



nrg4SD General Assembly

***Annotations to the full programme**

29th- 31st August 2011 - City of Québec - Québec

Please note that this annotated programme may be subject to constant change

Objective

The General Assembly in August will bring together the statutory meetings of the Network – namely the Steering Committee and General Assembly meetings – with technical sessions of the Network’s Working Groups and a Ministerial Round Table; while leaving room for bilateral interaction and meetings amongst the different delegations. The programme of activities also features a high-Level North-American Forum. Building upon the long-track collaboration initiatives of our host, the Government of Quebec with other North-American Governments and stakeholders, this Forum will constitute a unique opportunity for nrg4SD delegates to link in with like-minded partners in North America.

Key dossiers for discussion and agreement at statutory meetings include: (i) future scenarii for nrg4SD’s further development; (ii) nrg4SD’s 2012 budget; (iii) review of statutes and standing rules; (iv) election of nrg4SD Co-Presidency South; (v) general lines for nrg4SD’s work programme for 2012; (vi) celebration of nrg4SD’s 10th anniversary in the context of the UN Sustainable Development Conference Rio +20 in June 2012; (vii) nrg4SD’s strategic stand on the Rio +20 process, and (viii) nrg4SD advocacy messages for 17th Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC COP17).

Monday, 29 August 2011

8h - 14h nrg4SD members registration

8h30 - 12h45 **Steering Committee Meeting**

*The Steering Committee is the governing body of nrg4SD and meets twice per year, with the last meeting taking place on 15th February 2011 in Brussels. It convenes the General Assembly on an annual basis. The Steering Committee will discuss and recommend actions for deliberation and vote by the General Assembly.

12h45 – 14h15 **Lunch at the convenience of delegates**

14h15 – 14h30 **Welcome speech by nrg4SD Secretary General**

14h30 – 19h00 **Working groups joint meeting:**

Climate change:

- International negotiations
- Financing climate action

Working groups joint meeting:

- Implementation of the Plan of Action for Subnational Governments, Cities and other Local Authorities of the United Nations Convention for Biological Diversity
- Forests – International year of forests

*A series of working groups were proposed by the nrg4SD Secretariat this year. The actions taken under each working group contribute to positioning the network and its members in international negotiations, initiatives, and funding opportunities; as well as to enhancing exchange between members and identifying areas of common interest for joint projects. On this occasion, some of the working groups will have the opportunity to meet up for the first time. Ongoing groups will take stock of the activities that have taken place so far and set key milestones and dossiers for the coming year. All groups will feed into any decisions on nrg4SD's political and strategic stand, as well as into any declarations that will be adopted by the General Assembly. Their reflections should also inform the development of nrg4SD's work programme for the coming years.

***Climate change working groups:** this meeting will offer the opportunity to hold a joint session of the group dedicated to monitoring and advocacy in international negotiations, on the one hand, and the group dedicated to creating technical capacity and expertise in subnational governments for climate finance, carbon funds and project-based mechanisms, on the other hand. This meeting will work on the key dossiers and advocacy messages for UNFCCC COP17 in Durban in December 2011 and their connection with the UN Sustainable Development Conference Rio +20 in June 2012. These working groups will count once again with the support of the Caisse de Dépôts et de Consignations de France CDC Climat. The President Director General Pierre Ducret and the Deputy Director for Investments Emmanuel Legrand will participate in the General Assembly.

* **UN Convention on Biological Diversity (UN CBD) Action Plan and Forest policy working groups:** nrg4SD has established these two working groups which will kick off at the

General Assembly. Thanks to nrg4SD's accreditation to the UN CBD, the network had the opportunity of working closely with the Secretariat of the Convention in the run up to the last CBD Conference of the Parties in Nagoya. On the occasion of the General Assembly this year, nrg4SD will have the honour to host the first informal discussions on the Advisory Committee of Subnational Governments for Biodiversity. Besides, CBD and nrg4SD's Secretariats are keen on identifying common initiatives in development of the Action Plan for nrg4SD members to be pilot regions. As 2011 marks the International Year of Forests, the nrg4SD working group on Forest policy will develop technical discussions on how to engage with the UN Forest Forum, contribute to common understanding of key notions and trigger mutual learning projects beyond the International Year. This working group will count with the technical support from the Secretariat of the UN CBD.

