
**Third meeting of the Quick Start Programme
Trust Fund Implementation Committee**
Geneva
29-30 May 2007

Report of the third meeting of the Trust Fund Implementation Committee of the Quick Start Programme of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management

Introduction

1. In resolution I/4 adopted at its first session, the International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM) decided to establish a Quick Start Programme (QSP) to support initial enabling capacity-building and implementation activities in developing countries and countries with economies in transition. The Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) was requested to establish a voluntary, time-limited trust fund to provide seed money to support QSP objectives in accordance with resolution I/4.

2. Representatives of the participating organizations of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC)¹ and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) were invited to form a Trust Fund Implementation Committee for projects financed by the QSP Trust Fund. In addition, the ICCM established the QSP Executive Board consisting of government representatives of each of the United Nations regions and all the bilateral and multilateral donors and other contributors to the QSP.

I. Opening of the meeting

3. The second meeting of the Committee was held at International Environment House in Geneva, Switzerland on Tuesday 29 May and Wednesday 30 May 2007. The meeting was opened by the secretariat on Tuesday 29 May 2007.

¹ The participating organizations of IOMC are the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Labour Organization (ILO), the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), UNEP, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) and the World Health Organization (WHO).

II. Organizational matters

A. Election of a chairperson

4. Mr. Robert Visser, Deputy Director of the Environment Directorate of OECD, was elected to chair the meeting.

B. Adoption of the agenda

5. The representatives adopted the following agenda for the meeting on the basis of the provisional agenda set out in document SAICM/TF.3/1:

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Organizational matters:
 - (a) Election of a chairperson;
 - (b) Adoption of the agenda;
 - (c) Organization of work.
3. Review and appraisal of project applications to the Quick Start Programme Trust Fund.
4. Further development of application procedures and project management arrangements for the Quick Start Programme Trust Fund.
5. Nomination of a Committee representative on the international steering committee for the Canadian-led project to develop modalities for reporting on SAICM implementation.
6. Status of projects approved in the first round of applications.
7. Other matters.
8. Next meeting.
9. Adoption of the report.
10. Closure of the meeting.

C. Organization of work

6. The Committee agreed to meet from 9 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and from 13.30 p.m. to 6 p.m on Tuesday 29 May and from 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m on Wednesday 30 May 2007.

D. Attendance

7. The following organizations were represented: FAO, ILO, OECD, UNDP, UNEP, UNIDO, UNITAR and WHO.

III. Review and appraisal of project applications to the Quick Start Programme Trust Fund.

8. The Committee had before it document SAICM/TF.3/2 (summary of applications), as well as copies of the thirty-five applications (thirty from Governments and five from civil society organizations) received by the secretariat in the second round of applications. In compliance with ICCM resolution I/4 and guidance by the QSP Executive Board, the secretariat had screened the

applications for completeness and eligibility and presented the complete and eligible applications to the Committee for appraisal and possible approval.

A. Completeness and eligibility

9. The secretariat reported that it considered that four applications had not met the requirements for completeness and/or eligibility. The Committee endorsed the conclusions of the secretariat indicated in paragraph 3 and 4 of document SAICM/TF.3/2 and confirmed that two Government and two civil society network applications would therefore not be appraised by the Committee. The Committee however invited the applicants to revise and resubmit their applications in a later round when requirements for completeness and eligibility have been met.

B. Appraisal and decisions

10. The Committee had before it document SAICM/TF.3/INF/3 on the status of financial contributions to the Trust Fund, document SAICM/TF.3/2 summarising the criteria for consideration of and information on the applications, as well as copies of the full project proposal documents for each application. The Committee also took note in document SAICM/TF.3/INF/1 of the provisions of the QSP business plan for equitable delivery strategies and targets for the Trust Fund.

