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**Follow-up to Johannesburg and the  
Future Role of the CSD - The Implementation Track**

**Report of the Secretary-General**

**Summary**

The World Summit on Sustainable Development has generated new momentum for achieving the goal of sustainable development. The Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, the WEHAB initiative and partnerships are focused on enhanced implementation through the realization of specific goals and time-bound targets, greater integration of the economic, social and environmental dimensions, enhanced linkages between global deliberations and implementation activities at national level, accent on regional implementation, greater participation of major groups, monitoring and nurturing of partnerships, and strengthening of institutional framework for sustainable development.

While this renewed focus on integration and implementation through measurable outcomes would entail changes at all levels of the UN system, governments and other actors, it would require significant changes in the programme, timing, and working methods of CSD. A whole range of proposals covering various aspects of CSD's future work are contained in the report. The forthcoming session of CSD is expected to take decisions on: programme and methods of work of CSD; transforming CSD inter-sessional working groups into global and regional implementation and expert forums; timing of the main sessions and the preparatory activities; enhancing regional implementation; promoting participation of major groups; follow-up to partnerships, including application of the Guidelines, monitoring and facilitating new partnerships; enhancing participation of scientists and educators.

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## **I. Introduction**

1. The effort to achieve a balance between economic and social development and protection of the natural environment is part of a global process spanning more than thirty years. The process was launched by the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment (Stockholm, 1972), which identified the challenges and laid the groundwork for a common platform of action on environmental issues. The UN Conference on Environment and Development (Rio de Janeiro, 1992) firmly established the linkages between economic development and environmental protection and identified a broad range of policies and programmes to achieve a development model that could be considered sustainable. The Rio Declaration and Agenda 21 provided a comprehensive framework for developing a sustainable and secure future for present and future generations.
2. The World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD), held in Johannesburg, South Africa from 26 August to 4 September 2002 put sustainable development at the center of the international agenda. The world leaders representing governments, major groups, civil society and other stakeholders recommitted themselves to achieving the goal of sustainable development. Governments agreed to an impressive range of concrete commitments to action for promoting implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21. The Summit also generated a variety of other outcomes, including partnerships for sustainable development. There is now a solid repertoire of commitments and ideas to turn the Rio vision into reality.
3. Through the Johannesburg Declaration, the Plan of Implementation and the partnership initiatives, together with the WEHAB<sup>1</sup> discussions, WSSD has given new impetus to the efforts to address, in an integrated manner, the issues of poverty, unsustainable consumption and production patterns and environmental protection. The Johannesburg Summit tapped into a new reservoir of energy and brought greater strategic focus to international efforts to achieve sustainable development. If this momentum is maintained, then there are genuine reasons to believe that the post-Johannesburg phase will open a new chapter in global cooperation.
4. The World Summit drew strength from three significant outcomes that preceded it: the Millennium Development Goals with the broad-based support for their achievement; the decision to place development concerns at the heart of the next round of trade negotiations launched at Doha; and the financial commitments made at the International Conference on Financing for Development held in Monterrey, Mexico.
5. These decisions and commitments provide the basis for taking the sustainable development agenda forward. Momentum has to be maintained through a coherent, consistent, coordinated and inclusive follow-up at the global, regional and national levels. Sustainable development must become everyone's business. Only then will the goals embodied in the Rio commitments of 1992 and the promise of the Johannesburg Summit be fully realized.

## **II. Outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development - a need for a renewed focus on implementation**

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<sup>1</sup> The Secretary-General's WEHAB initiative consisted of focussing on five key thematic areas: water and sanitation; energy; health; agricultural productivity; and biodiversity and ecosystem management

### *Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development*

6. The Johannesburg Declaration is an expression of renewed political commitment to protect the natural resources and the environment, promote human development and achieve universal prosperity and peace. There is strong determination to ensure that the common goal of sustainable development is realized through the commitment to multi-lateralism and enhanced implementation leading to the achievement of the targets of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation.

### *Johannesburg Plan of Implementation*

7. The Plan of Implementation provides for a more focused approach to the implementation of Agenda 21. It responds to lessons learned from efforts to implement the Rio outcomes, particularly the need for increased emphasis on the socio-economic components of sustainable development. There are a number of distinctive features that give the plan its strategic focus on implementation. These include: innovative approaches for integrating poverty eradication, consumption and production patterns, management of the natural resource base and health; emphasis on time-bound targets and other specific goals; new objectives in such areas as energy and mining; flexible and innovative approaches for dealing with the means of implementation; stronger emphasis on regional initiatives for sustainable development; and the special needs of Africa and small island developing States (SIDS).

8. The Summit decided that the Commission on Sustainable Development should continue to be the high level commission on sustainable development within the United Nations system. It should serve as a forum for consideration of issues related to the integration of the three dimension of sustainable development. The Plan of Implementation contains a number of provisions to enable CSD to carry forward this mandate.

### *WEHAB initiative*

9. The identification of five key areas for action: water and sanitation; energy; health; agriculture; and biodiversity and ecosystem management, known as the WEHAB initiative, further supports the Plan of Implementation. This initiative complements the Plan and also helps to make the Summit outcomes more relevant to the world at large. It has enhanced co-ordination within the UN system in these areas for the development of five "Frameworks for Action" papers. These provided the Summit with an overview of on-going activities in these areas and with possible goal-oriented approaches for future that could give further impetus to the implementation of the Plan of Implementation. In addition, the innovative format of the WSSD partnership plenary sessions devoted to each of the WEHAB issues stimulated productive debate and provided useful tools for future work in these and other areas.

### *Partnerships*

10. Partnerships were one of the key innovations of the Summit. Over 220 partnerships were identified in advance and many additional ones were announced during the Summit by a variety of organizations and groups from around the world. These partnerships have opened new opportunities for co-operation and a more inclusive means for pursuing implementation. Partnerships are, however, not a substitute for government responsibilities and commitments for

action. They are intended to strengthen implementation by involving all those who can directly contribute to concrete results.

### **Implications for follow-up actions at all levels**

11. To ensure renewed focus on implementation, the Summit placed strong emphasis on achieving specific goals and time-bound targets, greater integration of the economic, social and environmental dimensions, enhanced linkages between global deliberations and implementation activities at the national level, regional implementation, greater participation of major groups, strengthening of the institutional framework for sustainable development, and changes in the functioning of the Commission on Sustainable Development. To achieve these ends, the UN system, governments and other actors will have to significantly change their policies, programmes and modalities of work. These changes should be designed to achieve the following objectives:

- i. Goal and target oriented programmes and projects;
- ii. Strengthened linkages between global deliberations and national and regional implementation measures;
- iii. Broader and enhanced participation of stakeholders;
- iv. Monitoring and facilitating partnerships;
- v. Integrating the follow-up of other conferences, in particular FfD and the internationally agreed development goals, including the MDGs;
- vi. Enhanced UN system-wide coordination with a view to ensuring policy coherence and consistency.

12. The primary focus of implementation remains at the national level. UN agencies, funds and programmes will assist governments by supporting national sustainable development strategies and making the goal of sustainable development an integral part of their poverty reduction strategies or MDG strategies. The United Nations Development Group (UNDG) led by UNDP will play a major role in promoting integration of the follow-up to WSSD and in ensuring that operational activities are coordinated and focused on practical results.

13. At the regional level, the UN Regional Commissions and other regional organizations need to re-orient their activities to pursue the goal of sustainable development more effectively. The Regional Commissions are already engaged in sustainable development programmes, but the Plan of Implementation contains provisions to expand the scope of these operations. It also gives them a catalytic role for the involvement of other regional institutions, such as the development banks, in their sustainable development work.

14. At the global level, two areas require specific attention. First, UN system-wide policy coherence and consistency in the follow-up to WSSD requires review of the Task Manager System by the CEB. Second, the Plan calls for major changes in the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development, greater involvement of ECOSOC in sustainable development related work and stronger linkages with the governing bodies of UN agencies, funds and programmes.

15. Substantively, the Commission will have to integrate the cross sectoral dimensions of the various sectoral issues such as water and sanitation, energy, agriculture, tourism, oceans etc, with cross-sectoral issues such as poverty eradication, consumption and production patterns, science, education and health. CSD should focus on the inter-relationships of these issues. Integration of

WEHAB issues with the Plan of Implementation would help to ensure an effective programme of work.

16. CSD is expected to devote more attention to reviewing implementation and suggesting measures to overcome obstacles in order to achieve goals. For this reason, it will alternate implementation reviews in one year with policy discussions and negotiations the next. The Commission will therefore have different procedures in alternate years.

17. The methods of work of the Commission will therefore have to be considerably different for the alternating sessions. Implementation reviews would require more interactive discussions and participation of operational experts. They would focus on the current programmes and results, whereas the policy sessions would consider new approaches and focus on how to improve implementation. Changes in the methods of work could include re-design of the multi-stakeholder dialogues, creating a forum for partnerships and regional implementation forums.

18. In the past, the programme of work was driven by two considerations, namely, balance in the consideration of sectoral and cross-sectoral issues and predictability of the agenda. In the post Johannesburg-phase, the programme of work needs to be linked more directly with practical implementation and progress towards the agreed goals and targets. The programme for the next decade should have some degree of flexibility to allow the Commission to address emerging challenges, This would require provisions for changing and modifying in the programme of work over the years. At the same time, there is need to ensure some level of predictability and flexibility in the programme of work to allow longer-term preparations.

