

16 June

EU for Asia Brussels Briefing

***Ensuring sustainable development : a
common challenge for Asia and Europe***

Keynote speech

Multilateral policies on sustainable
development : where do we stand?

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- 1. Sustainable development negotiations**
- 2. Multilateral climate negotiations**
- 3. Multilateral biodiversity negotiations**
- 4. Other environmental negotiations**
- 5. Conclusions and some food for thought**

1. Sustainable development negotiations

- Stockholm, Rio, Johannesburg Summits: **changing paradigm**
- The three overarching objectives of sustainable development
- The 27 principles of the Rio Declaration (1992)
- The Agenda 21 (1992)
- The Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (2002)
 - poverty eradication
 - changing unsustainable patterns of production and consumption
 - the 7 time bound environmental targets
- The Commission on Sustainable Development
- The UN Conference in Rio in 2012 and its prepcom's
- The Marrakech process on sustainable consumption and production

2. Multilateral climate negotiations

- A nuanced analysis of the Copenhagen outcome
- Some lessons learned from Copenhagen
- Rapid new start achieved during past six months
- Roadmap for the six months to come
- Fresh ingredients for a better setting and context
- EU approach
- Scenarios of the likely outcome of Cancun

- Major Economies Forum, Rome, 30 June
- 25-26 June, G8, Muskoka (CAN) (is climate on agenda?)
- 26-27 June, Toronto, (same question)
- 20-21 July, 3° informal negotiation (subject mitigation), Mexico
- 3° formal negotiation, Bonn, 2-6 August
- 3° week September, New York, climate meeting Foreign Affairs Ministers
- 4° informal negotiation, Mexico, end September, beginning October
- 4° formal negotiation (MRV), China, first or second week October
- Next Major Economies Forum, date to be decided
- PRE-COP ministerial, Cancun, end November
- Cancun, 29 November-10 December
- Johannesburg, December 2011

3. Multilateral biodiversity negotiations

- The Biodiversity High Level Event, New York, 22.09
- The MDG-Summit : importance of MDG 7
- COP 10 in Nagoya
 - a new target beyond 2010
 - the Intergov Panel on Biodiversity & Ecosystem Services
 - treaty on Access and Benefit Sharing
- UN process on the protection of biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction, 4th meeting beginning 2011

4. Other environmental negotiations

- A global convention to reduce and ultimately eliminate mercury emissions : Chiba (Japan), February 2011 → Minamata Diplomatic Conference 2013
- The Strategic Approach for International Chemicals Management (SAICM)
- The very positive results of the current replenishment of the Global Environment Facility : **4,25 billion USD**
- Improving the UN structures for better “international environment governance”

5. Conclusions and some food for thought

- 1987 Brundland report unfortunately still perfectly valid :
“The integrated and interdependent nature of the new challenges and issues contrasts sharply with the nature of the institutions that exist today. These institutions tend to be independent, fragmented, and working to relatively narrow mandates with closed decision processes. Those responsible for managing natural resources and protecting the environment are institutionally separated from those responsible for managing the economy”
- From three pillars of SD → the environment as foundation of the construction
- The economic, financial, food, climate, and environmental crises are all but one crisis (A Steiner, 2008)
- Equal importance of climate and biodiversity negotiations
- The priority on Green Economy, but improve the concept
- The importance of international cooperation on sustainable production and consumption patterns