



**United Nations
Environment
Programme**



**World Health
Organization**

**First meeting of the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead in Paints
Initial organizational meeting of contributors**

Geneva, 26–28 May 2010

Item 7 of the provisional agenda *

Other matters

Potential registration of the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead in Paints at the Commission of Sustainable Development

Note by the Secretariat

1. The present note has been prepared by the Secretariat to explore the possibility of registering the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead in Paints at the Commission of Sustainable Development (CSD).
2. This current meeting presents an opportunity to: i) discuss the potential registration and the benefits that this could bring to the Global Alliance and ii) consider how the Global Alliance could have the best advantages of such a registration in the development and/or implementation of the Global Alliance and its activities.
3. Some background on the Commission on Sustainable Development and the registration criteria, guidelines and procedure of registration are presented in Annex 1 of this document. From the point of view of the Commission of Sustainable Development, section IV of this annex presents some benefit that a registration could bring.
4. Partnerships for sustainable development are voluntary, multi-stakeholder initiatives undertaken by any combination of Governments, intergovernmental organizations, major groups and other organizations and institutions which contribute to expediting the implementation of intergovernmentally agreed sustainable development goals and commitments in Agenda 21 and/or the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development.
5. In 2002, the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) committed to take actions to protect human health from exposure to lead. Paragraph 57 of the Plan of Implementation of the WSSD states: *“Phase out lead in lead-based paints and in other sources of human exposure, work to prevent, in particular, children’s exposure to lead and strengthen monitoring and surveillance efforts and the treatment of lead poisoning.”*

* UNEP(DTIE Chemicals) /WHO(PHE) GAELP/1/1/Add.1

6. The CSD has also been considered as a possible key event or meetings where update on progress and/or further interactions of the Global Alliance could be foreseen (Reference document: UNEP(DTIE Chemicals) /WHO(PHE) GAELP/1/6).

7. The Secretariat is seeking views in regard to the issues mentioned in the present document, including the meeting participants' views on the additional benefits and advantages such a registration could bring to the Global Alliance and the development and implementation of its activities. The Secretariat would further investigate, in more details, the potential registration of the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead in Paints at the CSD and will inform the Global Alliance as appropriate.

ANNEX 1. Background information on the Commission on Sustainable Development and the registration criteria, guidelines and procedure of registration

I. Background of the Commission on Sustainable Development

8. The United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) was established by the UN General Assembly in December 1992 to ensure effective follow-up of United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), also known as the Earth Summit.
9. The Commission is responsible for reviewing progress in the implementation of Agenda 21 and the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development; as well as providing policy guidance to follow up the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI) at the local, national, regional and international levels. The JPOI reaffirmed that the CSD is the high-level forum for sustainable development within the United Nations system.
10. The CSD meets annually in New York, in two-year cycles, with each cycle focusing on clusters of specific thematic and cross-sectoral issues, outlined in its new multi-year programme of work (2003-2017)
11. The CSD has opened its sessions to broad participation from both governmental and non-governmental actors, and it supports a number of innovative activities, such as the Partnerships Fair, the Learning Centre and a series of panels, roundtables and side events. The High-level segment features dialogue among Ministers, and Ministers also hold a special dialogue session with Major Groups.

II. Partnerships for sustainable development

12. Partnerships for sustainable development are voluntary, multi-stakeholder initiatives undertaken by any combination of Governments, intergovernmental organizations, major groups and other organizations and institutions which contribute to expediting the implementation of intergovernmentally agreed sustainable development goals and commitments in Agenda 21 and/or the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development.
13. As at May 2010, 443 partnerships for sustainable development registered with the secretariat of the Commission on Sustainable Development. Some of those partnerships focus on agriculture, desertification, drought, land, rural development and sustainable development for Africa.
14. Some examples include:
 - Children's Environmental Health Indicators
 - Adaptation Learning Mechanism Initiative
 - Partnership for Cleans Fuels and Vehicles
 - Partnership for the Launch of the Sustainable Tourism Stewardship Council
 - Clean Air Initiative for Asian Cities (CAI-Asia) Partnership
 - International Renewable Energy Alliance
 - Ecosystem Health and Sustainable Agriculture
 - Invasive Species Compendium Consortium
 - Latin American Clean Water Initiative
 - Marrakech Process Task Force on Cooperation with Africa
15. The Partnerships for Sustainable Development of the CSD Secretariat hosts a searchable database of CSD Partnerships information, publications, events, and links about Partnerships working to implement sustainable development goals.

