

UNITED NATIONS

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia



TEEB and Rio+20 Conference

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The Decision to convene UNCSD (Rio+20) was decided in Dec 2009 by the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 64/236, in 2012 in Rio de Janeiro in Brazil.

Objectives:

- To secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development;
- To assess progress and implementation gaps in summit outcomes on sustainable Development implementation;
- To address new and emerging challenges.

Themes:

- I. Institutional framework for sustainable development;
- II. A green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication.

Brief History of UN Environmental Conferences



- UNCSD will mark the 20th anniversary of the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. UNCED, also known as the “Earth Summit” ;



- UNCED’s main outcomes were:
 - Rio Declaration on Environment and Development
 - Agenda 21
 - and the Statement of Forest Principles.
- CCD (Convention to Combat Desertification)
- UNFCCC (United Nation Framework Convention on Climate Change)
- CBD (Convention on Biodiversity)

Brief History of UN Environmental Conferences



- The 10th anniversary of Agenda 21 was marked in Johannesburg at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD), (26 Aug-4 Sept 2002) with the adoption of two major documents:
 - Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI)
 - Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development.



Partnerships for RIO+20 Regional Preparations



- In the context of its mandate to lead regional preparation for Rio+20, ESCWA has been closely cooperating with:
 - The League of Arab States (LAS) and
 - The United Nations Environment Programme/Regional Office for West Asia (UNEP/ROWA),
- that, together form the Joint Technical Secretariat of **JCEDAR** that advises the Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for Environment (**CAMRE**).



Joint Technical Secretariat:

LAS Secretariat (JCEDAR/CAMRE)

ESCWA

UNEP/ROWA

- **CAMRE:** Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for the Environment was established in 1987. It aims at enhancing Arab cooperation in all matters related to environment and sustainable development and coordinating Arab positions in environmental international fora.
- **JCEDAR:** Joint Committee on Environment and Development in the Arab Region established 1993 by CAMRE as an appropriate mechanism in light of the expanded scope of work of the Council. It aims at achieving program alignment among the member organizations.

Global and Regional Stakeholders Consultations

Preparations for UNCSD: Milestones



Upcoming Events	Dates	Expected Goals
1 st Preparatory Committee (PrepCom I)	16-18 May 2010 New York	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussed the agreed substantive themes of Rio +20
JCEDAR 12th Session	16-19 Oct 2010 Cairo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussion of Regional Preparations for Rio+20
CAMRE 22nd Session	19-20 Dec 2010 Cairo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Briefing on Green Economy Preparations for Rio+20
1 st Inter-Sessional Meeting	10-11 Jan 2011 New York	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UN-DESA Synthesis Report
2 nd Preparatory Committee (PrepCom II)	7-8 Mar 2011 New York	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussion of the substantive themes of the Conference
Arab Regional Preparatory Conference (PrepCom)	16-17 Oct 2011 Cairo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussion of regional reports Arab Declaration Regional Initiative – tbc
JCEDAR 13th Session	18-20 Oct 2011 Cairo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of outputs of the Arab Regional PrepCom

Regional Preparations for Rio+20: Regional Expert Group & Specialized Meetings



Activity title	Venue and Date	Expected Goals
Regional Workshop on Trade and Environment: Developing the EGS Sector in the Arab Region for Transformation into GE	Beirut, 15-16 Dec 2010	Discuss the basic concepts of a GE and the contribution that EGS can give to the achievement of such an economy
3rd Roundtable Meeting on Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Arab Region: Paving the Path to GE in the Arab Region	Cairo, 26-27 Jan 2011	Showcase best practices, review progress and exchange views on the needs and priorities of the region to promote the shift to SCP and the transition to a GE
Side Event to 15 th RCM Meeting: UN-LAS Consultation	Beirut, 2 June 2011	Discuss potential regional cooperation for Rio +20
1st Meeting of the Arab Working Group on Clean Fuel and Vehicles	Cairo, 7-8 June 2011	CAMRE and UNEP/ROWA led. Draw-up a regional strategy and roadmap for clean fuels and vehicles
Regional Preparatory Meeting for Rio+20: Economic Policies Supporting the Transition to a GE in the Arab Region	Beirut, 20-21 July 2011	Discuss GE policies with policy makers in ministries of finance
Civil society consultation meeting on Rio+20	Beirut, Sep 2011	Consultation with Civil Society on Rio+20
Green Industry Seminar	Beirut, 28-30 Sept 2011	Consultation on issues affecting regional industry in a green economy
16 th meeting of the Regional Coordination Mechanism (RCM) for Arab States	Beirut, 17-18 Nov 2011	Proposals and Follow-up from 15 th RCM Meeting Side Event

Arab Regional Preparations for Rio+20:

Targeting different stakeholders



Trade and Environment

- Regional Workshop on Trade and Environment: Developing the EGS Sector in the Arab Region for Transformation into a Green Economy (Beirut, 15 to 16 December 2010) – **UNEP, LAS**

Energy Stakeholders

- 3rd Roundtable Meeting on Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Arab Region: Paving the Path to Green Economy in the Arab Region (Cairo, 26-27 January 2011) – **UNEP, CEDARE**

