Strategy and Policy Group

ANNOTATED AGENDA

Meeting of the Strategy and Policy Group (GOP) of the Club du Sahel

Paris, 3 April (pm) until 4 April (am) 2001
Hotel Novotel, Paris La Défense
STRATEGY AND POLICY GROUP (GOP) OF THE CLUB DU SAHEL

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Annotated Agenda

Co-Presidents: Mr. Joan Boer and Mr. Arjan Hamburger

This session should generate a discussion of the conclusions reached during the previous session with donors, followed by a debate on the work programme of the Club du Sahel.

The outcome of the donors’ meeting will provide the basis of discussion on issues of the Club’s focus and value-added, working environment and north-south partnership, geographic coverage, strategic alliances and governance structure and relations with the OECD.


3 APRIL PM

14:30 - 15:00 Welcome, tour de table and introduction

15:00 - 16:00 Presentation of the outcome of the donors meeting for discussion

16:00 – 16:30 Questions and Answers

16:30 –17:00 Coffee break

17:00 - 17:30 Issues remaining and conclusions from previous session

17:30 - 18:30 The Club du Sahel’s work programme

17:30 - 18:00 Projecting the sub-region into the future: Presentations by Mr. Musa Mbenga (CILSS) and Mr. Jean-Pierre Elong M’Bassi (MDP)

18:00 - 18:30 Questions and Answers

18:30 End of this session

19h30 Cocktail
4 APRIL AM

9:30 - 13:00 Session on the work programme resumes

9:30 - 10:00 Operational studies: Regional integration and co-operation. The activities and outputs envisaged for this theme would be:

- An analysis of the short-term socio-economic prospects for accelerated regional integration and co-operation;
- Experimentation with a study of how to promote local-regional dynamics in cross-border areas such as the Sikasso-Korhogo-Bobo Dioulasso region;
- Helping selected groups/networks develop action plans and lobbying strategies for addressing practical obstacles to regional trade;
- A strategy and action plan for meeting the needs of the Sudano-Sahelian area;
- An assessment of the effectiveness of donor support to regional integration and cooperation.

10:00 - 10:30 Operational studies: Local development and decentralisation. The outputs and activities foreseen would be:

- A local economy services centre in MDP as well as a consolidated database and synthesis of analyses of local economic dynamics and poverty reduction;
- The dissemination of a framework and methodology for local economy studies, especially in English-speaking countries where it has not yet been applied;
- An in-depth analysis of local governance relationships including political, economic, cultural and religious aspects; and
- An inventory of current mechanisms for financing local development.

10:30 - 11:00 Coffee break

11:00 - 11:15 Prospective analysis to identify emerging strategic issues. Under this item, three products are planned during the first year that would help develop detailed terms of reference with initial working hypotheses and a methodology for the remainder of the study. They are:

- An assessment of existing prospective studies and various methodologies with emphasis on work done outside of the Club’s current network of relations;
- A regional database, including both quantitative, physical and qualitative data; and
- Issues to be addressed based on potential users’ interests, especially the regional actors represented by government, private sector and civil society.

11:15 - 12:30 Joint work programmes with southern networks and institutional partners. This discussion will be facilitated by the representatives of:

- the Ministerial Lobby Group (GMAP)
- the CILSS
- the West Africa Entreprise Network (WAEN)
- the Municipal Development Programme (MDP)
- the West African Network of Farmers’ Organisations and Agricultural Producers (ROPPA)
12:30 - 13:00  Conclusions from session on the work programme
13:00  Close of meeting