11. Before making the appraisal of applications, and, in order to avoid duplication with other chemicals management projects entailed in some trust fund project proposals, the Committee requested the secretariat, in future, to include more information on such projects in the summaries of applications, as well as to strengthen application requirements in this regard.²

12. Welcoming the increased number of project proposals with a multi-sectoral scope, the Committee recalled its previous decision that such proposals should demonstrate multi-sectoral support and engagement by providing letters of support from the various interested sectors. Members agreed that the submission of such letters of support should be a condition for approval in the present round, which led to many conditional approvals, and should be an application requirement in future rounds.³

13. The Committee reviewed and discussed the thirty-one complete and eligible applications and decided to approve four projects and conditionally approve another seventeen projects, with a combined total value of \$1,861,841. The approved or conditionally approved projects related to twenty Government applications and one civil society application and involved activities in twenty-one countries, including nine Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and four Small Island Developing States (SIDS). The geographical breakdown of the twenty-one countries concerned was eight African, six Asian-Pacific, one Central and Eastern Europe and six Latin American and Caribbean countries. Twenty projects of the twenty-one approved or conditionally approved projects were multi-sectoral and one was environment sector. The decisions of the Committee on the individual project proposals are summarized as follows:

- (a) Four projects with a combined total value of \$228,100 were approved:
 - (i) Project proposal QSPTF/07/2/GOV/07, submitted by Comoros for \$52,900: “Developing a national SAICM capacity assessment, holding a national SAICM priority setting workshop, and updating the national chemicals management profile in Comoros.”
 - (ii) Project proposal QSPTF/07/2/GOV/08, submitted by Lesotho for \$54,950: “Updating the national chemicals management profile, developing a national SAICM capacity assessment, and holding a national SAICM priority setting workshop in Lesotho.”

² See also paragraph 20 of the present report.

³ See also paragraphs 21 and 22 of the present report.

(iii) Project proposal QSPTF/07/2/GOV/22 submitted by Barbados for \$55,450: “Updating the national chemicals management profile, developing a national SAICM capacity assessment, and holding a national SAICM priority setting workshop in Barbados.”

(iv) Project proposal QSPTF/07/2/GOV/25 submitted by Kiribati for \$64,800: “Updating the national chemicals management profile, developing a national SAICM capacity assessment, and holding a national SAICM priority setting workshop in Kiribati.”

(b) Seventeen projects with a combined total value of \$1,633,741 were conditionally approved:

(i) Project proposal QSPTF/07/2/GOV/04, submitted by Palestine for \$82,250: “Development of a national chemicals management profile and a national chemicals management database in Palestine” was approved subject to the submission of letters demonstrating support for and involvement in the project of the Ministries of Health and Labour.

(ii) Project proposal QSPTF/07/2/GOV/05, submitted by Nepal for \$70,501: “Developing a national chemicals management profile, developing a national SAICM capacity assessment, and holding a national SAICM priority setting workshop in Nepal” was approved subject to the submission of letters demonstrating support for and involvement in the project of the Ministries of Agriculture and Health.

(iii) Project proposal QSPTF/07/2/GOV/06, submitted by Malawi for \$50,576: “Updating the national chemicals management profile, developing a national SAICM capacity assessment, and holding a national SAICM priority setting workshop in Malawi” was approved subject to the submission of a letter demonstrating support for and involvement in the project of the Ministry of Agriculture.

(iv) Project proposal QSPTF/07/2/GOV/09, submitted by Moldova for \$249,950: “Moldova and UNEP partnership on capacity building for improving the environmentally sound management of chemicals in the Republic of Moldova and the implementation of SAICM” was approved subject to the submission of letters demonstrating support for and involvement in the project of the Ministries of Agriculture, Health and Labour; clarification of the arrangement for monitoring and evaluation, particularly with regard to the independent status of the Institute of Ecology and Geography of Moldavian Academy of Science; and explanation of the project’s relationship to other relevant activities such as those supported by FAO in Moldova.

(v) Project proposal QSPTF/07/2/GOV/10, submitted by Eritrea for \$70,150: “Developing a national chemicals management profile, developing a national SAICM capacity assessment, and holding a national SAICM priority setting workshop in Eritrea” was approved subject to the submission of letters demonstrating support for and involvement in the project of the Ministries of Health and Labour, as well as of the designation of a suitable arrangement for independent monitoring and evaluation of the project.

(vi) Project proposal QSPTF/07/2/GOV/11, submitted by Cambodia for \$50,570: “Updating the national chemicals management profile, developing a national SAICM capacity assessment, and holding a national SAICM priority setting workshop in Cambodia” was approved subject to the submission of letters demonstrating support for and involvement in the project of at least two of the following Ministries: Agriculture, Health and Labour.