19. The nature of the outcomes of CSD is also expected to change. The decisions have to be far more specific, action-oriented and focused on precise steps required to expedite implementation. To focus the deliberations in this way, the Commission will need comprehensive and up-to-date reports on implementation. The UN system, particularly agencies and programmes that operate at the country and regional levels, will have to provide reports focusing on WSSD goals and targets, assessing the state of progress and further measures required to achieve those targets. Member States could also ensure, through the governing bodies of funds, programmes and agencies, that the contributions of those organizations to the CSD work programme respond to the needs of the Commission. Coherence and coordination at the national level will be important ensuring that all parts of the UN-system work towards the same end.

20. In addition, CSD will have to rely on reporting by national governments and by all other relevant actors, including UN Country Teams on county-level operational activities in support of Plan of Implementation. These reports should provide sufficient information on the progress in the implementation or lack thereof. This would enable the CSD to monitor progress and fill the gaps wherever required to do so.

21. In the area of partnerships, CSD could provide a forum to nurture and foster partnerships, which are a key part of implementation. Partners could be invited to share their experiences and also keep the Commission informed about their future plans. CSD should decide on future steps to deal with partnerships.

22. Specific proposals to meet these challenges through innovations in the work of CSD are presented below. In preparing these proposals, the Secretariat greatly benefited from the inputs

provided by many governments and major groups. In considering these proposals, it should be kept in view that 2003 is a year of transition. The proposed changes, following decisions by the CSD at its 11<sup>th</sup> session, will fully take effect beginning in 2004.

### **III. CSD after the Johannesburg Summit**

#### **A. The Challenge**

23. The key challenge emanating from Johannesburg is to turn the commitments that were made – and the goals and targets that were agreed – into reality.

24. The Summit reaffirmed the original mandate of the CSD<sup>2</sup> as a high-level forum on sustainable development and called on the Commission to strengthen and enhance its role, so that it can respond to the new demands that emerged from the Johannesburg Summit. A number of new features and objectives that are essential for the future work of the Commission are identified in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (see box below). This will entail major changes in the programme and organisation of work, the nature of Commission's outcomes, reporting to CSD by the UN organisations, and ways of engaging major groups and other partners involved in the implementation process.

#### **BOX 1. Highlights of WSSD outcomes related to the future of the CSD**

- Emphasis on integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development in a balanced way
- Focus on reviewing and monitoring progress in implementation through a broad exchange of views and experiences, best practice and lessons learned
- Enhanced linkages between global, regional and national endeavors, and greater emphasis on regional processes
- Coherence in the implementation of Agenda 21, including initiatives and partnerships
- Opportunity to look at new challenges and opportunities in the context of implementation
- Innovative methods of work
- Broader participation of all stakeholders, particularly UN agencies and international financial institutions and Major Groups
- Greater consideration to scientific contributions
- Contribution of educators
- Focus on a limited number of issues
- Negotiations on policy issues once every two years

25. Primary considerations in designing the future programme and organization of work of the CSD include the following:

- i. Need to integrate sustainable development aspects of overarching issues like poverty eradication, globalization, consumption and production patterns, health and means of implementation with assessment of progress towards sustainable development in natural resource and economic sectors.
- ii. Need to focus on the tasks, objectives and targets contained in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, while taking into account the need to implement Agenda 21 and the

<sup>2</sup> As stipulated in Agenda 21 and General Assembly resolution 47/191

other outcomes from Rio and the 1997 Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21.

- iii. Need to ensure accountability and responsibility for delivery;
- iv. Need to complement and not duplicate the work of other intergovernmental forums, such as ECOSOC and the General Assembly on the one hand and specialized intergovernmental bodies, such as the UNEP Governing Council, the Commission on Social Development, the Commission on the Status of Women, etc., on the other.
- v. Need to support policy coordination, consistency and coherence, *inter alia* with the follow-up to Monterrey and the MDGs, and contribute to the integrated follow-up to the UN conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields.
- vi. Need to take into account the special focus requested in the Plan of Implementation for Africa & SIDS.

26. **The work of CSD should move from the general consideration of themes to a more detailed analysis of progress (or lack thereof) in the achievement of the agreed goals and tasks.** Hence, the Commission's agenda must be driven by the pace of progress in implementation and the need to deal with areas requiring urgent attention as well as addressing new and emerging challenges to implementation.

27. A critical element in this new phase will ensure stronger linkages between global deliberations and national and regional efforts to achieve these WSSD goals and promote sustainable development. These linkages should be not only with activities of the UN system, but with all relevant endeavours at all levels. The Commission should be a dynamic forum where governments, international institutions, major groups and all other practitioners and stakeholders can share their knowledge, opinions and operational experience. Thus, in addition to negotiated decisions and policy recommendations, the CSD would also be a source of information on good practices and lessons learnt.

28. **A future function of the Commission could, therefore, be providing a global forum for exchange of information, facilitating international cooperation and promoting multi-stakeholder partnerships and other activities, to turn visions of sustainable development into real progress.**

29. Continued high-level political engagement in the CSD is essential if all these changes are to yield the desired results. High-level political leadership provided by Ministers – representing a range of Departmental portfolios (environment, development, economic sectors, trade, finance, etc) – will remain critical to the post-Johannesburg phase of the Commission's work.

## **B Programme and Organisation of Work**

30. The range of issues related to the three components of sustainable development, namely economic growth, social development and environmental protection, is very extensive. These issues are discussed in various inter-governmental forums, including UN inter-governmental bodies such as the General Assembly and ECOSOC and in some cases there are dedicated bodies, such as the UN Forum on Forests to address them. Hence the Commission on Sustainable Development cannot, and should not, be expected to address all aspects of all issues.

31. Agenda 21, the 1997 Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation define the overall scope of the work of CSD. These



documents call on CSD to provide a unique integrated perspective, while avoiding duplication, on the inter-linkages between the three components of sustainable development and between natural resource issues and socio-economic issues.

32. Guided by these documents together with the need to ensure that the CSD focuses on those areas where it can add most value, there are three key decisions to be made about the CSD's future programme of work. The first is to decide which issues should be considered in-depth by CSD in the coming years. The second is how the linkages between issues and sectors should be addressed. The third is to decide when and how to schedule consideration of these issues in the coming years. These are discussed below.

### **1. CSD's future work programme (For details, see Annex I)**

33. While in principle, the CSD could discuss any issue contained in Agenda 21 and Plan of Implementation, some greater focus is essential to make the CSD's work programme manageable and to ensure that it is effective and relevant.

#### **34. For this purpose the elements of Agenda 21 and of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation can be grouped as follows:**

The first group would include general development issues such as poverty eradication, globalization, gender and an enabling environment, that are the subject of broad policy deliberations in the principal UN intergovernmental bodies, namely the UN General Assembly and ECOSOC, or that are considered - within a more specific thematic context - by their specialized subsidiary bodies, for example the ECOSOC Functional Commissions, including the CSD.

The second group would include broad issues that are specifically related to sustainable development and generally fall under the purview of the CSD or upon which the CSD can provide an integrating perspective, such as sustainable consumption & production patterns.

The third group would include issues relating to natural resource and related economic sectors such as water and sanitation, energy, biodiversity, land and agriculture, oceans, tourism, etc.

35. While recognizing that it is not possible to have any "water tight" compartmentalization of issues, these groupings would help in defining the scope of work in CSD. Issues in the first group, such as globalization or poverty eradication per se are discussed extensively in ECOSOC and the UN General Assembly. Similarly, for many natural resources there are dedicated forums for discussing sectoral issues. In these areas CSD's deliberations and decisions could focus on the interrelationships and intersections between issues like agricultural productivity and poverty eradication or the impact of globalization on mining, minerals and metals. Similarly, the issues of trade or technology transfer could be addressed in more sector-specific and goal-oriented contexts.

36. The inter-relationships between these three groups of issues as relevant for the future work of the CSD are indicated in the matrix below. The top row contains the general

development issues of the first group in their relationship to sustainable development as well as the general issues of the second group. The left hand column contains the natural resource and related economic sectors.

**Matrix showing inter-relationships between issues in Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation as regards the future focus of the CSD**

		<i>Sustainable Development and Poverty eradication</i>	<i>Globalization And sustainable development</i>	<i>Means of Implementation And governance for sustainable development</i>	<i>Sustainable Production and Consumption Patterns</i>	<i>Health</i>	<i>Science, Technology and Education</i>
Natural resource and economic sectors	Water & sanitation	<b><i>INTER-RELATIONSHIPS AND INTERLINKAGES BETWEEN ISSUES</i></b> <i>(SEE <u>ANNEX I</u> FOR ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES)</i>					
	Energy						
	Biodiversity /eco-systems						
	Land & agriculture						
	Oceans						
	Sustainable tourism						
	Mining, minerals & metals						

37. The future focus on implementation suggests that deliberations in the CSD move from general discussions of themes to evaluation of progress towards the WSSD goals and targets and consideration of ways to improve that progress. For example, the discussions in areas like water and sanitation or energy would focus on progress towards such objectives, targets and time-bound measures as enhancing access to safe water and sanitation or ensuring reliable access of the poor to energy services. In this way the CSD can assess progress on and promote efforts in the WEHAB initiative.

