



International Panel
for Sustainable
Resource Management

“Building Resource Efficient Economies and Sustainable Societies”

Special Event on Marrakech Process and Resource Panel at UNEP GC 25

13.30 – 14.30, 18 February, Room 12, Gigiri

Speakers

- Ms. Sylvie Lemmet, Director, DTIE, UNEP
- H.E. Ms. Ligia Adela Castro de Doens, Minister of Environment, Panama
- Dr. Tewolde Berhan Gebre Egziabher, General Manager, Environmental Protection Authority, Ethiopia
- H.E. Dr. Byung-Wook Lee, Vice Minister of Environment, Republic of Korea
- Mr. Jos Delbeke, Deputy Director General, DG Environment, European Commission
- Prof. Ernst von Weiszacker, Co-Chair, International Panel on Sustainable Resource Management
- Mr. Tariq Banuri, Director, Division on Sustainable Development, UNDESA

Introduction

The Marrakech Process is a global multi-stakeholder process to promote implementation of sustainable consumption and production (SCP) leading to the elaboration of an international framework to support the regional and national implementation of SCP called the 10-Year Framework of Programmes (10YFP). The process responds to the call of the WSSD Johannesburg Plan of Implementation to develop a 10YFP to promote the shift towards SCP patterns. The Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) will review the theme of SCP and the 10YFP during its 2010/11 two-year cycle. UNEP and UNDESA are the leading agencies of this process, with the active participation of governments, development agencies, private sector, civil society, academia and other stakeholders.

The aim of the 10YFP is to be an international framework for action on SCP that countries and other stakeholders can endorse and implement to accelerate the shift towards SCP patterns, thus promoting social and economic development within the carrying capacity of ecosystems. An initial draft of the 10 YFP has gone through a round of public consultation, and a second draft will be circulated prior to CSD 17 in May 2009.

The **International Panel on Sustainable Resource Management (the “Resource Panel”)** was launched in November 2007. The Panel aims at contributing to a better knowledge on ways and means to achieve a decoupling between economic growth and environmental impact. Its focus is on resource efficiency and resource productivity, rooted in a life cycle thinking or circular economy approach. It supports UNEP's priority cluster on Resource Efficiency and Sustainable Consumption and Production. UNEP hosts the Secretariat of the Panel, which has a cadre of eminent independent scientists, and a Steering Committee, consisting of national governments, civil society and other stakeholders.

Main topics

The presentations and discussion at this Special Event will explore some of the issues covered in Ministerial Consultation Sessions, and the relevance of the Marrakech Process and the Resource Panel to the construction of solutions to the food, energy and water crises, and to address climate change.

- How can the **transition to the green economy**, discussed during Session I, be carried forward through actions to promote more resource efficient, low carbon production patterns and lifestyles, and contribute to poverty alleviation? What are the policies, market based instruments and partnerships that governments can develop and apply to stimulate business to make the financial investments and choose management practices and technologies which enable production and consumption of more resource efficient products?
- **Regional SCP priorities** - the Marrakech Process regional consultations have, in almost all cases, identified **agriculture/food, energy and water** as priority sectors or resources requiring interventions to promote resource efficiency and SCP. What support do governments require from the 10 YFP on SCP to support the production and consumption of more sustainable food products, and to increase agricultural and industrial productivity per unit of energy and water input?
- How can the concept and practice of **decoupling** economic growth from environmental degradation - which is the main focus of the **Resource Panel** and the Marrakech Process – be supported by solid scientific assessments from the panel. What needs exist with regard to **data, methodologies and capacity building**? What do policy makers in developing and developed countries, and leaders in business and civil society require?

Moderated discussion (20 mins)

Ms. Lemmet will chair the discussions which follow these presentations. The aim would be to:

- identify specific capacity building activities, policies and partnerships that should be developed in the Marrakech Process and implemented through the 10YFP to help solve the interlinked global crises; and
- identify key scientific assessment and analysis that the Resource Panel could contribute to the construction of the 10 YFP and solution of the global crises.