

National Focal Points Meeting on National Reporting to CSD
United Nations Secretariat, New York
2-3 March 2009

Provisional Agenda

1. Introduction: Overview of National Reporting since 2002.
2. Exchange of country experiences in preparing National Reports to the CSD.
 - a. Benefits
 - b. Challenges faced
 - c. Stakeholder involvement
3. Actual and potential roles of the national focal points.
4. How can CSD National Reporting contribute to the national planning and monitoring process?
5. Further improving guidelines provided by the Secretariat.
6. Way forward.

1. Introduction: Overview of National Reporting since 2002

The trend in post-WSSD national reporting will be provided in terms of nature and coverage of information provided. The evolution of the national reporting guidelines will also be outlined with underlying principles.

2. Exchange of country experiences in preparing National Reports to the CSD

The meeting will provide an opportunity for participants to exchange experiences in preparing national reports to the CSD. Their brief inputs requested to be sent in advance will outline reporting experiences and methodologies used, lessons learned, and how their countries have benefited from the exercise. It will also identify challenges they have faced, and share information regarding stakeholders' involvement, institutional arrangements and coordination mechanisms.

3. Actual and potential roles of the national focal points

In an open discussion, participants will analyze their current and potential roles for CSD national focal points with regard to facilitating national reporting to the CSD, in an attempt to identify opportunities for improving the quality of reports through strengthening the role of NFPs and institutional re-arrangements.

4. How can CSD National Reporting contribute to the national planning and monitoring process?

Several national focal points may share their experiences in how CSD national reporting was used also for their own national planning and monitoring purposes. This will be followed by a discussion on key issues to be addressed for encouraging other countries to follow suit.

5. Further improving guidelines provided by the Secretariat

The participants will be encouraged to discuss how the reporting guidelines can be improved to facilitate both the national and CSD processes of monitoring and reviewing commitments. The possible inclusion of CSD indicators in national reporting will also be considered.

6. Way forward

The meeting will come up with a set of recommendations for the national focal points as well as for the Secretariat in order to enhance the recognition for the importance of national reporting as quality inputs to the CSD deliberations as well as its key non-negotiated outcome of the CSD. It should also discuss better way of networking. The final report will be circulated to all national focal points including those who have not attended.