38. A sharper focus for the work of the CSD will also facilitate the work of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) which, in accordance with the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, is to strengthen its contribution to sustainable development through its role as the central mechanism for the coordination of the UN system, including the specialized agencies

and through supervision of its subsidiary bodies, in particular the functional commissions. In particular, on the basis of the work of the CSD and making use of its high-level, coordination, operational activities and general segments, the Council could play an essential role in:

- i. Promoting greater coherence and co-ordination among the inter-governmental bodies of the specialised agencies within the UN system that are involved in sustainable development;
- ii. Promoting the implementation of the decisions/recommendations of CSD through the executive boards of the United Nations Funds and Programs;
- iii. Promoting coordination and complementarity among the work programmes of its functional commissions and other subsidiary bodies that monitor progress in the implementation of the outcomes of other conferences of the 1990s or that deal with specific aspects of sustainable development.

39. This would enable the Council to strengthen linkages between policy discussions and operational activities and to promote a coordinated and integrated follow-up to major UN conferences and summits and contribute to discussions in the General Assembly.

## **2. New organization of work (For details see Annexes II, III and IV)**

40. The WSSD decision that the CSD will only negotiate once every two years implies that the **Commission's future work programme should be organised as a series of two-year cycles**. Such cycles could operate as follows:

- **First year of the cycle – “Review Year”**: The CSD would assess progress, identify obstacles, areas of concern and challenges in the context of implementation, and share experiences and good practices. To support this work CSD will need up-to-date and reliable information on progress towards sustainable development at all levels, particularly national and regional levels. The year could include regional meetings, expert groups, preparation of analytical studies and similar activities, and could culminate in a CSD Review Session, which would review this work and identify specific issues for in-depth analysis, including policy analysis, during the second year, the “Policy Year”.
- **Second year of the cycle – “Policy Year”**: Based on the work of the Review Year, work in the Policy Year would examine options for action at national, regional and international levels to expedite progress in the areas of concern and consider specific measures to overcome constraints. These specific measures would likely be the subject of negotiations at the CSD Policy Session, which would complete the Policy Year.

41. The two-year cycle should be seen as a continuum linking a variety of activities and inputs from national and regional processes, the Secretariat, the wider UN system, major groups, inter-sessional meetings and other activities organised by interested parties. The in-depth assessment of progress in implementation on specified issues, during the Review Year, would lead to deliberations during the Policy Year focusing on a limited number of key areas of concern identified in the Review Year. For instance, if the Review Year examines implementation in sustainable tourism development and identifies particular needs for community development, waste management and investment, then the Policy Year would focus on measures to improve performance in those areas.

42. This two-year cycle would entail changes in the nature and timing of preparatory meetings particularly the CSD's Ad Hoc Inter-sessional Working Groups. **These Groups could be transformed from deliberative bodies acting as "mini prepcoms" for the CSD into forums organized to provide specific inputs for the Review and Policy sessions of the Commission.**

43. **For the CSD Review Year, the Ad hoc Inter-sessional Working Groups could be changed into a CSD Implementation Forum** providing a venue for broad-based participation of all implementation actors and thorough analysis of the state of implementation in the areas selected for the cycle.

44. **For the CSD Policy Year, the Working Groups could be replaced by CSD Expert Forums**, providing an opportunity for members of the CSD and other participants to engage in discussions with experts and practitioners. This would allow CSD participants to enrich their understanding of the specific areas selected for examination in the Policy Year and explore policy options for further action.

45. Other inter-sessional initiatives and consultative processes could be organized by interested governments or other parties, including international organizations and major groups. During the WSSD process, a number of proposals were made regarding the creation of issue-oriented time-bound Sub-Commissions or Task Forces involving a limited number of representatives of countries, international institutions and major groups to provide inputs to the CSD. **Such Sub-Commissions or Task Forces, if initiated and funded by interested parties, could make valuable inputs to the work of the Commission and raise the profile of sustainable development issues in the public eye.**

46. These proposed changes might require extending the period of time between the inter-sessional meetings (i.e., the Global Implementation Forum and the Expert Forums) and the main sessions of the Commission. Taking into account the overall calendar of UN meetings at Headquarters, including the schedule of ECOSOC and the UN General Assembly, **it is proposed to "swap" the timing of the "main" and "inter-sessional" meetings of the CSD. Under this proposal, the Review and Policy Sessions of the Commission would take place around February/March and the inter-sessional forums could be held in May/June.** With these changes, a Review Year could start in May/June with the Global Implementation Forum and end the next year in February/March with the Review Session. The two-year cycle would end the subsequent year with the Policy Session. For example the 2006-2007 cycle including CSD14 (2006) and CSD15 (2007) would start at the global level in May/June 2005 with the meeting of the Global Implementation Forum and end with the CSD Policy Session in February 2007.

**BOX 2. The main organisational changes associated with the proposed two-year cycle for CSD**

The annual meetings of former ad-hoc working groups (AHWG) could be replaced by:

- Implementation Forums (during the Review Year)
- Expert Forums (during the Policy Year)

The Implementation Forums could be organised as follows:

- Five Regional Implementation Forums, to be organised in conjunction with the meetings of UN Regional Commissions (using the resources allocated for one of

- the former AHWGs); and
- o One Global Implementation Forum

"Main" and "inter-sessional" meetings of the CSD rescheduled so that more time is available for analytical and inter-sessional activities between the Implementation or Expert Forums (to take place in May/June) and CSD Review and Policy sessions (to take place in February/March)

Main documentation would include "Trends in Implementation reports"; "State of Implementation report" and "Policy papers".

### 3 Selection of issues for CSD sessions

47. An important decision for CSD11 is how to schedule substantive issues in CSD's work programme for the next several years, or next several two-year cycles if the suggested two-year cycle is accepted.

48. The most flexible and open way for scheduling issues in the future work programme of the Commission would be to not identify in advance specific issues or economic and natural resource sectors for the next 8-10 year period. This would also allow the CSD to look at all possible inter-relationships amongst all issues whenever it wished, as well as considering emerging issues. Under such a scenario, an overall evaluation of progress in the implementation of sustainable development in all areas could be considered in the course of each Review Year. Each CSD Review Session, on the basis of such assessment, would then identify areas for more focused consideration, analysis and negotiation during the subsequent Policy Year. However, it would be difficult to review implementation of all aspects of the Plan of implementation in each Review year, both in terms of inputs to the CSD and the CSD deliberations themselves.

49. Hence, **three options for narrowing the focus within the future CSD two-year work cycles are presented for consideration:**

#### Option 1

Two or three broad natural resource or economic sectors (such as water, oceans, or tourism, etc) could be pre-selected at the 2003 CSD Session for each of the next four-five two-year cycles, thus setting in advance the agenda for the next 8-10 years. Issues such as Means of Implementation and Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development could remain constant throughout the period, so that they could be discussed in conjunction with each sector. Some of the two-year cycles could also need to provide for more in-depth consideration of Production and Consumption Patterns bearing in mind WSSD decision to establish a ten-year work framework of programmes in this area.

This Option allows for full predictability in terms of the issues to be addressed by the CSD for the whole ten-year period. Within the broad sectors being discussed during a given two-year cycle, the CSD Review Session would identify priority areas for attention and negotiation during the subsequent Policy Year.

This option, however, would have a number of drawbacks. It would leave little room for flexibility and would provide limited opportunities to look at linkages among themes and natural resource sectors (unless they appeared in the same year). In addition, it might prove difficult to select focus areas for the later cycles as consideration of those issues would be postponed for many years. Another drawback is that an agenda that was predetermined so far ahead would have limited scope for dealing with changing realities in the field, emerging issues and progress or lack thereof, in implementation of the WSDD agenda.

### Option 2

Under this option there would be no pre-set thematic programme of work for CSD for the coming ten years. Two or three sectors for consideration for the first two-year cycle (2004-2005) could be determined at the 11<sup>th</sup> session of the CSD in 2003. The focus of the following two-year cycles would be identified at each CSD Policy Session. The Policy Session would then have two objectives: to discuss and negotiate new initiatives and agreements to advance implementation within the focus areas of the current cycle; and to decide what sectors should be considered during the subsequent two-year cycle.

For instance, the forthcoming 2003 session might decide to focus on sustainable development in the water, oceans and tourism sectors. At the 2004 session, implementation would be reviewed in these sectors and specific areas of concern would be identified. The subsequent Policy Session (2005) would then focus on these areas and also decide which broad sectors should be considered in the next cycle.

This option would ensure a maximum of flexibility for addressing emerging challenges and opportunities to look back at the implementation of earlier CSD decisions. However, it would not allow the Regional Implementation Forums to focus on the selected themes for a cycle since those forums are organized in the context of regional meetings that normally take place before the CSD Policy Session that selects the theme. Moreover, bearing in mind diverse priorities of countries and groups, selection of sectors for the 2004-2005 cycle alone may prove to be difficult without agreement on issues to be addressed subsequently. Moreover, the work of future CSD Policy Sessions might become overloaded with organizational decisions.