(vii) Project proposal QSPTF/07/2/GOV/13, submitted by Trinidad and Tobago for \$178,794: “Strengthening the legislative, regulatory and enforcement capacity of SIDS in the Caribbean” was approved subject to the submission of letters demonstrating support for and involvement in the project of the Ministries of Agriculture, Health and Labour, as well as clarification of the linkages with implementation of the Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, of the involvement of national chemicals regulations enforcement agencies and of the duration of the project. The Committee further suggested the updating of the national chemicals profile during the project, if possible. UNITAR was invited to provide relevant guidance in this regard.

(viii) Project proposal QSPTF/07/2/GOV/14, submitted by Kyrgyzstan for \$50,950: “Updating the national chemicals management profile, developing a national SAICM capacity assessment, and holding a national SAICM priority setting workshop in Kyrgyzstan” was approved subject to the submission of letters demonstrating support for and involvement in the project .

(ix) Project proposal QSPTF/07/2/GOV/15, submitted by Chad for \$119,900: “Strengthening integrated chemicals management for effective SAICM implementation in Chad” was approved subject to the submission of letters demonstrating support for and involvement in the project of the Ministries of Agriculture and Health.

(x) Project proposal QSPTF/07/2/GOV/16, submitted as first priority by Bolivia for \$69,550: “Strengthening national governance for SAICM implementation: updating the national chemicals management profile, developing a national SAICM capacity assessment, and holding a national SAICM forum in Bolivia” was approved subject to the submission of a letter demonstrating support for and involvement in the project of the Ministry of Agriculture.

(xi) Project proposal QSPTF/07/2/GOV/17, submitted by Honduras for \$85,000: “Strengthening national governance for SAICM implementation: developing a national chemicals management profile, developing a national SAICM capacity assessment, and holding a national SAICM forum in Honduras” was approved subject to the submission of a letter demonstrating support for and involvement in the project of the Ministry of Health.

(xii) Project proposal QSPTF/07/2/GOV/18, submitted by Ghana for \$50,750: “Updating the national chemicals management profile, developing a national SAICM capacity assessment, and holding a national SAICM priority setting workshop in Ghana” was approved subject to the submission of letters demonstrating support for and involvement in the project of the Ministries of Agriculture, Health and Labour.

(xiii) Project proposal QSPTF/07/2/GOV/20, submitted by Kazakhstan for \$50,300: “Updating the national chemicals management profile, developing a national SAICM capacity assessment, and holding a national SAICM priority setting workshop in Kazakhstan” was approved subject to the submission of letters demonstrating support for and involvement in the project at least two of the following Ministries: Agriculture, Environment and Labour.

(xiv) Project proposal QSPTF/07/2/GOV/21, submitted by Guatemala for \$85,750: “Strengthening national governance for SAICM implementation: developing a national chemicals management profile, developing a national SAICM capacity assessment, and holding a national SAICM forum in Guatemala” was approved subject to the submission of a letter demonstrating support for and involvement in the project of the Ministry of Labour.

(xv) Project proposal QSPTF/07/2/GOV/23 submitted by Burundi for \$99,250: “Updating the national chemicals management profile and developing a national chemicals management database in Burundi” was approved subject to the submission of a letter demonstrating support for and involvement in the project of the Ministry of Health.

(xvi) Project proposal QSPTF/07/2/GOV/30, submitted by Nicaragua for \$70,500: “Strengthening national governance for SAICM implementation: updating the national chemicals management profile, developing a national SAICM capacity assessment, and holding a national SAICM forum in Nicaragua” was approved subject to the submission of a letter demonstrating support for and involvement in the project of the Ministry of Agriculture.

(xvii) Project proposal QSPTF/07/2/NGO/05, submitted by the Day Hospital Institute for Development and Rehabilitation (DHIDR) in Egypt for \$199,000: “National awareness campaign for all stakeholders on the safe use and management of pesticides according to the International Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides” was conditionally approved subject to the submission of a letter demonstrating support for and involvement in the project of a labour or workers association.

