BACKGROUND

In recent years, international markets for materials have changed with increasing international flows and a new geography of supply and demand. This reflects growing demands from OECD countries and emerging economies.

Global and domestic resource use, volatile market prices of many raw materials, and risks of supply disruptions have become important issues. Many valuable materials contained in waste are lost for the economy. This adds to concerns about the sustainability of natural resource use and the negative environmental impacts from the production and consumption of resources.

It is therefore critical to improve resource efficiency.

OBJECTIVES

Organised as a multi-stakeholder event, the Conference provides an opportunity for senior representatives from governments, businesses, international organisations and civil society to discuss resource efficiency issues in the global context and influence international debates.

It responds to interest expressed by governments, businesses and civil society at national and international levels and supports activities steered by G8 summits, including the 3R initiative promoted under the presidencies of Germany and Japan in 2007 and 2008.

The Conference will address how improved resource efficiency can reduce the negative environmental impacts of resource extraction, processing, use and disposal, while securing adequate supplies of materials to sustain economic activity. It will review:

- Knowledge and information about material flows and resource productivity and their economic and environmental implications.
- Policies, measures and instruments that help reduce environmental impacts from the production and consumption of resources, and avoid waste of resources.
- The framework conditions for markets and public policies to play their role in improving resource efficiency and ensuring sustainable resource use, considering the related development and governance aspects.

SCOPE

The focus will be on specific flows of materials (e.g. metals, plastics, paper, materials included in electronics), and on selected key sectors (e.g. mining, manufacturing, recycling, distribution).

WHO WILL ATTEND THE CONFERENCE?

- Top-level and senior government officials.
- Business leaders.
- Leaders of trade unions and environmental NGOs.
- Representatives of IGOs.

The Conference takes place just before the meeting of OECD Environment Ministers on 28-29 April 2008.

VENUE

OECD Conference Centre
2, rue André Pascal
75016 Paris, France

ORGANISERS

The OECD and UNEP are major international players supporting governments in designing and implementing policies to promote resource efficiency. The OECD has published a policy-maker’s guide on measuring material flows and resource productivity and developed recommendations on resource productivity. UNEP has launched an International Panel for Sustainable Resource Management.

CONTACTS

- OECD, Environment Directorate:
  Mr. Christian Avérous, Ms Myriam Linster
  mailto: edi-contact@oecd.org
- UNEP, Division of Technology, Industry and Economics:
  Mr. Bas de Leeuw, Mr. Guido Sonnemann
  mailto: sc@unep.fr
Conference on Resource Efficiency
23-25 April 2008

PROGRAMME
Conference Chairs
Mr. Mark J. MWANDOSYA, Minister for Water and Irrigation, Tanzania
Mr. Masayoshi NAMIKI, Vice Minister for Environment, Japan

Wednesday 23 April 2008

14h00 REGISTRATION

15h00 OPENING AND WELCOME STATEMENTS
Mr. Pier Carlo PADOAN, Deputy Secretary-General, OECD
Mr. Per BAKKEN, Acting Deputy Director, UNEP Division of Technology, Industry and Economics

15h30–18h30 I. RESOURCE EFFICIENCY IN THE GLOBAL CONTEXT**

KEYNOTE SPEECHES: Sustainable resource management and the 3R initiative
Mr. Ernst Ulrich von WEIZSÄCKER, Chair, International Panel for Sustainable Resource Management
Mr. Masayoshi NAMIKI, Vice Minister for Environment, Japan

Panel A Government Perspective
CHAIR Mr. Timo MÄKELÄ, DG Environment, European Commission
Panellists Ms. Susanne LOTTERMOSER, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Germany
Ms. HUANG Miao, Ministry of Environmental Protection, The People’s Republic of China
Mr. Derry ALLEN, Environmental Protection Agency, United States
Mr. Mark J. MWANDOSYA, Minister for Water and Irrigation, Tanzania

Panel B Business Sector Perspective
CHAIR Mr. Carlos BUSQUETS, International Chamber of Commerce
Panellists Mr. PARK Young-Woo, Business Institute of Sustainable Development, Korea
Mr. Dirk HAZELL, BIAC, Environmental Services Association, United Kingdom
Mr. Jérôme LE CONTE, Veolia Environmental Services

18h30-20h00 COCKTAIL RECEPTION
hosted by Environmental Services Association and BIAC