### Option 3

This option is a combination of the two options described above. Under this option one or two broad areas could be pre-selected by CSD-11 for each of the next four-five two-year cycles, while another area for the next cycle could be determined by future CSD Policy Sessions. All focus areas for the 2004-2005 cycle would be identified at CSD's 11<sup>th</sup> session in 2003. This option would provide a mix of "predictability" and "flexibility".

Under this option, the Commission, would establish a multi-year programme, as it did in 1997 for the period 1998-2002, by deciding on the sectors like water and sanitation, tourism, oceans etc. that it would consider over the next ten years but would also leave room for emerging issues or challenges that could be addressed at relatively short notice (or looking again at issues discussed during the earlier cycles if it is so required). Decisions on those new issues would be taken during the Policy Sessions.

50. Whichever option is adopted, **a maximum of 5-6 specific priority concerns within a particular economic or natural resource base sector might be considered in depth during the CSD Policy Year.** For instance, if the Review Session focuses on water and sanitation areas of concern that might be identified for examination in the Policy Year might include access to water, watershed management, protection of water quality, land productivity, rural poverty, or food security. These would be agreed at the end of the CSD Review Sessions for consideration during the Policy Year.

#### **4 2003: A year of transition**

51. The initial two-year cycle covering the period from CSD11 to the CSD Policy session in February/March 2005, on an exceptional basis, would not be preceded by the proposed Regional and Global Implementation Forums, which would have had to take place by mid-2003.

52. To substitute for these meetings, the Secretariat in preparation for CSD12 (the first CSD Review session in February/March 2004) would undertake a further in-depth analysis of country profiles and national assessment reports, and develop new reporting guidelines in consultation with national Focal Points. Guided by decisions of CSD11, the Secretariat would also consult regional institutions regarding their contribution to the work of the CSD, finalize inter-agency arrangements in support of the follow-up of the Summit undertake further work on partnerships and prepare, on the basis of inputs from regional and international organizations and other stakeholders, the first "State of Implementation report." (see *Annex V* for a Flowchart setting out the process for this transitional period).

### **C. Forum for leadership, commitment, and participation**

53. The meetings of the Commission and its inter-sessional activities should enhance involvement of all stakeholders, appropriate mechanisms for accountability and reporting, a forum for partnerships and goal-oriented deliberations, decisions and outcomes.

#### **1. High-level political engagement**

54. Continued high-level political engagement in the CSD process will be crucial to the success of the WSSD follow-up process. Over the years, the CSD has attracted the interest of Ministers dealing with the environment and, occasionally, Ministers with other responsibilities, such as natural resources, development, agriculture, energy, tourism, and finance. WSSD reiterated the challenge for the CSD to engage all Ministers dealing with the various dimensions and sectors of sustainable development.

55. Achieving a balanced participation in CSD meetings among Ministers with economic, social and environmental portfolios has traditionally proved difficult, largely due to the fact that most countries usually send only one Minister to any given international meeting. **Further efforts are required to ensure that the CSD process - particularly, the Commission's High-Level Segments - is conducive to the participation of policy-makers at the highest level with a variety of portfolios. Ministerial engagement in the CSD could play a key role in terms of:**

- Providing political leadership to promote efforts aimed at effective implementation, finding effective solutions to the problems identified and addressing new challenges.
- Promoting policy development in areas where further global consensus is required.
- Providing opportunities for taking stock of progress in the implementation of decisions taken at earlier sessions, and to make course corrections as required.
- Ensuring high-level policy dialogue on implementation issues with the heads of international agencies and financial and trade institutions. and
- Mobilizing greater involvement of leaders from civil society organizations, executives from the private sector, top scientists and representatives from other major groups at the highest level.

56. It should be noted, however, that **Ministerial engagement in the CSD process should not be limited to CSD sessions. A variety of forms of inter-sessional involvement could also be explored.**

57. To improve policy coherence, consistency and integration, countries could encourage and facilitate national consultations among Ministers on international aspects of sustainable development under debate in the various intergovernmental and treaty bodies dealing with specific dimensions of sustainable development, including CSD. Another possibility could be for interested governments to organize inter-sessional meetings or processes involving relevant Ministers from other interested countries together with leaders of international organizations and major groups, to generate innovative ideas or policy approaches to address specific issues on the CSD agenda.

## **2. *Regional inputs and involvement***

58. The WSSD process greatly benefited from regional inputs and the Summit emphasised the importance of regional implementation of its outcomes, as well as the significance of a regional perspective in the future work of the CSD. UN Regional Commissions, in co-operation with other regional and sub-regional organisations, would be invited to undertake assessments and analytical work, based on national reporting for CSD and other sources of information, for cooperation within the region. The Regional Commissions could also promote and assess partnerships in their regions.

59. **The UN Secretariat - jointly with the Secretariats of the UN Regional Commission, and in co-operation with UNDP, UNEP and other international and regional organisations - would organise, every two years, a CSD Regional Implementation Forum** in each region that would include:

- i. Policy dialogue and an exchange of experiences and lessons learned, with participation of national implementation agencies, partnerships and other stakeholders;
- ii. National and sub-regional presentations - including from forums linked to particular geographic area (such as the Arctic, Aral Sea, Mediterranean, Baltic, etc.) and regional SIDS - on experiences, lessons learned, challenges, constraints and opportunities, related to the implementation of WSSD outcomes with participation of governments, major groups, partnerships and other stakeholders;



- iii. Identification of indicators for monitoring implementation of, and progress towards, sustainable development, both for WSSD targets and goals and regional sustainable development priorities;
- iv. Review of regional and sub-regional priorities and perspectives in relation to the follow-up to WSSD and other global conference outcomes (e.g. Monterrey, Doha, Millennium Summit), and discussion of what and how to contribute towards global outcomes;
- v. Identification of priorities, areas of concern, hot spots and new challenges at the regional level; and
- vi. Involvement of regional institutions and organisations, including regional development banks

### **3. *UN system and other international agencies and financial institutions***

60. Chapter XI of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation calls for more direct and substantive involvement of international organizations in the work of the CSD. There is a need to ensure an integrated approach in planning the WSSD follow-up activities of the UN agencies, funds and programmes. All UN system operational activities should be coordinated in order to avoid duplication and increase effectiveness. The United Nations Development Group (UNDG) has already initiated work to achieve this objective, particularly on the MDGs and the WEHAB areas.

61. There is also a need to ensure system-wide policy coherence and coordination in the follow-up to conferences, including WSSD. The Chief Executives Board's (CEB) High Level Committee on Programmes (HLCP) is already working to develop a coherent system-wide approach to the follow-up of WSSD. The CEB, including through UNDG, will translate this policy approach into guidelines for operational activities, thus strengthening the linkage between global policy formulation and country-level operational activities. The CEB is also undertaking a review of the Task Manager system which provided a mechanism for inter-agency coordination after UNCED.

#### *Review of the Task Manager System and possible successor arrangements*

62. The Task Manager system was originally established under the Inter-Agency Committee on Sustainable Development (IACSD). Its main purpose was to ensure coordination and cooperation in the follow-up to Agenda 21, including reporting on implementation by the United Nations system. In the post-Johannesburg phase, the United Nations system must shift gears towards arrangements that are, at all levels, attuned to the priorities in the Plan of Implementation and the WEHAB initiative, and to help the UN system fully exploit the new momentum and the new commitments and engagements generated by WSSD.

63. There is a need to strengthen inter-agency capacity to (1) more effectively link the normative and analytical work in the system with implementation at the field level, with improved monitoring and reporting at the national, regional and international levels, and (2) effectively execute operational activities.

64. The successor arrangements to the Task Manager system should be dynamic and designed to achieve the following objectives:

- i. Shift focus from reporting and supporting normative discussions to implementation with greater emphasis on specific thematic areas, goals and objectives;
- ii. Support and complement the follow-up mechanisms launched by the other UN Conferences held during the last decade;
- iii. Promote stronger linkages between the global intergovernmental deliberations and implementation measures at the country level;
- iv. Promote flexible, action-oriented, innovative and inclusive approaches, based on the comparative advantage of different United Nations institutions and the level of engagement of non-UN actors;
- v. Apply the issue management approach, wherever possible;
- vi. Promote overall integration of the three components of sustainable development.

65. Task Management should, therefore, aim at shifting gears towards implementation, stronger linkages between policy discussions and operational activities, greater involvement of non-UN partners and actors as well as promote the overarching objective of achieving the MDGs. The functions and objectives outlined above will define the form of possible successor arrangements, taking into account agency mandates, priorities and capabilities, arrangements for the follow-up to the outcomes of other UN Conferences and MDGs, and resource implications and timing factors.

66. The CEB machinery is exploring all avenues to ensure that the UN system effectively and efficiently performs its due role in the follow-up to WSSD. These arrangements are likely to be finalized during the course of 2003 and will form part of the overall strategy for achieving the MDGs and the goals and targets agreed at the WSSD and other UN Conferences and Summits in the economic, social and related fields.