(c) Five projects were recommended for amendment and resubmission:

(i) Project proposal QSPTF/07/2/GOV/01, submitted by Cameroon for \$249,100: “Contribution to reinforce the national chemical profile: assessment of toxic chemical pathways with related health and environmental hazards and capacity-building activities in the informal sector in Cameroon” was recommended for resubmission following adjustments to provide clarification of the arrangement for monitoring and evaluation, including proof of the independent status of the Centre de Recherche et d’Education pour le Developpement (CREPD); the relationship of the project to existing national chemicals arrangements and plans; the role of UNEP as a sub-contractor in relation to the inter-ministerial committee and the Chemicals Information Exchange Network (CIEN); and the international chemicals-related agreements and initiatives the project was building upon in order to address the second strategic priority of the QSP. The Committee also recommended the involvement in the project of trade unions and civil society and the submission of letters demonstrating support for and involvement in the project of other relevant Ministries, such as Health and, especially, Labour.

(ii) Project proposal QSPTF/07/2/GOV/02, submitted by Sudan for \$158,816: “Development of a sustainable integrated programme for the sound management of chemicals” was recommend for resubmission subject to the submission of a letter demonstrating support for and involvement in the project of the Ministry of Labour, as well as of clarification of the role UNIDO as an executing agency in the project and of the involvement of other relevant intergovernmental organizations in activities, including in relation to GHS, PRTRs and multilateral environment agreements.

(iii) Project proposal QSPTF/07/2/GOV/03, submitted by Jordan for \$221,950: “Implementation of the Integrated National Programme for Chemicals and Waste Management in Jordan 2005-2008” was recommended for resubmission following adjustments to modify the project title and the monitoring and evaluation arrangement, including reducing its cost, as well as to provide additional clarification of the linkage with the previous project to develop and sustain an integrated national programme for sound chemicals and waste management undertaken with UNITAR and the current project for Jordan’s Chemical Safety Network, as well as regional activities, in particular in relation to GHS and vector-borne diseases. The Committee also recommended

the submission of letters demonstrating support for and involvement in the project of other relevant Ministries, such as Labour and Health.

(iv) Project proposal QSPTF/07/2/GOV/12, submitted jointly by Ethiopia and Zambia for \$193,644: “Strengthening the legislative, regulatory and enforcement capacity of LDCs and LLDCs in Africa” was recommended for resubmission following adjustments to avoid possible duplication of activities with projects to be undertaken by the Swedish chemicals agency, KemI, in Zambia and partially in Ethiopia. The Committee recommended clarification on the links between the present project and the KemI projects and a possible extension of the project to additional countries, in order to strengthen its regional or multi-country component. If such an extension was not appropriate or possible, the Committee alternatively recommended the resubmission of the project as individual applications from each country. In either case, the budgetary allocation for Zambia should be reduced in light of support already provided through other channels, such as KemI. In both cases, letters demonstrating support for and involvement in the project of relevant Ministries would be needed, as well as clarification of the linkages of the project with implementation of the Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, of the required legislative work, and of the involvement of national chemicals regulations enforcement agencies.

(v) Project proposal QSPTF/07/2/GOV/27 submitted by El Salvador for \$240,981: “Lifecycle analysis of chemical substances” was recommended for resubmission following clarification of the relevance of the project to identified national priorities and the implementation of relevant international agreements; the relevance of the project to the QSP strategic priorities; the support and involvement of other Ministries and sectors, including Environment and Health, in the project; and the status of the Cleaner Production Centre in the Government structure. A more precise description of the expected outcomes of the project would also be required.

(d) Five projects were declined:

(i) Project proposal QSPTF/07/2/GOV/19, submitted by Pakistan for \$101,546: “Development or updating of a national chemical profile and the identification of capacity needs for sound chemicals management in Pakistan” was declined on the grounds that the proposed project could duplicate work on SAICM implementation being undertaken in a current UNITAR pilot project under the broader QSP. The Committee nonetheless invited Pakistan to consider submitting a new proposal building upon the work and outcomes of the current UNITAR project and focusing on the second and third strategic priorities of the QSP. Such a proposal would need to include letters demonstrating support for and involvement in the project of other relevant Ministries.

(ii) Project proposal QSPTF/07/2/GOV/28 submitted by Kenya for \$247,000: “Quick Start project under SAICM for Kenya” was declined on the grounds that it was not clear how a project with such a broad and ambitious scope could be implemented in the absence of a clear baseline such as a national chemicals profile. The Committee nonetheless encouraged Kenya to submit a new, more focussed project proposal, for example on the development of a chemicals profile or the identification of capacity needs for sound chemicals management, including possibly with the support of an intergovernmental organization with relevant expertise, such as UNITAR, as well as with the support for and involvement of other Ministries and with an appropriate arrangement for independent monitoring and evaluation.

