



nrg4SD General Assembly

Session of Working Groups - Agenda

Tuesday 30 August 2011 - 9h00 – 12h00 - City of Québec – Québec

Please note that this agenda is a draft subject to change

Objectives

Rio + 20 Working Group

In preparation for the Rio +20 Summit in 2012, nrg4SD has set up a Rio +20 Working Group which aims to (i) analyse the complex institutional and political aspects of the Rio +20 Process and relevance to the role of subnational governments in achieving sustainable development, (ii) provide scientific and academic evidence for nrg4SD policy and advocacy positions, (iii) conduct relevant initiatives to position nrg4SD in Rio +20 and establish relevant partnerships with key actors, (iv) organise the participation of nrg4SD at the Rio +20 Summit in 2012, (v) contribute to the nrg4SD post 2011 work programme on Rio + 20, and (vi) follow up on the main outcomes of the Rio +20 Summit of relevance to the network.

The **main objectives** of the kick off session at the General Assembly are: (i) to develop strategic discussions and messages on the role of subnational governments in the future sustainable development institutional framework, international environmental governance and transition to a Green Economy (ii) discuss nrg4SD's strategic stand in the Rio +20 process on the basis of a reflection paper currently under elaboration (i) adopt a political position including discussions on a nrg4SD World Summit of Regions in the context of Rio + 20 in June 2012 which also marks 10 years of nrg4SD. This 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.

Water Resources Working Group

nrg4SD has established a working Group to develop technical expertise concerning water management and the sustainable use of water resources. The **main objective** of the kick off session at the General Assembly is to discuss initiatives of joint work between nrg4SD and with ORU/FOGAR in the framework of the World Water Forum taking place in Marseille (PACA) in March 2012. This session will also pay attention to the Water Resources Work Programme.

Specific documents for this session of Working Groups are available [here](#).

Agenda

09h00 - 09h10 Introduction to the session

Chair of the Rio +20 Working Group session

Ms. Marta Subirá i Roca, Director General for Environmental Policy, Ministry of Territory and Sustainability, Catalonia

09h10 - 10h45 Sustainable Development and Rio + 20 Working Group

The coordination of the Rio + 20 Working Group resides in the nrg4SD Secretariat which strives to keep an strategic and forward looking approach in response to the intimate link between Rio +20 matters and the core mission and objectives of nrg4SD.

Speakers

- *Mr. Bruno Covas, Secretary of State for the Environment of São Paulo and Co-Chair for the South of nrg4SD*
- *Ms. Marta Subirá i Roca, Director General for Environmental Policy, Catalonia*
- *Mr Tomás Manuel González Alvarez, Expert, UN Non-Governmental Liaison Service UN NGLS*
- *Mr Pedro Spadale, Head of International Relations, Rio de Janeiro (tbc)*

Topics

09h10 - 09h40 Making sustainable development happen at subnational level

- * Sustainable development policy in São Paulo
- * The engagement of Catalonia in the Rio +20 process

09h40 - 09h55 On the Move to the Rio+20 *rendez-vous* - The Perspective of the Host State, Rio de Janeiro (tbc)

09h55 - 10h45 Subnational Governments and Sustainable Development – Addressing Key Challenges on the Road for Rio +20 and Beyond

- *A contribution of the UN Non-Governmental Liaison Service (UN-NGLS) to the nrg4SD 2011 General Assembly
- * Delegates are encouraged to briefly outline the key work of their respective subnational governments towards the Rio +20 process
- * Followed by strategic discussions on the advocacy messages and positioning of nrg4SD, including synergies with other networks and partnerships with international institutions

10h45 – 11h00 Coffee break

11h00 - 12h00 Water Resources Working Group

Chair of the Water Resources Working Group session

Mr Enrique Urrutia, Director of Institutional Relations and Innovation, Basque Water Agency, Basque Country

Coordinator of the Water Resources Working Group: Basque Country.

Speakers

- M. Marcel Gaucher, Director for Water Policy, Ministry for Sustainable Development, the Environment and Parks, Québec

- Mr. Philippe Cichowlaz, Director General of International Relations and European Affairs, Regional Council of Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur and representative of ORU-FOGAR

- Mr Enrique Urrutia, Director of Institutional Relations and Innovation, Basque Water Agency, Basque Country

Topics

11h00-11h15 The Great Lakes and the Saint-Lawrence River: An example of international cooperation between federated states

11h15-11h30 Re-launching the 2010-2014 Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for a cooperation framework on water issues in Latin America and the Caribbean

* A quick review of accomplished and planned activities, followed by discussions on the areas of interest to members and the potential geographical and thematic enlargement of the MoU

* Delegates are encouraged to indicate the areas where joint collaboration via nrg4SD could contribute to the development of their respective subnational water policies

11h30-12h00 Discussions on World Water Forum, Marseilles 2012

* Presentation on the opportunities for engagement with the Forum in synergy with PACA and ORU-FOGAR, followed by discussions and agreement on the areas for collaboration

12h30 End of the working groups session

Background and technical papers

Including recent nrg4SD materials for the Working Groups

Rio + 20

nrg4SD advocacy and position papers

- Subnational Governments: Key Actors in the Transition to a Green Economy – Advocacy Paper
- Subnational Governments: Key Actors in Sustainable Consumption and Production

nrg4SD background and technical papers

- Work Programme of the Rio + 20 Working Group

Water

nrg4SD background and technical papers

- nrg4SD Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for a cooperation framework on water issues in Latin America and the Caribbean
- nrg4SD Policy Paper – Water Policy

**For more information please contact Lucy Mathieson at the
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