67. For the WEHAB areas, there might be a need to explore more possibilities in order to optimise implementation, as these areas have significant impact on sustainable development. **There are a number of functions that must be fulfilled in order to promote new initiatives and partnerships and increase the effectiveness of on-going activities in the WEHAB areas.** These functions cover six areas of activity. Firstly, advocacy and raising the public profile of critical issues through media outreach and advocacy campaigns. Secondly, a clearing house for information exchange on policies and programmes, and for sharing lessons learned and experiences. This could also include preparation of progress reports and the convening of annual meetings of all relevant actors, including bilateral donors. Thirdly, promoting policy coherence at all levels and identifying specific areas where there is need for further policy development. Fourthly, encouraging and facilitating collaborative arrangements on programmes and projects among relevant actors. This would help to avoid duplication and ensuring optimal utilisation of the resources. Fifthly, strengthening the knowledge base through various initiatives including the establishment of linkages with research centres and other sources of knowledge. Finally, promoting stronger linkages between global, regional and national level activities.

68. There are number of inter-agency arrangements in the areas of health, agriculture, and biodiversity/eco-system management that serve these functions. These include global partnerships on vaccines (GAVI, IAVI, etc.), the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) and the UN Eco-system Coordination Group. There is however a need for such arrangements in the areas of water and sanitation, and energy. These arrangements should be innovative, flexible, visible and credible and involve all major actors. At the same time they should have minimal costs.

69. **One possibility is to pursue these objectives through apex Collaborative Groups .**

These multi-stakeholder groups should function in a sufficiently flexible manner to be able to respond to emerging challenges in a timely manner and to meet the specific requirements of these two areas. While focusing on respective sectors, the groups should also promote inter-linkages with other WEHAB areas.

**4. Major Groups**

70. Major groups<sup>3</sup> have multiple roles to play in the context of the CSD, *inter alia*: (i) as agents of operational implementation of WSSD outcomes; (ii) as observers and analysts of policies and their impact; (iii) as participants in sustainable development partnerships; and (iv) as observers and analysts of partnership initiatives and their impacts.

71. Numerous opportunities were provided during WSSD and its preparatory process for major groups to contribute to the Summit's outcomes through multi-stakeholder engagements<sup>4</sup> such as participatory plenary panels, high-level roundtables, briefings, side events, partnership presentations, parallel events and informal consultations. Based on experience from CSD and the Summit, *Annex VI* contains an analysis of lessons learnt regarding approaches that enable more meaningful inputs from major groups and the key challenges that need to be addressed by CSD in this regard in the future.

72. To enable active, direct and partnership-based participation, all existing means and mechanisms for stakeholder participation should be applied and built on during future meetings of the CSD, whether for policy development or sharing implementation experience.

73. The main objective is to make better use of major groups' views and ideas in the inter-governmental decision-making process, and to ensure the active contribution of major groups to implementation. **This suggests that activities involving major groups should be more closely linked to the main activities during Commission's future sessions. For example multi-stakeholder dialogues could be spread throughout CSD sessions, rather than organised as stand-alone, two-day segments, in order to make each of these dialogues more relevant to the CSD meeting and increase its impact on outcomes and decisions .** For example:

- i. Inter-active discussions with major group leaders could be part of High-Level Segments;
- ii. Issue-oriented discussion could be organised along the lines of WSSD inter-active Plenary Sessions;
- iii. Multi-stakeholder dialogues could be moderated, as in Johannesburg, with facilitators from various walks of life ranging from well-known scientists to trained negotiators, media personalities or community leaders;
- iv. Reviews of partnership initiatives need to actively involve representatives of major groups, both as partners and as analysts/observers;
- v. As at the WSSD, major groups could be invited to comment on the Commission's outcomes during the concluding session.

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<sup>3</sup> The major groups as identified in Agenda 21 are: women, children and youth, indigenous people, NGOs, local authorities, workers and their trade unions, business and industry, the scientific and technology community and farmers.

<sup>4</sup> In the context of the CSD, "multi-stakeholder" means the involvement of all relevant stakeholders in the process, including governments, intergovernmental organisations, the major groups and so on.

74. Major groups should continue to use self-organised mechanisms to identify representatives for multi-stakeholder dialogues and similar activities during CSD sessions. The UN Secretariat could play a more pro-active role in identifying, through a transparent process, individuals or organisations that can bring particular expertise or experiences to CSD regarding major groups' role in implementation. Given that such outreach is resource-intensive for the UN system, ways of enhancing inter-agency collaboration need to be explored further, particularly with UNDP country offices, as well as UN Regional Commissions and organisations with a regional presence, such as UNEP and FAO.

75. **The proposed CSD Regional Implementation Forums should mirror the participatory practices of the CSD and the WSSD, including multi-stakeholder engagements.** This requires strengthening major groups networks at the national and regional level (or creating networks if they do not yet exist) with a view to promoting inputs to the CSD process and developing proposals for implementation partnerships, along with strengthening national consultative processes involving representatives of government and major groups.

76. **Engagement of major groups should not be limited to meetings of the Commissions. For example:**

- i. Inter-sessional activities initiated by interested governments and international organisations with a view to producing conclusions and recommendations on specific issues or goals, such as experts groups meetings, or Sub-Commissions and Task Forces described above, should include representatives from major groups.
- ii. Inter-sessional and pre-sessional collaboration and consultations among major groups should be enhanced. Such work would provide opportunities for those more experienced with the CSD process to share their experiences with newcomers and would respond to the need for capacity building among the major groups.
- iii. More regular briefings by the CSD Chair/Bureau could be organised for major groups, with increased inter-actions between the Chair and other members of the Bureau and leaders of major groups organisations

77. A major challenge is to mobilise adequate extra-budgetary resources to facilitate the involvement of major groups, particularly from developing countries, in the CSD meetings and in support of major groups' CSD-related networks and consultative processes.

#### *Situation of the WSSD accredited major groups*

78. Over 700 new organizations were accredited to the Summit in addition to the nearly 3000 that already had access to the process through ECOSOC accreditation or by being part of the CSD list. To ensure that these new actors in the UN sustainable development process continue to contribute to the follow up process, **it is proposed that the CSD recommend that they be allowed to seek fast-track accreditation by ECOSOC.**

#### **5** *Strengthening Scientific Expertise*

79. The Plan of Implementation highlighted the need for the CSD to give greater consideration to scientific contributions to sustainable development through, for example,

drawing on the scientific community and encouraging national, regional and scientific networks to be involved in the Commission.

80. In promoting contributions from the scientific community, it is important to distinguish between scientific advisory processes and multi-stakeholder processes as each has different objectives and modalities. The scientific and technological community will continue to participate as an Agenda 21 major group in multi-stakeholder processes that are an integral element of the CSD work cycle. The purpose of scientific advisory processes, on the other hand, is to provide the CSD with the best scientific expertise available on specific issues under consideration by the Commission throughout its work cycle, including proposed Expert Forums.

81. Bringing scientific expertise from various disciplines into the CSD would assist the Commission in considering and recommending solutions to practical problems of sustainable development. Science-supported policy reviews and analyses would provide a more reliable basis for policy decision-making in the CSD. The CSD process could also benefit from eminent scientists invited as panellists or lecturers to give keynote addresses or lectures on evolving or emerging issues.

82. **Modalities designed to bring scientific expertise to policy discussions and decision-making in the CSD must be practical, flexible and responsive to particular needs throughout the CSD work cycle.** A broad range of scientific institutions from developed and developing countries and countries with economies in transition should be involved, bearing in mind that only scientists recognised by their peers, nationally and internationally, can provide credible inputs to the CSD process.

83. The WSSD, decided that the work of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources for Development should be transferred to the CSD. **It is proposed that the resources released as a result of that decision should be transferred to the CSD in order to enable the Commission to obtain the best expert advice as required** for the Commission's work programme.

## **6** *Educators and other stakeholder groups*

84. WSSD also decided that the CSD should further the contribution of educators to sustainable development, including, where appropriate, in the activities of the Commission. The role of educators in shaping the worldview of younger generations is crucial for sustainable development. **It is proposed that the Commission should consider involving educators in panels and inter-active discussions during CSD meetings to increase the exchange of experiences on the most promising educational policies, methodologies and tools. It is also proposed that an informal 'learning centre' be established in the margins of a CSD session to provide space for experts from governments, international organisations and major groups to share knowledge and engage in various capacity-building and education activities.**

85. There are also other categories of stakeholders that could make considerable contributions to the work of the CSD in the next phase, such as representatives of the legislative and judicial branches of governments and the media. Possibilities for their involvement in the WSSD follow-up needs to be further explored through consultations with their representative international organisations.

## **D Partnership initiatives**

86. The concept of partnerships as part of the WSSD process arose in part from the recognition that innovative, broadly participatory approaches were needed to implement sustainable development, and that those implementing successful projects are often acting outside the inter-governmental system. The challenge has been to identify successful examples of actors working together to achieve a common goal and then take such activities "to scale" or to replicate them, so that activities proven effective on a small scale can help larger number of people around the world. There was also a desire to move from a donor-defined framework to one where those benefiting from a given project and other stakeholders could work together on a more equal footing, from the conceptual design of the project through to operation. However, partnership initiatives cannot substitute for inter-governmentally agreed commitments, such as those agreed in the Plan of Implementation. Rather partnerships serve as an important adjunct to such commitments, as a way of deepening and improving the quality of implementation.

87. The partnerships for sustainable development that were generated by WSSD constitute only a small fraction of the wide range of partnerships that have been developed by a variety of stakeholders over a long period of time, and which continue to be developed. Their special character, however, is that they are specifically linked to the negotiated outcomes of the World Summit and now form an important part of its follow-up.