(iii) Project proposal QSPTF/07/2/GOV/26 submitted as a second priority by Bolivia for \$165,532: “The management of chemicals in small ore mills in the basin of the “La Ribera” river in the state of Potosi” was declined on the grounds

that a first priority project had been approved in the present round and that the Committee had doubts as to whether the proposed project entailed “enabling” activities as provided for under the QSP. However, the Committee invited Bolivia to consider for a future round the submission of a new project proposal, building upon the work undertaken in the approved first priority project. Letters demonstrating support for and involvement of the relevant Ministries would be required.

(iv) Project proposal QSPTF/07/2/NGO/01, submitted by the Community Development Association in Sudan for \$110,000: “Chemical safety and cleaner production” was declined on the grounds that the proposed activities and implementation arrangements were not clearly described and also that the involvement of other non-governmental organizations and the multisectoral dimension of the project were not clear.

(v) Project proposal QSPTF/07/2/NGO/04, submitted by WWF Mongolia for \$199,854: “Supporting national efforts on the sound management of chemicals” was declined because of duplication of activities with the Mongolian Government project approved in the first round of application to the QSP trust fund. The Committee nonetheless encouraged WWF Mongolia to become involved in the existing project. The Committee invited WWF Mongolia to consider submitting a new proposal building upon the work and outcomes of the current national project. Such a proposal should involve a multi-sectoral approach and demonstrate fulfilment of the criteria for eligibility under exceptional circumstances.

14. The Committee requested the secretariat to take responsibility for confirming that additional requirements had been fulfilled by proponents of proposals which the Committee had conditionally approved. The Committee indicated that if by the time of its next meeting some applicants had failed to meet the conditions for approval, their projects would be declined.

IV. Further development of application procedures and project management arrangements for the Quick Start Programme Trust Fund

15. The Committee had before it document SAICM/TF.3/3, listing issues for possible consideration, which had been prepared by the secretariat as a possible starting point for the Committee’s deliberations and was mainly based on the outcomes of the second meeting QSP Executive Board, the adoption of the QSP business plan and the establishment of project implementation arrangements for projects approved in the first round of applications.

A. Eligibility

16. The Committee noted the decision of the QSP Executive Board on the eligibility of developing countries, taking into account target countries of donors and the special needs of LDCs and SIDS, and indicated it provided sufficient guidance. The Committee also noted of the Board’s ongoing discussion on the definitional issues in relation to “enabling activities”.

17. Noting the cases of civil society applications which had not received the endorsement of SAICM national focal points in the present round, the Committee requested the secretariat to draw to the attention of national focal points the relevant recent guidance from the QSP Executive Board. At its second meeting, the Board had decided that, spread over the lifetime of the QSP trust fund, it should be possible for a Government to participate in a multi-country and/or civil society project as well as receiving assistance for a national governmental project, provided that such projects did not involve duplication and that sufficient funds were available to the QSP trust fund, bearing in mind the need for equitable access to the trust fund among the eligible countries. The QSP Trust Fund Implementation Committee understood this guidance to allow for the possibility of multi-country or civil society projects being submitted at the same time as individual Government projects are submitted or implemented, taking into account sectoral and regional balance. The Committee also noted the need for approved national projects

to be completed before the submission of proposals for further national projects in the same country.

B. Application requirements

18. The Committee took note of the Executive Board's endorsement of the revised trustee and project administration fees structure, of the possible substitution of independent monitoring and evaluation by internal evaluation and audit activities of intergovernmental organizations acting as project executing agencies and of the secretariat's suggestion to revise the application materials in order for civil society applicants to address more precisely the three criteria for "exceptional circumstances".

19. Taking into account the suggestion of the secretariat to prepare, for consideration by the Committee at its next meeting, additional guidance for applicants on requirement for independent monitoring and evaluation of projects, members of the Committee offered to share with the secretariat some of their organizations' guidance on this subject.

20. In order to avoid duplication with other chemicals management projects entailed in some trust fund project proposals, the Committee requested the secretariat to include more information on such projects in the summaries of applications. The Committee also recommended that the applications and guidelines be amended to include a strengthened requirement for applicants to indicate links to past and existing chemicals management activities and projects, such as work to implement international agreements and develop national profiles, and bilateral and multilateral projects.

