



Information note for Major Groups on accreditation and registration to the SIDS review process

Preparatory meeting (New York 14 – 16 April 2004) and International meeting (Mauritius 30 August – 3 September 2004)

In 2002, the United Nations General Assembly called for a comprehensive review of the Barbados Programme of Action (BPoA) for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States which was adopted in 1994. The BPoA sets forth specific actions and measures at the national, regional, and international levels in support of the sustainable development of the small island developing States (SIDS). In 2004, the United Nations will convene in Mauritius to discuss recommendations for further and successful implementation of the BPoA. Prior to the Mauritius meeting there will be a preparatory meeting to be held in New York from 14 to 16 April 2004.

This information note aims at providing major group organisations¹ with information related to accreditation and pre-registration to participate in the preparatory process of the International Meeting to review the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, and in the International Meeting itself.

Timeline:

1. SIDS Preparatory meeting for the International Meeting: 14 to 16 April 2004, New York
2. International Meeting: 30 August to 3 September 2004, Mauritius (including possible informal consultations on 28 and 29 August 2004, Mauritius)

Accreditation :

Any interested non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other major groups **MUST** be accredited to the United Nations to participate.

There are two different kinds of procedures for NGOs and other major groups interested in participating in the SIDS process: **1) accredited** and **2) non-accredited**.

1. Accredited NGOs

¹ It is recalled that paragraph 23.3 of Agenda 21 provides that “any policies, definitions or rules affecting access to and participation by non-governmental organizations in the work of the United Nations institutions or agencies associated with the implementation of Agenda 21 must apply equally to all major groups”. Agenda 21 defines major groups as comprising women, children and youth, indigenous people, non-governmental organizations, local authorities, workers and their trade unions, business and industry, the scientific and technological community and farmers. Therefore, based on Agenda 21 rule 64 shall apply equally to non-governmental organizations and other major groups.



Interested NGOs and other major groups that are currently in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) or in the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) Roster, that wish to attend and contribute to the Mauritius International Meeting and its preparatory meeting, need to notify the **Major Groups Programme, Division for Sustainable Development** (acting as the Secretariat of the CSD) and pre-register to participate (details listed on page 4).

If you are unsure of your organization's accreditation status, you can check with the following sources:

- Check the accredited NGO list on the Internet at: <http://www.un.org/esa/coordination/ngo/>. If your organization is listed you are accredited.
- Contact the NGO Section (e-mail: <desangosection@un.org>. The NGO Section maintains up-to-date lists of accredited organizations including those that have recently been granted consultative status but are not yet included in the lists available on the Internet.
- Contact the Major Groups Programme at the Division for Sustainable Development, (e-mail: <beyondwwsd@un.org>; tel.212-963 8497 or 212-963 4704; fax: 212-963 4260).

2. Non Accredited NGOs

Non-governmental organizations and other major group organisations currently **NOT** in consultative status with the ECOSOC or in the CSD Roster who wish to attend and contribute to the International meeting and its preparatory process may apply to the Secretariat for that purpose.

Applications should be submitted to the Division for Sustainable Development, Major Groups Programme who, in consultation with United Nations Non-governmental Liaison Service and relevant others, as appropriate, will review the requirements below including relevance of the work of the applicants on the basis of their background and involvement in sustainable development issues, particularly in the follow-up process to the UN Conference on Environment and Development and the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States. If the evaluation shows, on the basis of the information provided, that the applicant organization is legitimate for the stated purposes and its activities relevant to the work of the International meeting, the Division for Sustainable Development will make recommendations to the Commission on Sustainable Development³, for its decision on the accreditation.

² In accordance with the rule 65 of the provisional rules of procedures (A/58/567/Corr.1)

³ The SIDS preparatory meeting will be convened by the Commission on Sustainable Development on 14-16 April 2004 in New York.



In the case of a recommendation against accreditation, the Division for Sustainable Development will make available to the CSD the reasons such a recommendation, and will submit its recommendations on all requests for accreditation to member states two weeks before the start of the preparatory meeting.

A major group that has been granted accreditation to attend the preparatory meeting(s) may attend the International Conference itself. Such accreditation will be limited solely to the SIDS review process.

The application for accreditation requires submission of the following information:

- a) Name of the organization and pertinent contact information, including address and main contact;
- b) Purpose of the organization;
- c) Programmes and activities of the organization in areas relevant to the subject of the International Meeting indicating in which country or countries they are carried out;
- d) Confirmation of the activities of the organization at the national, regional or international levels;
- e) Copies of annual or other reports of the organization, with financial statements and a list of financial sources and contributions, including governmental contributions;
- f) A list of the members of the governing body of the organization and their countries of nationality (for international organizations);
- g) A description of the membership of the organization, indicating the total number of members, the names of organizations that are members and their geographical distribution;
- h) A copy of the constitution and/or by-laws of the organization;
- i) The deadline for submitting accreditation applications is 1st March 2004

How and by when to submit your application for accreditation

Applications must be received no later by **1st March 2004**, and addressed to:

Division for Sustainable Development, Major Groups Programme/UN-DESA,
Two UN Plaza, DC-2 2210
New York NY 10017 – USA
Tel (212) 963 8497 or (212) 963 4704
Fax (212) 963 4260
E-mail: <csdmregister@un.org>



Registration to meetings:

SIDS Preparatory meeting, New York 14-16 April 2004

1. Already accredited NGOs:

ECOSOC-accredited organizations planning to send representatives to the preparatory meeting in New York should write to the NGO Section at least three weeks in advance of the meeting, and include a list containing the names and fax numbers of the people you have identified as your representatives.

NGO Section

Division for ECOSOC Support and Coordination

1 United Nations Plaza, Room 1480 New York, NY 10017, USA

E-mail: : <csdmregister@un.org>

Fax: +1 212 963 9248 or +1 212 963 4260

A confirmation letter will then be sent to each representative by fax. This letter and a photo ID will need to be shown at the registration desk when your representative arrives at UN Headquarters for the preparatory meeting. Details on the location and schedule for the registration desk will be posted on the major groups website when information becomes available

(http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/mgroups/csd_12/csd12participation.htm)

2. Non-accredited NGOs

Your application will be reviewed by the SIDS preparatory meeting on its first meeting day (14 April 2004). If your application is accepted, your organization will be able to participate in the SIDS process. If you are planning to attend the preparatory meeting, please send us a letter containing the names and fax numbers of the people you have identified as your representatives. The list can be sent to:

Division for Sustainable Development/Major groups programme

Two United Nations Plaza, Room 2210 New York, NY 10017, USA

E-mail: : <csdmregister@un.org>

Fax: +1 212 963 4260

International Meeting to review the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States 30 August to 3 September 2004, Mauritius

Only for accredited NGOs

A pre-registration form will be made available on line in due time at:

<http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/mgroups/mgroups.htm> and

<http://www.sidsnet.org/>