88. Guiding principles for partnerships were developed through an informal process during the WSSD preparations. The Secretariat reviewed each partnership proposal submitted against these guiding principles. Only half of the about 500 proposals received so far have been accepted for posting on the partnerships section of the official UN Summit website. Partnerships have not been posted on the website, for example, if they were not new proposals or did not have an international impact. In such cases, the Secretariat has informed the partners of the reasons for not accepting their proposal and, where possible, made suggestions for revising their submission in line with the guiding principles.

89. Although the guiding principles in their current version enjoyed broad agreement by participants at the end of the informal consultations, they have not been officially endorsed or adopted. **It is proposed that the CSD clarify a number of issues relating to partnerships, such as the applicability of the Guiding Principles, reporting mechanisms, interaction with national level processes and funding issues, keeping in mind that a flexible approach is desirable in order to encourage further partnerships and to allow for creativity.**

### **Main objectives of the CSD follow-up process on partnerships**

Integrating partnerships as an important element of the overall follow-up to WSSD, in particular for achieving specific goals and targets agreed at the Summit

Maintaining the momentum for partnerships created by WSSD

Monitoring the progress of WSSD partnerships through a transparent and credible process

Giving guidance and facilitating their progress

Promoting and facilitating new partnerships

90. The Secretariat has already undertaken a number of steps to help ensure the transparency and openness of the follow-up process. The sustainable development partnerships section of the UN website has been restructured and updated regularly since the Summit. A database is being developed to allow easy access to information about these partnerships. A request has been sent out to those responsible for the partnerships listed on the website asking for an update on their activities. The Secretariat intends to request similar updates on a regular basis and will make the results accessible on its website.

91. In order to keep the CSD informed about partnerships activities and progress in achieving their targets, it is proposed that a reporting mechanism should be developed. Such a mechanism needs to take into account both the voluntary nature of the partnerships and the demand for a transparent and credible evaluation of their performance. Guidelines for reporting - which should be as simple and user-friendly as possible - could be developed by the UN Secretariat in consultation with those involved in the partnerships and other stakeholders in the CSD process. Partnerships could report biannually to the Secretariat about their activities on the basis of these guidelines. The information received would be made available to the relevant CSD Regional Implementation Forums during the Review Year of the new CSD cycle. The Secretariat could produce an overview report every two years on the basis of the partnerships' reporting and the outcomes of the Regional Forums, for discussion in the CSD Review Sessions. In the CSD Policy Sessions an implementation update on partnerships could be provided, with an emphasis on those dealing with the issues identified for the session.

92. It is proposed that CSD discussions with and about partnerships focus on lessons learnt, progress made and best practices, and identify ways to assist partnerships with implementation, where required, and encourage new partnerships.

#### **IV Conclusion**

**93. In line with the provisions of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, the 11<sup>th</sup> session of the CSD is expected to take decisions on:**

- i. The contents of its future multi-year programme of work;**
- ii. New organizational arrangements to enable the Commission to fulfill its renewed mandate with a focus on implementation, including;**
- iii. The proposed transformation of its Ad Hoc Inter-sessional Working Groups into Regional and Global Implementation Forums and Expert Forums;**
- iv. Arrangements for more greater involvement of international organizations and major groups in its work;**
- v. Ways to enhance scientific contributions to the work of the CSD and furthering the contribution of educators.**
- vi. Arrangements to enable the Commission to serve as a focal point for the discussion of partnerships that promote sustainable development**

**94. The decisions made at the 11<sup>th</sup> session will require thoughtful preparation, creative thinking and broad consultations among all interested parties. Hence, this session will be of great significance since it will set the tone for the revitalized CSD for years to come.**

## ANNEX I

### MATRIX OF TYPES OF ISSUES ON WHICH CSD COULD FOCUS

	<b>Sustainable development and poverty eradication</b>	<b>Globalisation and sustainable development</b>	<b>Means of implementation and governance for sustainable development</b>	<b>Sustainable production and consumption patterns</b>	<b>Health</b>	<b>Science, technology and education</b>
<b>Natural resource sectors and economic sectors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enable the poor to achieve sustainable livelihoods</li> <li>• Improve poor people's access to productive resources &amp; public services, including credit, land, water and energy services</li> <li>• Integrate health concerns into strategies for poverty eradication</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote corporate environmental and social responsibility and accountability</li> <li>• Promote policies to make globalisation fully inclusive and supportive of sustainable development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthen institutional frameworks for sustainable development at all levels</li> <li>• Strengthen information for decision-making</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a 10-year framework of programmes in support of sustainable consumption and production</li> <li>• De-link economic growth and environmental degradation</li> <li>• Promote use of economic instruments</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce health risks from environmental pollution</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Build greater capacity in science &amp; technology and promote access to transfer of technology</li> <li>• Make greater use of integrated scientific assessments</li> <li>• Integrate sustainable development into education systems at all levels of education</li> </ul>
<b>Water &amp; sanitation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure reliable access of the poor to safe water and sanitation</li> <li>• Enhance capacity-building for water and sanitation infrastructure</li> <li>• Integrate productive water use considerations into national policies and programmes</li> <li>• Improve productive use of water as a means of sustainable community livelihoods</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote public-private partnerships and other forms of partnerships</li> <li>• Transfer and disseminate technologies for sanitation and waste management in urban/rural areas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote integrated water management strategies, with participation of basin/aquifer stakeholders</li> <li>• Strengthen national capabilities in public regulation for equitable water development to expand activities of public and private service providers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthen the protection of water resources, water quality and aquatic ecosystems</li> <li>• Enhance efficient use of water resources through integrated river basin management plans and policies</li> <li>• Intensify water pollution prevention</li> <li>• Improve the efficiency of water infrastructure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop national and local programmes to reduce and eliminate water-borne diseases</li> <li>• Promote sanitation and hygiene education campaigns, with particular focus on women and children</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disseminate water conservation technologies</li> <li>• Mobilise financial resources and transfer technology to promote best practices</li> </ul>



<b>Energy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure access of the poor to energy services</li> <li>• Integrate energy accessibility considerations into socio-economic programmes</li> <li>• Promote sustainable energy and transport in human settlements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve the functioning, transparency, and information about energy markets to ensure their greater stability</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish a network of centers of excellence</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish domestic programmes for energy efficiency</li> <li>• Increase renewable energy resources, including hydro</li> <li>• Reduce subsidies that distort energy markets</li> <li>• Support the transition to the cleaner use of liquid and gaseous fuels, particularly in the transport sector</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce and eliminate indoor air pollution</li> <li>• Phase out lead and sulfur in gasoline</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take further action to mobilize resources and transfer advanced energy technologies, including alternative energy technologies</li> <li>• Promote increased research, development and dissemination of advanced and cleaner fossil fuel technologies</li> </ul>
<b>Biodiversity/ecosystems</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integrate the objectives of CBD in the programmes and policies of the economic sectors at the national and international levels</li> <li>• Ensure fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources</li> <li>• Address poverty through sustainable forest management</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthen efforts to control invasive alien species</li> <li>• Promote relations between CBD and trade and IP agreements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage technical and financial support to developing countries in the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources</li> <li>• Implement IPF/IFF proposals for action</li> <li>• Increase trade, capacity building, forest law enforcement, governance, and integrated land and resource management</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Achieve a significant reduction in the current rate of loss of biological diversity</li> <li>• Support initiatives for hot-spot areas</li> <li>• Promote community-based sustainable use of biological diversity</li> <li>• Act on illegal logging</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote indigenous knowledge and traditional practices</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase financial resources and technology transfer</li> <li>• Promote the application and development of the ecosystem approach</li> </ul>

<b>Land &amp; agriculture</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure access of the poor to agricultural resources</li> <li>• Support sustainable agriculture and rural development to increase food production, enhance food security and reduce hunger</li> <li>• Transfer basic agricultural techniques and knowledge to small and medium-scale farmers, fishers and the rural poor</li> <li>• Support sustainable livelihoods for people living in mountain regions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhance market access of agricultural products from developing countries</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop and implement integrated land management and water-use plans and promote integrated information systems in land use practices</li> <li>• Enhance the participation of women in all aspects relating to sustainable agriculture and food security</li> <li>• Strengthen implementation of the UNCCD</li> <li>• Develop programmes to integrate environment, economic and social components of sustainable mountain development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote sustainable management of land and other agricultural resources</li> <li>• Prevent land degradation, improve soil fertility and agricultural pest control</li> <li>• Promote diversification of mountain economies, including traditional and small-scale production systems</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Combat illicit cultivation of narcotic plants</li> <li>• Reduce agriculture - related pollution</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase public and private sector finance for sustainable agriculture and agriculture research</li> </ul>
<b>Oceans</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote integrated management and sustainable development of coastal and marine areas, including exclusive economic zones</li> <li>• Support development of small-scale aquaculture</li> <li>• Promote sustainable coastal and small-scale fishing activities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Combat illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eliminate subsidies that contribute to IUU fishing</li> <li>• Establish an inter-agency co-ordination mechanism within the UN system</li> <li>• Establish a regular process under UN for global reporting and assessment of the marine environment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain or restore depleted fish stocks to levels of sustainable yield</li> <li>• Promote sustainable use and conservation of living resources of the high seas</li> <li>• Strengthen marine environmental protection and build a network of marine protected areas</li> <li>• Apply the ecosystem approach in fisheries and in marine biological diversity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Achieve maritime safety</li> <li>• Prevent marine pollution</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase collaboration and partnerships in transfer of marine science and technology</li> </ul>