21. Noting the increase of multi-sectoral projects in the second round of applications, the Committee emphasized requirements for evidence of support from the various sectors involved in each case. The Committee recalled its previous conclusion that applicants for multi-sectoral projects should provide letters indicating support for and involvement in the project of different sectors, including agriculture, environment, health, industry and labour. As discussed at the recent meeting of the QSP Executive Board, the Trust Fund application guidelines would need to be strengthened with regard to the requirement of letters of support from relevant sectors.

22. In the case of Government proposals for both national and multi-country projects, letters of support would need to be provided by each relevant Ministry. In the case of national civil society applications with a multi-sectoral scope, relevant letters of support from at least civil society organizations in each of the relevant sectors would be required. In the case of multi-country civil society projects, letters of support from relevant sectors would be welcomed but not required. In all cases, the basic requirement for endorsement by the SAICM national focal point of each country where a project would be implemented would remain.

C. Review and appraisal of applications

23. The Committee welcomed the adoption of the QSP business plan by the Executive Board at its second meeting. Regarding equitable delivery targets for the trust fund, which directly relate to the review and appraisal of applications, the Committee noted the directive to aim for the allocation of 100 per cent of the available funds in each round and to approve projects for civil society networks valued at up to 10 percent of the funds available, subject to the availability of complete and eligible project proposals and the need to maintain an overall geographical and sectoral balance, while giving priority to LDCs and SIDS. The Committee also noted the business plan's call for the maintenance of a balance in the approval of projects between the three different strategic priorities of the QSP.

D. Project implementing arrangements

24. The Committee noted the project implementation and reporting arrangements established by the SAICM secretariat and UNEP for the first approved projects, including the standardised substantive reporting forms for use by project managers, which would also form a basis for reporting to the QSP Trust Fund Implementation Committee and the QSP Executive Board.

V. Nomination of a Committee representative on the international steering committee for the Canadian-led project to develop modalities for reporting on SAICM implementation

25. The chair introduced document SAICM/TF.3/INF/6/Rev.1, inviting the nomination of a representative of the QSP Trust Fund Implementation Committee on the international project steering committee for developing an approach for reporting on progress in SAICM implementation. Participants also discussed participation of the IOMC in the steering committee. The Committee agreed that UNITAR would represent the Committee on the project steering committee and suggested that WHO should represent IOMC participating organizations subject to confirmation by the Inter-Organization Coordination Committee. It was also noted that all members of the Committee were welcome to provide inputs into the project.

VI. Status of projects approved in the first round of applications.

26. The secretariat representative introduced document SAICM/TF.3/4, the report of the secretariat on the status of projects approved in the first round of applications and document SAICM/TF.3/INF/8, on coordination of QSP projects in Tanzania. He noted that delays had occurred in the establishment of project management arrangements but that the secretariat hoped that projects approved in the first round would soon be implemented and that, now that procedures had been agreed, progress would be considerably faster in the future. The ongoing coordination of the UNITAR and QSP trust fund projects in Tanzania was welcomed by the Committee.

VII. Other matters

27. The secretariat introduced document SAICM/TF.3/INF/3, the report on the establishment of and contributions to the QSP Trust Fund. He highlighted that contributions in 2006 totalled approximately \$6 million and that in 2007 nearly \$500,000 had been pledged so far, including from two new donors, Australia and Madagascar. He also informed the Committee of discussions with donors on further contributions and mentioned the 2007 fund-raising target range of \$6.3 to \$6.6 million provided by the QSP business plan.

28. In a discussion on chairmanship of the Committee, the representative of OECD reaffirmed his willingness to serve as chair of the Committee and invited Committee members to consider future rotation. Committee members indicated their support for the continuation of OECD as chair for the time being and noted the need for rotation, possibly on an annual or biennial basis.

VIII. Next meeting

29. It was agreed that the next meeting of the Committee should be held at the offices of UNDP in New York on 30 and 31 October 2007.

IX. Closure of the meeting

30. The chairperson declared the meeting closed at 12.33 p.m. on Wednesday 30 May 2007. The Committee reconvened briefly at 1.30 p.m. on Thursday 31 May 2007 to consider and adopt the report of its third meeting.