UN agencies

- 15th RCM side event (Beirut, 2 June 2011)
- 16th RCM (Beirut, 17-18 November 2011)

Private sector

- National workshops in Lebanon, and Jordan (March and June 2011) - **Lebanon Opportunities, Jordan Chamber of Industry**

Arab Regional Preparations for Rio+20:

Targeting different stakeholders



Inter-ministerial national preparedness

- Saudi Arabia
- Syria

Finance

- Economic Policies Supporting the Transition to a Green Economy in the Arab Region (Beirut, 20-21 July 2011) – **UNEP, LAS, IdF**

Labor

- Green Jobs Kick-Off Workshop in the Arab States: Lebanon Case Study (Beirut, July 2011) - **ILO**

Water stakeholders

- Water in the Green Economy in Practice: Towards Rio+20 (Zaragoza, 3-5 October 2011)- **UN-Water and various partners**

Arab Regional Preparations for Rio+20:

Targeting different stakeholders



Industry

- Conference on the Role of Green Industries in Promoting Socio-economic Development in the Arab Region (Beirut, 28-30 September 2011) – **AIDMO, UNIDO, GIZ**

Civil society

- Regional Major Groups and Stakeholders Consultation in preparation for the Rio+20 Summit (Dubai 9-10 October), **UNEP**
- Regional Multi-Stakeholder Consultation for CSOs in the Arab Region in preparation for the Rio+20 Summit (Beirut, 12-13 October 2011) – **ANND**
- Major Groups Training (Cairo 15 October 2011) – **DESA**

SD Institutions

- Workshop on Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development in the Arab Region (Jeddah, 3-5 October 2011) – **PME, UNEP, UNESCO**

Regional Reporting

- 1) Joint Background Paper on Green Economy (LAS-ESCWA-UNEP) - submitted to CAMRE Session (December 2010)
- 2) Regional Report on the Green Economy in the Context of Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication (ESCWA)
- 3) Regional Review of Institutions for Sustainable Development in the Arab Region (ESCWA)
- 4) Progress Report on the Implementation of Arab Initiative for Sustainable Development (LAS)

- Why is Rio+20 important for TEEB?

...or

- What has TEEB to do with Rio+20?
- Resource constraints, natural capital loss and climate change will produce **negative feedbacks that could limit sustained and sustainable development and growth.**
- No SD can be achieved without a serious consideration of TEEB issues

TEEB and Rio+20



- The UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) provides a unique opportunity to address these challenges, particularly through the theme of “a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication”.
- The maintenance of healthy natural resources has been a theme of the 1992 UN Conference on the Environment and Development, and the targets and timetables in the 2002 Johannesburg Plan of Implementation
- Addressing implementation of such commitments through appropriate enabling conditions, tools and policies that facilitate the development and “scaling up” of innovative approaches should be a core issue in the outcome document for Rio+20

- The TEEB concept fits in the paradigm of **Green Economy**
- New way of considering the economic value of the environment as well as the Green Economy is considering environmentally friendly activities as an option for economic development.
- Environment at the centre of the socio-economic policies
- Some governments will try to include TEEB in the Agenda of the negotiations when the Green Economy issue will be considered

- **Institutional framework for sustainable development**
- Rio+20 will examine a number of institutional reform options to address the emerging challenges of sustainable development
- Improve the existing Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) or transform it into a new Sustainable Development Council (SDC).

Zero Draft of the Outcome Document for Rio+20



*11. We acknowledge, however, that there have also been setbacks because of multiple interrelated crises – financial, economic and volatile energy and food prices. Food insecurity, climate change and **biodiversity loss** have adversely affected development gains)*

*80. We note the establishment by the UN General Assembly of an Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group to study issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction, and we agree to initiate, as soon as possible, the negotiation of an implementing agreement to UNCLOS that would address the conservation and sustainable use of marine **biodiversity** in areas beyond national jurisdiction.*

Zero Draft of the Outcome Document for Rio+20



[Forests and biodiversity]

90. We support policy frameworks and market instruments that effectively slow, halt and reverse deforestation and forest degradation and promote the sustainable use and management of forests, as well as their conservation and restoration. We call for the urgent implementation of the “Non-Legally Binding Instrument on all Types of Forests (NLBI)”.

91. We welcome the Nagoya Protocol adopted at the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biodiversity. We support mainstreaming of biodiversity and ecosystem services in policies and decision-making processes at international, regional and national levels, and encourage investments in natural capital through appropriate incentives and policies, which support a sustainable and equitable use of biological diversity and ecosystems.

TEEB and Rio+20



The Rio+20 outcome document should refer to the following issues as necessary to create a new global development paradigm:

- ✓ Further efforts to mainstream and integrate the values of ecosystem services as integral to development planning are necessary
- ✓ Improving valuations of natural capital as part of national accounting frameworks.
- ✓ Scaling up payments for ecosystem services across sectors.
- ✓ Valuing natural capital, through payments for ecosystem services, should be included in the outcomes for Rio+20

Thank You!

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