<b>Sustainable tourism</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase benefits from tourism resources for the population in host communities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop community-based initiatives on sustainable tourism</li> <li>• Increase benefits from tourism resources for the host communities while maintaining their cultural and environmental integrity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhance international co-operation , FDI, and partnerships with both private and public sector to promote sustainable tourism</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote sustainable tourism, including non-consumptive and eco-tourism</li> <li>• Enhance the protection of ecologically sensitive areas and natural heritages</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide technical assistance to support sustainable tourism business development</li> </ul>
<b>Mining, minerals &amp; metals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support natural resources management, including addressing environmental, economic and social impacts of mining operations with a view to creating sustainable livelihoods for the poor</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhance the participation of local stakeholders in minerals, metals and mining development throughout the life cycles of mining operations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhance participation of local and indigenous communities and women in mining and minerals development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote transparency and accountability for sustainable mining and minerals development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support efforts to address health impacts of mining, including safe and sustainable livelihood opportunities in small-scale mining ventures</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide financial, technical and capacity-building support to improve value-added processing, upgrade scientific and technological information, reclaim and rehabilitate degraded sites</li> </ul>

## ANNEX II

### A typical two-year work cycle of CSD

#### CSD Review Year

1. A CSD Review Year could start with **CSD Regional Implementation Forums** that for practical purposes could be held back-to-back with meetings of UN Regional Commissions in order to review national and regional progress and exchange experiences on best practice and lessons learnt.
2. The results of the Regional Implementation Forums, along with reports on "critical trends in implementation" prepared by the Secretariat and other relevant activities organised during this period, would feed into the **CSD Global Implementation Forum** (to be held in New York in May/June period). The Forum would provide for broad participation of all implementation actors and result in a thorough analysis of the state of implementation.
3. In addition, various inter-sessional initiatives organised by interested organisation and governments with a focus on promoting implementation would need to be encouraged in accordance with CSD practice established in earlier years.
4. CSD Review Year could culminate in **the CSD Review Session**, to be held in February/March of the subsequent year. The Review Session would assess all of the information gathered during the Review Year and make decisions about which five or six key areas of concern would be subject to more detailed attention and negotiations during the subsequent Policy Year. The Secretary-General's **State of Implementation Report** could be produced for consideration at this session, providing an analytical overview of progress and identification of areas of concern as well as new challenges in the field of implementation.

#### CSD Policy year

5. The Year could start with **CSD Expert Forums**, which would be held in May/June to explore both concrete and policy options for expediting progress in those areas that had been identified for further consideration for the Policy Year. These would provide an opportunity for members of the CSD and other participants to engage in discussions with experts and practitioners in the field to enrich their understanding of the detailed issues. This would include the provision of specific scientific advice on a given issue and could also involve discussions of the effectiveness of partnerships in a given area. Arrangements for involvement of experts and practitioners flexible and demand driven.
6. Inter-sessional initiatives and consultative processes could be set in motion by interested governments or other interested parties, including international organizations and major groups. It should be noted that a number of interesting proposals were made regarding setting up of issue-oriented time-bound **Sub-Commission's and/or Task Forces** involving a limited number of representatives of countries, international institutions and major groups to support preparations for CSD. Such Sub-Commissions or Task Forces, if initiated and funded by interested parties, could make valuable inputs to the work of the Commission and raise the profile of issues in the public eye.

7. On the basis of all inputs received, **Secretary-General Policy Papers** would be produced, including recommendations and proposals for action, to facilitate discussions and negotiations during the following CSD Policy Session. Other organisations of the UN system, including Regional Commissions, specialised agencies and funds and programmes, will be involved in preparation of these policy papers.
8. The main aim of the **CSD Policy Session** held in February/March would be to expedite progress in the selected priority areas under discussion. It could agree on policy decisions and mobilise further action by all actors, as well as agree on ways and means of meeting new challenges in implementation.

## ANNEX III

### New organizational arrangements for CSD

ACTIVITY	AIM	KEY FEATURES	MAIN INPUTS	RESULTS
<b>CSD "REVIEW YEAR"</b>				
<b>What Happened? Why? Why not?</b>				
Collecting and primary analysis of information on progress in the implementation	Providing the CSD with information and data for evaluation of progress in implementation.	This will be an ongoing activity of the Secretariat in co-operation with UN Organisations and Regional Commissions Re-orientation of information around specific WSSD goals and targets. Simplification of reporting requirements. Links with reporting on MDGs and SD indicators	National reports Progress reports on activities of international and regional organizations; Reports on activities of major groups Reports on progress in partnerships and initiatives	Implementation trends report(s) to assist in evaluation of progress at the national, regional and global levels.
<b>CSD Regional Implementation Forums</b> (to replace one of the two Ad Hoc Working Groups of the CSD during the "Review Year"); and to be organised back-to-back with meetings of UN Regional Commissions	Exchanges/reviews of national experiences; Assessment of progress by international, regional and sub-regional organisations; activities of major groups and partnerships in the region.	To take place during the year preceding the CSD Global Implementation Forum.  As a rule, chaired by the a member of CSD Bureau from the region; Participation of CSD Members from the region is facilitated by the UN.  Multi-stakeholder discussions of progress, including in the area of partnerships and initiatives	Implementation trends reports Presentations by governments, IGOs, regional institutions, major groups and regional partnerships	Reports of regional implementation forums  Collection of case studies, good practice and lessons learnt from the regions  Mobilisation of regional actions and partnerships
<b>CSD Global Implementation Forum</b> (to replace the second Ad Hoc Working Group of the CSD during this year)	To evaluate progress in the implementation, including through inter-regional exchanges of experiences.	Takes place in May/June Active participation of all stakeholders (governments, international organizations, major groups, etc.) Platform for launching informal consultative processes (organized by interested governments and major groups in preparation for the CSD Review session	Reports of CSD Regional Implementation forums  Reports on global implementation activities by international organizations, financial institutions, major groups, etc	Report of Implementation Forum.  Collection of case studies, good practice and lessons learnt  Record of discussions on partnerships and their role in achieving internationally agreed goals and targets.

### What required priority attention? What are the new challenges?

<p>Inter-sessional initiatives organised by interested governments and organisations in preparation for the CSD Review Session.</p>	<p>To enrich preparation for CSD Review Session, in particular for identifying areas of concern and new challenges</p> <p>More in -depth discussions of good practice and lessons learnt in follow-up to Implementation Forums</p>	<p>Up to organisers</p>	<p>Up to organisers</p>	<p>Reports to CSD Review session.</p> <p>Dissemination of good practice and lessons learnt.</p>
<p>Secretary -General's State of Implementation Report</p> <p>Review of partnerships for sustainable development</p>	<p>Analytical overview of progress and identification of areas of concern along with new challenges in the field of implementation</p> <p>To take stock of partnerships, including best practice and challenges</p>	<p>To be issued in November/ December (for consideration by CSD Review Session in February/March of the following year).</p> <p>To be issued in November/ December (for consideration by CSD Review Session in February/March of the following year</p>	<p>Results of Regional and Global Implementation Forums, and inter-sessional activities.</p> <p>Inputs from international organizations</p> <p>Results of regional and global implementation forums/ Reporting by the partnerships</p>	<p>Conclusions and recommendations for consideration by CSD Review session</p> <p>Conclusions and recommendations for consideration by CSD Review session</p>
<p><b>CSD REVIEW SESSION</b></p>	<p>To identify problem areas which require priority attention thus setting the agenda for the Policy Year</p> <p>Decision on how to manage inter-sessional activities in preparation for the "Policy session"</p>	<p>To take place in February/March</p> <p>Innovative arrangements for participation of all implementation actors elaborated by the Bureau in consultation with interested parties.</p> <p>Active involvement of ministers in evaluation of progress and identification of "hot spots" and new challenges. Possibility for ministers to discuss progress in the implementation of decisions taken during the previous "Policy session"</p> <p>Discussion/review of partnerships. Specific arrangements to be elaborated by the Bureau in consultations with interested parties</p>	<p>Presentations by governments, international organisations and major groups of their views regarding areas of concern as well as new challenges to implementation</p> <p>Report of the Secretary -General</p>	<p>Identification of specific issues requiring in -depth consideration during the Policy Year in order to expedite progress</p> <p>Decisions on arrangements for inter-sessional work during the Policy Year</p>

