		?				?		?	?
Improve conditions and adopt protective regulatory measures for sanitation workers		?				?		?	
Distribute responsibility throughout the supply chain, including consumers							?		?
Treat waste close to the source						?			
Combat corruption in the waste sector						?			
Promote sustainable public procurement					?				
Initiatives to address disposal and recycling of mineral and electronic waste			?				?		
Lift restrictions on global trade in recyclable materials							?		
Implement clearer guidelines on shipbreaking activities				?					
Clear plastics from the ocean				?					

A number of major groups believed there was a need for greater political commitment to sustainable waste management, and that institutions should better coordinate their efforts to that end. Within those institutional priorities, NGOs called for greater public awareness of associated risks. Indigenous people said that institutional coherence should contribute positively toward protecting the environment. Scientific and technological community called for compliance with international conventions on hazardous wastes. Local authorities recommended implementation of smart environmental tax policies to induce a sustainability shift.

Women, NGOs, local authorities and workers and trade unions supported greater producer responsibility in sustainable waste management. Business and industry believed there should be “shared responsibility along the entire supply chain”. Farmers also said action “at the consumer level” was essential to reduce food waste.

<h1>Mining</h1>	Women	Children and youth	Indigenous people	NGOs	Local authorities	Workers and trade unions	Business and industry	Scientific and tech. communities	Farmers
Develop regulatory framework with improved governance, transparency and accountability	?	?	?			?	?	?	
Stricter limitations on physical footprint of mines, including designation of no-go areas		?	?	?		?		?	?
Strengthen dialogue and partnerships with local communities		?		?		? ¹	?	?	?
Legal process to assign liability and redress grievances	?	?	?	?					
Improve safety and working conditions, especially for women, and eradicate child labour	?	?				?	? ²		
Enhance socio-economic cooperation and respect for human rights		?	?				? ³		
Strengthen technical capacity in developing countries, including for establishing contracts			?	?				?	
Minimize environmental footprint and protect biodiversity			?			?			?
Enhance information sharing, independent public monitoring and reporting		?	?				?		
Promote co-existence of small and large-scale mining		?				?	?		
Advocate stronger SCP policies, including for sustainable energy transition	?		?	?					
Enhance corporate social responsibility			?	?				?	
Need for global action on uranium mining, monitoring and cleanup	?		?						
Protect indigenous lands	?		?						
Clarify between indigenous/local land ownership and states' sub-surface rights							?		?
Establish fund to compensate those adversely affected by mining			?	?					
Apply precautionary principle		?		?					
Prioritize diversification of local economies						?			

Organize a participatory process that includes developing countries									?	
Promote development, transfer and application of environmentally friendly technologies									?	
Invest in scientific research and engineering, and mining education and training									?	
Clarify between government and industry responsibilities to community health								?		
Only mine for fundamental human needs				?						
Create alternative income generating activities for youth		?								
Need for sustainable transition strategies	?									

Mining, continued:

Most major groups highlighted the need for a regulatory framework based on principles of transparency and adequate responsibility for protecting the environment. There was also support for imposing stricter limitations on the physical footprint of mines. Children and youth, indigenous people, NGOs, workers and trade unions and scientific and technological community all advocated for the designation of “no-go” areas of high ecological or cultural value.

The major groups calling for improved health and safety of mine workers specifically made reference to prioritizing full implementation of ILO Conventions 138, 169, 176 and 182. Children and youth recommended that “initiatives should be in line with the Roadmap for Achieving the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour by 2016”.

Children and youth, NGOs and scientific and technological community advocated for the early assessment of environmental and social impact of mining, in consultation with local communities, before extractive activities start. Business and industry recommended dialogue with local communities on post-closure implications.

Noted below are a few variations on common responses:

¹ Workers and trade unions called for the equitable distribution of benefits from mining.

² Business and industry called for incentives that “balance regulatory, enforcement and voluntary activities”.

³ Business and industry specified that governments must fulfill their duty to protect human rights.

10YF / SCP	Women	Children and youth	Indigenous people	NGOs	Local authorities	Workers and trade unions	Business and industry	Scientific and tech. communities	Farmers
Better resources, information and training for implementing 10-Year Framework	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
Access to information for consumers		?	?		?	?	?	?	
Support for regulatory process and 10-Year Framework		?		?	?	?		?	
Promote green growth and sustainable sectors, including for women and youth	?	?		?		?			?
Promote knowledge sharing, research and analysis		?		?	?		?	?	
Strengthen national and regional coordination		?	?	?	?	?			
Support for sustainable public procurement		?			?	?		?	
Sensitize to human rights, gender and North/South perspectives	?	?		?					
Acknowledge role of traditional and local knowledge and sustainable practices	?		?	?					
Decouple economic growth from environmental degradation		?						?	
Strengthen participation of women and youth		?	?						
Reduce post-consumer waste							?		
Promote Just Transition						?			
Support for zero-waste targets	?								
Keep technology options open as knowledge improves							?		
Lowering trade barriers to promote diffusion of new technologies							?		
Support for tax shift policies and polluter pays principle		?							
More social and environmental safeguards against mining			?						
Promote stakeholders value model for corporate governance						?			
Reform investment policies						?			
Account for small and medium-sized						?			

10YF / SCP, continued:

Major groups voiced wide support for the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption & Production Patterns, and requested more resources, information and training on its implementation. Farmers highlighted the need for implementation in developing countries. Within that support, a number of major groups made specific recommendations. Local authorities called for the adoption of binding targets. Workers and trade unions and NGOs supported greater reliance on public regulation rather than voluntary initiatives. Scientific and technological community recommended the development of guidelines on recycling, green building codes and metrics on sustainable resource use. Some major groups called for enhancing dialogue within the 10YF process; specifically children and youth supported platforms to seek agreement on how to measure progress, and NGOs prioritized multi-stakeholder dialogues.

There was significant support for fostering job creation in new and sustainable sectors, especially for priority groups like women, youth and underserved rural communities. Related to that priority, workers and trade unions called “Just Transition” strategies to protect workers in adaptive industries. Farmers specifically called for better access to tools like drip irrigation, recycling and biogas that could improve sustainability in that sector.

It was also broadly recommended that consumers have better access to product information. Scientific and technological community advocated for eco-labeling goods and developing advertising codes of conduct.

Among those groups supporting recommendations to improve knowledge sharing, children and youth and indigenous people prioritized education on sustainable development concepts within formal and informal curricula which specifically target young people and underserved rural populations.