III. Registration criteria, guidelines and procedure

16. Governments at CSD-11 decided that partnerships within the context of the WSSD process and its follow-up should be developed and implemented in accordance with a set of agreed criteria and guidelines, taking note of the preliminary work undertaken on partnerships during the preparatory process for WSSD including the Bali Guiding Principles and General Assembly resolution A/RES/56/76.

17. Partnerships that, are consistent with the criteria and guidelines, are encouraged to register with the CSD Secretariat. The following criteria and guidelines have been extracted from the full CSD-11 decision on the future programme and organization of work of the CSD. It stresses that partnerships in the context of the WSSD process and its follow up should be developed and implemented in accordance with the following criteria and guidelines:

- Are voluntary initiatives undertaken by governments and relevant stakeholders, e.g. major groups and institutional stakeholders;
- Should contribute to the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, and should not divert from commitments contained in those agreements;
- Are not intended to substitute commitments made by Governments but to supplement the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;
- Should have concrete value addition to the implementation process and should be new - that is not merely reflect existing arrangements;
- Should bear in mind the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development in their design and implementation;
- Should be based on predictable and sustained resources for their implementation, include mobilising new resources and, where relevant, result in transfer of technology to, and capacity building in, developing countries;
- It is desirable that partnerships have a sectoral and geographical balance;
- Should be designed and implemented in a transparent and accountable manner. In this regard, they should exchange relevant information with Governments and other relevant stakeholders;
- Should be publicly announced with the intention of sharing the specific contribution that they make to the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;
- Should be consistent with national laws, national strategies for the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, as well as the priorities of countries where their implementation takes place;
- The leading partner of a partnership initiative should inform the national focal point for sustainable development of the involved country/countries about the initiation and progress of the partnership, and all partners should bear in mind the guidance provided by Governments; and
- The involvement of international institutions and United Nations funds, programmes and agencies in partnerships should conform to the inter-governmentally agreed mandates and should not lead to the diversion to partnerships of resources otherwise allocated for their mandated programmes.

18. The registration of partnerships with the CSD Secretariat is voluntary and there is no deadline. It was agreed at CSD-11 that, once registered, partnerships should submit a regular report, preferably at least on a biennial basis.

19. The registration procedure can be done by accessing the online Partnership Registration form found at: http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/dsd_aofw_par/par_regiprocs.shtml or alternatively by contacting the CSD.

IV. Benefits of registration

20. Registration offers a number of benefits as follows:

- The information provided by registered partnerships forms the basis for summary reports prepared on a regular basis by the CSD Secretariat.
 - Registered partnerships can present information on their partnerships at CSD Partnerships Fairs and other partnership-related events. These information-sharing activities help raise awareness and could lead to expansion in the form of new partners and funding or replication of successful initiatives.
 - In particular, the Partnerships Fair at the Commission for Sustainable Development (CSD) provides a venue for partnerships for sustainable development to network, identify partners, create synergies between partnerships and learn from each other's experiences. The Partnerships Fair is an official part of the CSD. It provides a venue for registered Partnerships for Sustainable Development to: i) showcase progress, ii) launch new partnerships, iii) network with existing and potential partners, iv) create synergies between partnerships and v) learn from each other's experiences. The Partnerships Fair gives CSD participants an opportunity to gather information on and discuss the valuable contribution of these important initiatives towards supporting the implementation of inter-governmentally agreed sustainable development goals and objectives.
 - Detailed information on registered partnerships is accessible via the CSD Partnerships Database.
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