



General Assembly

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Commission on Sustainable Development acting as the preparatory committee for the World Summit on Sustainable Development

Fourth session

Bali, Indonesia, 27 May-7 June 2002

Item 5 of the provisional agenda*

Organization of the work of the Summit



Draft decision submitted by the Chairman on behalf of the Bureau

Matters related to the organization of work during the World Summit on Sustainable Development

The Commission on Sustainable Development acting as the preparatory committee, recalling the decision of its organizational session entitled “Tentative organization of work during the World Summit on Sustainable Development”, and recalling also General Assembly resolution 56/226 of 24 December 2001, in which the Assembly requested the Commission on Sustainable Development acting as the preparatory committee for the World Summit on Sustainable Development, to decide on all remaining issues related to the organization of work of the Summit, including specific details of the series of events to be held in partnership with stakeholders, the short multi-stakeholder event involving the highest level of representation from major groups and Governments and the round-table meetings to be held at the level of heads of State or Government:

(a) Decides that the series of partnership events involving stakeholders, which, in accordance with the decision of the first session of the preparatory committee, will take place in the plenary during the first week of the Summit, would provide an opportunity for:

- (i) Recognizing partnerships and initiatives organized by Governments, international organizations and major groups in support of the implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the Summit;
- (ii) Generating further partnerships and initiatives in support of the implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the Summit;

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(iii) Identifying areas that did not attract partnerships and that would require further work after the conclusion of the Summit;

(iv) An interactive discussion with the participation of heads of international organizations and financial institutions on the role of multilateral institutions in the implementation of sustainable development at all levels;

(b) Decides that the general debate in the plenary during the period of 2-4 September will be open to all States and will be organized as follows: Monday, 2 September (morning, afternoon and evening sessions, if required), Tuesday, 3 September (morning, afternoon and evening sessions, if required), and Wednesday, 4 September 2002 (morning session); and that the time limit for statements will be five minutes. The list of speakers will be established by drawing of lots, in accordance with the customary protocol that ensures that Heads of State or Government speak first, followed by Ministers, followed by other heads of delegation;

(c) Decides, taking into account the provisions of paragraph 2 above, that general statements by entities, intergovernmental organizations and other entities that have received a standing invitation from the UN General Assembly to participate in their capacity of observers in the sessions and work of all international conferences convened under its auspices, by the specialized agencies and other intergovernmental organizations, interested United Nations organs, representatives of major non-governmental organizations and other major groups accredited to the Summit and by associate members of regional commissions will be made in the plenary during the period from Thursday, 29 August, to Friday, 30 August 2002.

(d) Decides further that the short multi-stakeholder event involving the highest level of representation from both major groups and Governments will take place on Wednesday, 4 September 2002, after the conclusion of the general debate in the plenary and before adoption of the final documents and the closure of the Summit. The objective of this event would be to provide a forum for all major groups to renew their commitment to sustainable development and to the implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the Summit;

(e) Decides also that four round tables, at the level of heads of State or Government, will be organized in parallel with the general debate under one theme, "Making it Happen!". The round tables will take place on Monday, 2 September 2002, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., on Tuesday, 3 September, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., and on Wednesday, 4 September from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and will have the following modalities:

(i) Each of the round tables will comprise seventy seats: up to fifty for Government delegations and twenty for other participants, including the specialized agencies of the United Nations and related organizations and major groups;

(ii) Any given State, international organization or representative of a major group can participate in only one of the round tables;

(iii) Only heads of State or Government participating in a round table can be accompanied by an additional person, who will be seated behind;

(iv) Generally, only heads of State or Government will be invited to speak during the round tables;

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- (v) A limited number of heads of United Nations organizations and agencies, which are members of the Chief Executives Board, as well as chief executive officers of private enterprises and representatives at similar levels from other major groups may also be invited to speak at the round tables;
- (vi) The round tables will be chaired by heads of State or Government, who will be invited by the President of the Summit to perform this function. The chairpersons of the four round tables will come from the Asian Group, the Eastern European Group, the Latin American and Caribbean Group, and the Group of Western European and other States;
- (vii) States will be invited by the Secretariat to inscribe in order to participate in one of the round tables in advance of the Summit, bearing in mind that the total number of States participating in any given round table should not exceed fifty, as provided in paragraph 5 (i) above;
- (viii) Proceedings of the round tables will be telecast in an “over-flow room” open to the media;
- (ix) The outcomes of the round tables will be reflected in the summaries of the chairpersons, which will be reported to the closing plenary meeting of the Summit and included in the final report of the Summit;
- (f) Palestine, in its capacity as observer, shall participate in the general debate and one of the round tables, provided that it is represented by its highest ranking official.
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