** Issues and challenges related to (i) developments in world markets and trade (link to supply security, globalisation, foreign outsourcing), (ii) policy implementation (link to the 3Rs, the circular economy, sustainable materials management (SMM), sustainable consumption and production (SCP), natural resource management, environmental impacts); (iii) development and governance (link to trade, investment frameworks, corporate responsibility, etc.).
Thursday, 24 April 2008

II. POLICIES, MEASURES AND TECHNOLOGIES

9h00 INTRODUCTORY STATEMENTS

Mr. Stephan BRINGEZU, Wuppertal Institute, Germany
Mr. Philippe CHALMIN, CyclOpe, University Paris-Dauphine, France
Mr. Kohmei HALADA, National Institute for Materials Science, Japan
Mr. Jim FAVA, Five Winds, United States

10h00 – 13h00

MODULE 1 IMPROVING KNOWLEDGE: MATERIAL FLOW ANALYSIS AND INDICATORS

- Information for decision making (macro, micro)
- Business sector applications
- Scientific knowledge (impacts, costs)

CHAIR Mr. Øyvind LONE, Ministry of Environment, Norway
RAPPORTEUR Ms. Janet SALEM, UNEP

LEAD SPEAKER Mr. Yuichi MORIGUCHI, National Institute for Environmental Studies, Japan

Invited Speakers
- Mr. Stefan GILJUM, SERI, Austria
- Mr. Edgar HERTWICH, Norwegian University of Science and Technology
- Mr. Tomas HAK, Mr. Jan KOVANDA, Charles University Environment Center, Czech Republic
- Mr. Peter JONES, Biffaward, United Kingdom
- Mr. Sangwon SUH, University of Minnesota, United States
- Mr. Jyri SEPPÄLÄ, Finnish Environment Institute
- Mr. Istvan POMAZI, Mr. Elemér SZABÓ, Ministry of Environment of Hungary
- Mr. Suren ERKMAN, Université de Lausanne, Switzerland

10h00 – 13h00

MODULE 2 FROM WASTE TO RESOURCES: GOVERNMENT POLICIES

- Materials management
- Markets and market instruments
- Legal and institutional frameworks
- Product policies

CHAIR Mr. Aldo RAVAZZI, Ministry of Environment, Territory and Sea, Italy
RAPPORTEUR Mr. Henrik HARJULA, OECD

LEAD SPEAKER Mr. Lars MORTENSEN, European Environment Agency

Invited Speakers
- Mr. Yasuhiko HOTTA, Institute for Global Environmental Studies, Japan
- Mr. Anthony CHIU, De La Salle University, Philippines
- Ms. Sara HARTWELL, Office of Solid Waste, United States Environmental Protection Agency
- Mr. Jürgen GIEGRICH, Institut für Energie-und Umweltforschung (IFEU), Germany
- Mr. Johann FELLNER, Technical University of Vienna, Austria
- Ms. Rut BIZKOVA, Ministry of Environment, Czech Republic
- Mr. Pierre PORTAS, Waste – Environment Co-operation Centre, France
10h00 – 13h00

MODULE 3  TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

- Clean technologies in key sectors
- New (bio-, nano-) technologies
- Information technologies
- Organisational innovation

CHAIR  Ms. Betsy SHAW, National Center for Environmental Innovation, United States Environmental Protection Agency

RAPPORTEUR  Mr. Xavier LEFLAIVE, OECD

LEAD SPEAKER  Mr. Martin CHARTER, The Center for Sustainable Design, UCCA, United Kingdom

Invited Speakers

- Mr. Arne REMMEN, Aalborg University, Denmark
- Ms. Inge PAULINI, Federal Environment Agency, Germany
- Mr. Henrik ÖSTERLUND, Motiva Oy, Finland
- Mr. Arnold BLACK, C-Tech Innovation Ltd, United Kingdom
- Mr. Lionel PLATTEUW, Resource Efficiency Alliance, European Partners for the Environment
- Mr. Norio TAKEYAMA, Toshiba Corporation
- Mr. Ralf PFITZNER, Siemens
- Ms. Virginia ALZINA, Regional Activity Centre for Cleaner Production, UNEP MAP

13h00  LUNCH BREAK

14h30 – 18h00

MODULE 4  SUSTAINABLE MINING AND RECYCLING

- Corporate cases
- Metals stewardship
- Material recovery and recycling
- Governance and the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative

CHAIR  Ms. Birgitta LINDBLAD, Swedish Steel Producers Association, Sweden

RAPPORTEUR  Mr. Guido SONNEMANN, UNEP

LEAD SPEAKER  Mr. John ATHERTON, BIAC, International Council on Mining and Metals

