

## **Note of the Bureau of the 13th Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development on its Second Meeting**

1. The second meeting of the Bureau of the thirteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD-13) took place on 16 November 2004. The Chairman of CSD-13, H.E. John Ashe (Antigua and Barbuda), chaired the meeting. The following Vice-Chairs attended the meeting: Ms. Husniyya Mammadova (Azerbaijan); Mr. Khaled Elbakly (Egypt); Ms. Dagmara Berbalk (Germany); and Mr. Boo-nam Shin (Republic of Korea). The meeting was also attended by the Director of the Division for Sustainable Development, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DSD/DESA) and staff from DSD/DESA, as Secretariat to the CSD.

### **Activities of the Chair and Bureau members**

2. Chairman Ashe informed the Bureau that he had been invited to address several regional and international meetings in the coming months on water and sanitation and on sustainable development issues. Other Bureau members reported on the regional briefings and discussions they had organised after the first Bureau meeting. The vice-Chair representing Africa briefed the Bureau on the important outcome of the recent session of the African Ministers' Council on Water.

### **Revised draft organisation of work for the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting and for CSD13**

3. The Bureau considered a revised draft organisation of work for the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting and for CSD-13. The revised draft organisation of work took into account the extensive discussions on this matter at the first Bureau meeting and comments made by member States at regional briefings.
4. The Bureau reiterated that the outcomes of CSD-13 should focus on deliverables and CSD-13 should take policy decisions on practical measures to expedite implementation. In the broad discussions on the revised draft organisation of work, the Bureau carefully reviewed the changes introduced and made further amendments.
5. The Bureau decided to hold a briefing on Wednesday 24 November 2004 (venue and time to be announced in the Journal) to report on the results of the second Bureau meeting and to distribute the revised draft organisation of work for the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting and for CSD-13.
6. The Bureau further decided to continue discussions on this matter in its next session, focusing on the specific thematic sessions, Panels and on the High-Level Segment. The Bureau reaffirmed the importance of ministerial participation in CSD-13 and would continue to explore innovative modalities for the High-Level Segment.

### **Current status of documentation: updates**

7. The Secretariat briefed the Bureau on the preparation of the Secretary-General's reports for CSD-13. The Bureau noted that the three Secretary-General's reports on water, sanitation

and human settlements, respectively, were close to completion and were going through the requisite internal clearance procedures.

### **Major Groups' Participation**

8. The Chairman briefed the Bureau on a meeting he had with the NGO Committee on Sustainable Development held in New York on 2 November 2004. The Secretariat shared with the Bureau a note from Major Groups organising partners that included the common Major Groups statement for CSD-12.
9. The Bureau agreed to meet with organising partners of Major Groups on 27 February 2005 and 10 April 2005, respectively. The Bureau reiterated that as implementation actors, Major Groups complement Government action in expediting implementation. In this context, Major Groups should be given opportunities at the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting and CSD-13 to highlight their contributions to implementation, while taking into account the intergovernmental nature of the CSD processes.
10. The Chairman invited Bureau Members to mobilise funding support for broader participation of Major Groups from developing countries, while keeping in mind the need for balanced participation regarding gender and geographic representation.

### **Forthcoming regional meetings**

11. The Secretariat provided an update on the forthcoming regional meetings that are of relevance to CSD-13. Bureau members agreed to bring to the attention of the Secretariat meetings scheduled to take place in their respective regions that contribute to CSD-13.

### **Future Bureau meetings**

12. The Bureau decided to hold its third meeting on 20 December 2004, to be followed by a fourth meeting on Friday 28 January 2005 and a fifth on Sunday 27 February 2005, before the start of the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting.