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EXPERT GROUP ON BEST AVAILABLE
TECHNIQUES AND BEST ENVIRONMENTAL
PRACTICES

Third session

Tokyo, Japan, 11-16 October 2004

Item 2 (b) on the provisional agenda¹

Organization matters: Organization of work

SCENARIO NOTE FOR THE THIRD SESSION OF THE EXPERT GROUP²

Note by the Secretariat

Contained in the annex to the present note is a scenario note for the third session of the Expert Group provided by the co-Chairs of the Expert Group, Mr. Robert Kellam (United States of America) and Mr. Sergio Vives (Chile). This information is circulated as received.

¹ UNEP/POPS/EGB.3/1.

² This document has not been formally edited.

Annex

SCENARIO NOTE FOR THE THIRD SESSION OF THE EXPERT GROUP ON BAT/BEP

This note is intended to communicate our thoughts and expectations for the third session of the Expert Group (EGB-2), scheduled for October 11-16, 2004, in Tokyo, Japan. We are very grateful for the excellent work done by sub-group coordinators and Secretariat that produced a complete draft of the BAT/BEP guidelines (UNEP/POPS/EGB.3/2) according to the schedule agreed to at our previous session.

Objectives for the second session:

As the last of three meetings authorized by our terms of reference, we are hopeful that EGB-3 will complete the draft guidelines we were asked to produce for submission to the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm Convention (COP-1) to be held from 2 to 6 May 2005 in Punta del Este, Uruguay. To accomplish this, we will need to:

- Agree on the overall structure and organization of the draft guidelines;
- Review the sections of the draft guidelines and agree on any final modifications;
- Discuss our report to the COP and a process for submitting the draft guidelines to COP-1; and
- Suggest a process for further work on the guidelines, including updating.

Organization of the work:

We plan six full working days of meetings from Monday, October 11 to Saturday, October 16. The proposed daily schedule is from 9:00-12:00 and 13:00-17:00. During most of this time we expect the Expert Group will meet in plenary. It may be necessary, however, to adjourn plenary to allow contact groups to meet and discuss particular issues. Such meetings may continue beyond plenary working hours and rooms will be made available for this. The tentative schedule for the week is provided in document UNEP/POPS/EGB.3/INF/2.

With the exception of the opening session and the reception on Thursday evening, dress for the meeting will be casual.

The report of the session is an important product of our work. The report of the meeting as of the end of plenary on Friday will be approved with any amendments by plenary on Saturday. The results of the Saturday plenary meetings will be prepared by the co-Chairs in cooperation with the Secretariat.

Agenda for the session:

The annotated agenda for EGB-3 (UNEP/POPS/EGB.3/1/Add.1) identifies the issues for discussion and references the corresponding meeting or information document for each.

Monday morning will begin with opening statements and organizational matters (items 1 and 2 of the provisional agenda, UNEP/POPS/EGB.3/1) including: restatement of the Experts Group's mandate, summary of the results of the previous session, status report of work completed intersessionally and our expectations for how the session will be organized over the course of the week.

The Monday morning meeting will then take up those issues related to the development of the guidance in BEP and guidelines on BAT. We expect to generally follow the order provided in the tentative schedule for the week.

We propose to begin with those sections of the guidance that have been most recently drafted (fossil fuel-fired utility and industrial boilers, crematoria, and the destruction of animal carcasses) and will ask the coordinators to prepare short overview presentations (5-10 minutes). Following discussion by the Group, we will turn our attention to the remaining Part III categories, asking coordinators to limit their introductions to the comments received during the review period and their disposition.

We are hopeful that by the morning session on Wednesday, we will be able to begin plenary discussion of the Part II categories, again focusing on the comments received during the external review and their incorporation into the current drafts.

If issues arise in these discussions that would benefit from contact groups, we will adjourn plenary, probably during the Wednesday afternoon session.

Following the reports from the contact groups Thursday morning, we will then turn our attention to the introductory sections of the guidelines, including the discussion of alternatives, general guidance and principles, the existing standards and reference annexes, and any remaining issues. We expect that these discussions will continue into Friday and have allotted time for additional contact group discussions as needed.

Saturday morning will be devoted to reports from any additional contact groups and plenary discussion of our final report to the COP and the process for submitting the draft guidelines to COP-1. Recognizing that the mandate of the EGB will be completed upon submission of the draft guidelines to COP-1, we may wish to consider recommending to the COP any additional work that may be needed on the draft guidelines as well as a process for updating. During this session we will also take up other matters identified during the week.

Saturday afternoon will be devoted to review and adoption of the report from EGB-3 and closure of the meeting.

Outcomes of the Session:

By the end of our meeting in October, we hope to have:

1. Agreement on the text of the draft guidelines;
2. A plan and schedule for submitting the draft guidelines to COP1; and
3. The preliminary text of a report to the COP transmitting the draft guidelines, including the progress made, issues that remain, and any recommendations for further work, including a process for updating, as needed, the adopted guidelines.

Mandate and Future Work:

As an Expert Group, we have already achieved more than many of us believed possible. By the end of EGB-3, we are confident that we will have a product to deliver to the COP that will be of valuable assistance to the Parties as they work to implement the obligations of the Convention. While it will be up to the COP to decide on future work in this area, we can be understandably proud of the contribution that the Expert Group has made.

We look forward to seeing you in Tokyo.

Sergio Vives
Co-Chair, BAT/BEP Expert Group
August 31, 2004

Robert Kellam
Co-Chair, BAT/BEP Expert Group
August 31, 2004