Invited Speakers

- Mr. Robert CHASE, Ms. Marlen BERTRAM, International Aluminium Institute
- Mr. Hans-Sierd PIETERSEN, DG Enterprise, European Commission
- Ms. Heloisa V. de MEDINA, Centro de Tecnologia Mineral, Brazil
- Mr. Masayuki NAKA, Dowa Eco-System, Japan
- Mr. Christian HAGELÜKEN, Umicore
- Mr. Joachim LOHSE, Öko-Institut, Germany
- Ms Maaike FLEUR, Global Reporting Initiative
- Mr. Alain DUBREUIL, Natural Resources Canada
14h30 – 18h00

MODULE 5  SUSTAINABLE MANUFACTURING AND DISTRIBUTION

- Corporate cases
- Product stewardship
- Remanufacturing
- Retailing and large-scale distribution

CHAIR  Mr. Agustín GARCÍA-LÓPEZ, Ambassador of Mexico
RAPPORTEUR  Mr. Tomoo MACHIBA, OECD

LEAD SPEAKER  Mr. Gerald REBITZER, Alcan Packaging

Invited Speakers
- Ms. Kristin PIERRE, Green Suppliers Network, Environmental Protection Agency, United States
- Ms. Mary Ellen MIKA, Steelcase
- Mr. Joseph W. (Joe) ALLEN, Caterpillar
- Mr. David PARKER, Oakdene Hollins Ltd, United Kingdom
- Mr. Peter WHITE, Procter and Gamble
- Mr. Olli-Pekka MÄKIRINTALA, Nokia
- Ms. Silke HERMANNs, Advanced Micro Devices, Germany

14h30 – 18h00

MODULE 6  INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION AND PARTNERSHIPS

- Development and MDGs
- Sharing good practices
- Capability Development
- Institution Building

CHAIR  Ms. Ana QUIROS, EcoGlobal, Costa Rica
RAPPORTEUR  Ms. Sonia VALDIVIA, UNEP

LEAD SPEAKER  Mr. Greg NORRIS, Harvard University, United States

Invited Speakers
- Mr. Kazuhiko TAKEUCHI, University of Tokyo, Japan
- Ms. Stephanie HELLWEG, Institute of Environmental Engineering, Switzerland
- Mr. Toolseeram RAMJEAWON, University of Mauritius
- Mr. Michael KUHNDT, UNEP/Wuppertal Institute Collaborating Centre on Sustainable Consumption and Production
- Mr. Detlev ULLRICH, Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit, Germany
- Mr. Smail ALHILALI, UNIDO
- Mr. Frank O’CONNOR, Ecodesign Centre Wales, United Kingdom
- Mr. Peter JAHNS, Effizienz-Agentur North Rhine Westphalia, Germany
Friday 25 April, 2008

9h00 – 10h00 PLENARY FEEDBACK FROM MODULES 1 TO 6
- Module 1. Mr. Øyvind LONE, Ministry of Environment, Norway
- Module 2. Mr. Aldo RAVAZZI, Ministry of Environment, Territory and Sea, Italy
- Module 3. Ms. Betsy SHAW, United States Environmental Protection Agency
- Module 4. Ms. Birgitta LINDBLAD, Swedish Steel Producers Association
- Module 5. Mr. Agustín GARCÍA-LÓPEZ, Ambassador of Mexico
- Module 6. Ms. Ana QUIROS, Ecoglobal, Costa Rica

III. MOVING THE AGENDA FORWARD

10h00 – 12h30

PANEL C Civil Society Feedback and Perspective
CHAIR Mr. Michael WARHURST, Friends of the Earth, United Kingdom
Panellists Ms. Doreen FEDRIGO, European Environmental Bureau, Brussels
Mr. George VARUGHESE, Development Alternative, India
Mr. Phil PEARSON, Trade Union Congress, United Kingdom

PANEL D Trade, Investment and Governance
CHAIR Mr. Ulrich BENTERBUSCH, G8 Heiligendamm Process
Panellists Mr. Juerg GERBER, World Business Council for Sustainable Development
Mr. Siddhartha MITRA, Consumer Unity and Trust Society, India
Ms. Marie-France HOUDE, Directorate for Financial and Enterprise Affairs, OECD

12h30 – 13h00 CLOSING

Conference summary and outcomes
presented by the Conference Chairs