## CSD POLICY YEAR

### How can we solve the problem(s) to expedite progress in implementation?

<p><b>CSD Expert Forums</b> (to replace two weeks of Ad Hoc Inter- sessional Working Groups during the "Policy Year")</p>	<p>To explore practical and policy options for expediting progress in areas identified as a result of the "Review Year".</p> <p>To avail CSD with the best scientific advice.</p>	<p>To take place in May/June</p> <p>Organisation of work is flexible and demand driven depending on the nature of issues, Specific arrangements to be elaborated by the Bureau in consultations with interested parties</p>	<p>Active participation of scientists, experts and practitioners specialising in given areas.</p>	<p>Reports of Expert Forums (Chairmen's summaries)</p> <p>Launching by interested governments and organisations of inter- sessional activities.</p>
<p>Inter-sessional initiatives and consultative processes.</p>	<p>Enrich preparations for CSD policy sessions</p> <p>Raise public awareness of issues under consideration.</p>	<p>Up to organisers</p> <p>Could be organised by interested parties as Task Forces or Thematic Sub Commissions (with involvement of representatives from governments, IGOs, Major Groups and recognized independent experts). With a view to developing independent suggestions on possible ways of tackling specific issues</p>	<p>Up to the organisers</p>	<p>Report to CSD Policy session</p>
<p>Secretary -General Policy Papers</p>	<p>Facilitate discussions in the CSD aimed at expediting progress in areas of concern</p>	<p>To be issued in November/ December (for consideration by CSD Policy Session in February/Marh of the following year).</p> <p>Prepared in consultation with relevant organisations from the UN system and drawing on the outcomes of Expert Forums and other sources</p> <p>Focus on expediting implementation, achievement of goals, overcoming constraints, etc</p>	<p>Results of Expert Forums</p> <p>UN system, major groups, experts</p> <p>Inter-sessional activities</p>	<p>Recommendations and proposals for action on issues on the agenda of current CSD Policy session</p>



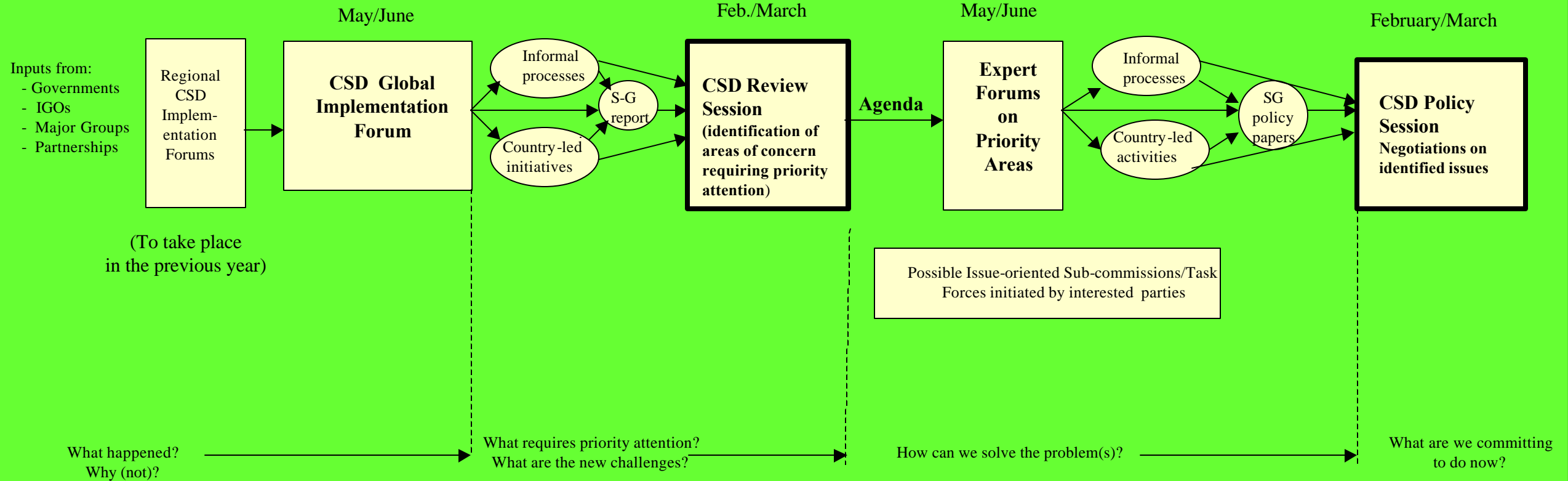
### Commitments/actions to do to expedite progress

<p><b>CSD POLICY SESSION</b></p>	<p>Agree on policy decisions and mobilise further action by all actors to expedite progress in areas of concern , as well as agree on ways and means of meeting new challenges in implementation</p>	<p>To take place in February/March. Not limited to negotiations</p> <p>Interaction between Ministers and high-level officials from the UN system, leaders from Major Groups</p> <p>Would also provide various opportunities for participation of stakeholders and implementation partners. Possible options include: -arrangements similar to WSSD Partnership Plenary sessions. - Panels/hearings - Inter-active Dialogues - Partnerships activities; - Possible in-session advisory panels/boards comprised of Implementation agencies and Major Groups</p> <p>Opportunities for new partnerships</p> <p>Specific arrangements to be elaborated by the Bureau in consultations with interested parties</p>	<p>Policy papers of the Secretary -General;  Reports of CSD Expert Forums  Report containing an update on partnerships  Results of inter-sessional activities and processes  Presentations by implementation agencies, major groups</p>	<p>Negotiated decision aimed at expediting progress</p> <p>Commitments to further action</p> <p>New partnerships to expedite implementation</p>
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# CSD TWO-YEAR WORK CYCLE

## “Review Year”

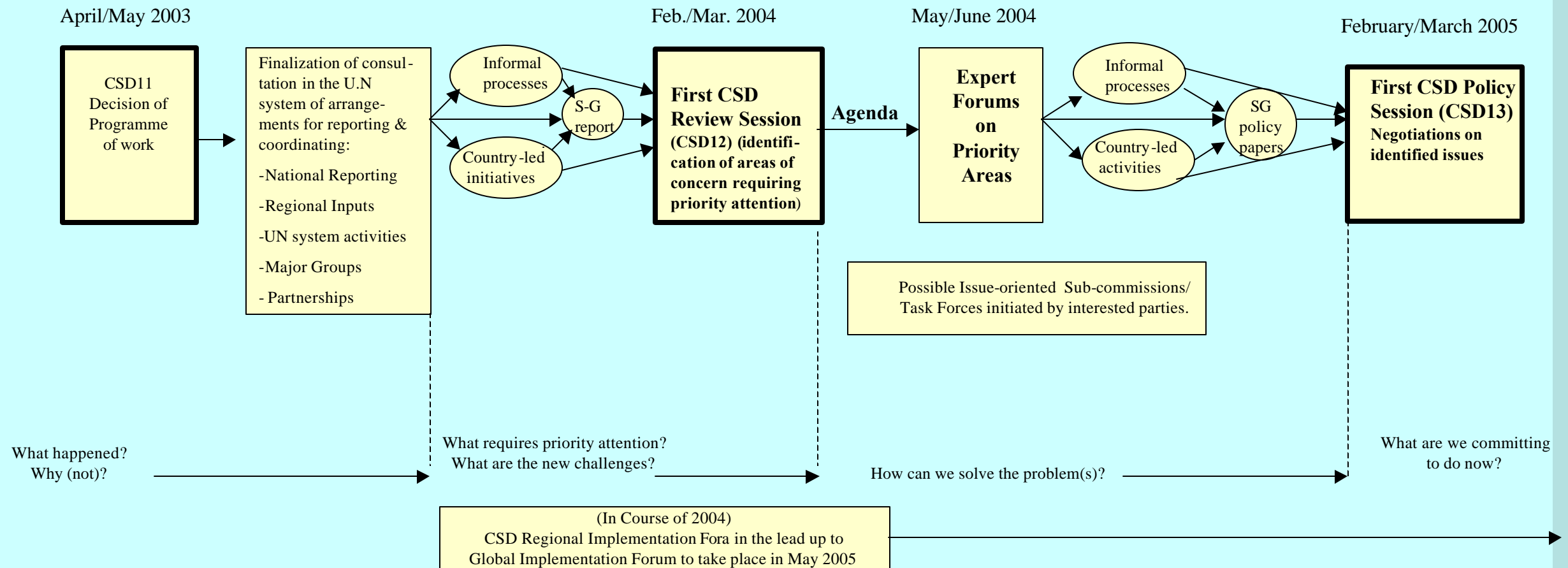
## “Policy Year”



# ANNEX V

## CSD TRANSITIONAL WORK CYCLE

(IN 2003-EARLY 2005)



## **Annex VI**

### **MAJOR GROUPS PARTICIPATION IN THE CSD AND WSSD PROCESS: SOME LESSONS LEARNT**

#### **Approaches that enable more meaningful inputs from major groups**

Valuing and being open to major groups' views and experiences

Treating all major groups equally, such as through providing equal access for each to processes and sources of information

Moving towards mutual accountability of all parties involved

Maintaining a transparent process, as far as possible

Using multiple formats and mechanisms for participation

Being ready to experiment with new participatory formats

Respecting and working with self-organized mechanisms of major groups

Aiming for geographical and gender balance in participation

Aiming for major group inputs that influence decisions

#### **Challenges in this area need to be addressed:**

Strengthening the link between participation of major groups and their impact on decisions

Providing guidelines or mechanisms for the accountability and credibility of major groups

Strengthening major group networks, particularly at the regional and sub-regional level, to increase their ability to take concerted action on particular issues, tasks or goals of the POI

Ensuring greater consistency in terms of openness to participation and access to information between political processes across countries and regions, as well as among international bodies

Increasing resources to improve: the geographical and gender balance among participants; access to sustainable development processes at the regional and global levels; opportunities for capacity building; and access to infrastructure such as electronic communication technologies

Better integrating the diversity of views and experiences of major groups