**Please refer to the following documents for a specific agenda for these working groups.*

- Financing Climate Action Working Group (FCA WG) and International climate change negotiations Working Groups
- Implementation of the UN CBD and Forest Policy Working Groups

15h00-19h00 **Political Bureau of RU-FOGAR**

As a member of the Organisation des Régions Unies/Forum Global d'Associations de Régions (RU-FOGAR), nrg4SD is the voice of RU-FOGAR in the field of sustainable development. nrg4SD and RU-FOGAR share several common members and therefore RU-FOGAR would like to take the opportunity to convene a meeting of their Bureau. It is expected that nrg4SD Co-Chairs and Vice-Chairs will be invited to join in for a part of RU-FOGAR's Bureau meeting in order to discuss synergies and collaboration between the organisations in the interest of both their common and differentiated membership.

Tuesday, 30 August 2011

8h - 11h nrg4SD members registration

9h00 - 12h **Working groups joint meeting:**
Rio + 20 Process
Water governance issues (water resources & sanitation group)

***Rio + 20 and Water Governance Issues:** This session will develop strategic discussion and messages on the role of subnational governments in the future institutional framework for sustainable development and international environmental governance, as well as in the transition to a Green Economy.

Discussions related to the work of nrg4SD Working Group on the Rio +20 Process will offer the chance to discuss, ahead of the General Assembly, nrg4SD's strategic stand in the Rio + 20 process on the basis of a reflection paper currently under elaboration by the UN Non-

Governmental Liaison Service UN NGLS for nrg4SD. This will include discussions on a possible nrg4SD World Summit of Regions in the context of the UN Sustainable Development Conference Rio + 20 of June 2012, which should also mark the 10th anniversary of nrg4SD.

The session will also pay attention to some thematic angles of nrg4SD's work programme where multilevel governance in the context of Rio +20 is a cornerstone. Initiatives of joint work between nrg4SD and RU-FOGAR in the framework of the World Water Forum taking place in Marseille (PACA) in March 2012 will be presented. Messages from the climate change, biodiversity and forests working groups of the previous days will also be incorporated into the wider picture of the Rio +20 process.

**Please refer to the following documents for a specific agenda for these working groups.*

- Rio + 20 Working Group
- Water Resources Working Group

11h – 14h General registration

12h – 14h00 **Lunch at the convenience of delegates**

14h10 – 14h30 **Welcome note by the Premier of Quebec (video) and the Co-Chairs of nrg4SD**

14h30 – 17h30 **Ministerial Round Table**

*The Ministerial Round Table is a space for high level political discussion on the key topics addressed under nrg4SD's work programme, namely climate change, biodiversity, water resources & sanitation and sustainable development and. This session will provide the opportunity for real political interaction between nrg4SD members at political level. The Round Table will include concise and illustrative case studies from member regions and will offer the opportunity to engage in the moderated discussions around concise questions to all political representatives present.

Please contact the nrg4SD Secretariat if you are interested in providing regional case studies.

17h30 – 18h00 **Official picture**

19h30 **Cocktail reception**

Venue: National Assembly of Quebec
Restaurant *Le Parlementaire*

Wednesday, 31 August 31 2011

9h00 – 12h00 **North American Forum**

* Building upon the long-track collaboration initiatives of our host, the Government of Quebec, with other North-American Governments and stakeholders, this Forum will constitute a unique opportunity for nrg4SD delegates to link in with like-minded partners.

12h00 - 14h00 **Luncheon meeting (upon invitation)**

14h00 – 15h30 **General Assembly (open session)**

*The open session of the General Assembly will be the occasion to present the technical findings and recommendations of the working groups in order to adopt any declarations and advocacy messages from the Network related to the Rio +20 process and the UNFCCC. It will also be the moment to present proposals from members and observers in relation to nrg4SD work programme.

15h30 – 16h00 **Signature of the Declaration of Québec**

16h00 – 18h30 **General Assembly (session for nrg4SD members only)**

*The General Assembly will bring together all the political and technical moments from the previous sessions and discuss particularly the vision of the Network. Members will be kindly requested to deliberate and vote on key internal dossiers such as: (i) future paths for nrg4SD's further development; (ii) nrg4SD's 2012 budget; (iii) review of statutes and standing rules; (iv) election of nrg4SD Co-Presidency South; (v) general lines for nrg4SD's work programme for 2012, and the (vi) celebration of nrg4SD's 10th anniversary in the context of the UN Sustainable Development Conference Rio +20 in June 2012.