



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL
ENVIRONMENT
Directorate C - Air and Chemicals
The Director

Brussels, 21 February 2007
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***INVITATION TO SENIOR OFFICIALS' MEETING OF THE JOHANNESBURG
RENEWABLE ENERGY COALITION***

NEW YORK, 26 FEBRUARY 2007 at 13.15-15.00 at the German House

Dear Madam/Sir,

Governments committed themselves at the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) to urgently increase the global share of renewable energies. Many governments, including the members of the Johannesburg Renewable Energy Coalition, have been hosting and/or contributing to regional and international conferences and partnerships or actively developed policies and measures to enhance the enabling framework for renewables to thrive.

In its current policy cycle, 2006-2007, the UN Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) is addressing sustainable energy, culminating with a policy session in May 2007. At the review session in May 2006 delegations broadly agreed that good progress was made, yet that there is a need to accelerate the development of and access to renewable energy services, as well to agree upon a follow up and review arrangement on sustainable energy at CSD15. CSD15 will thus have to decide, inter alia, on an effective review arrangement to monitor progress on global markets for renewable energy.

The Johannesburg Renewable Energy Coalition (JREC), with the financial support of Germany, Denmark, United Kingdom, Norway, Austria, and Sweden, has launched an informal process to identify possible options for such a review mechanism. The JREC Secretariat, hosted by the European Commission, has facilitated this work. An informal JREC Senior Officials workshop was held in Brussels 13 February 2007, open also to senior officials from non-JREC countries and to representatives from leading agencies and partnerships in the field of renewable energy. The workshop considered options for implementing an effective review arrangement on the basis of a draft background paper. An updated paper will be posted on the webpage given below on 22 February.

To further develop consensus on the features of an effective review arrangement for decision at CSD15 in May, I am pleased to invite a representative of your government/agency to attend an open JREC Senior Officials' meeting that will take place in New York during the IPM.

The meeting will take place on Monday 26 February 2007 from 1.15 pm until 3 pm, in the German House, 871, United Nations Plaza (1st Avenue/49th Street) New York, NY 10017.

I would appreciate your government's/agency's willingness to nominate a senior official, participating in the CSD15 intergovernmental preparatory meeting, to attend the discussions. **We would kindly ask you to confirm attendance by Friday 23 February 2007 using the attached registration form.**

I also attach a non-paper produced by participants of the 13 February workshop, which is to be considered as a useful basis for focusing the discussions on our meeting on 26 February. The non-paper does not, at this stage, represent the official views of the governments involved, nor of the European Commission.

If you need additional information please contact Mr Thomas Verheye at the European Commission, tel. +32-2-2959639, email thomas.verheye@ec.europa.eu (JREC and the substantive issues) or Joanne Wall at Ecofys Conference Services, tel. +31-346590901; email joanne@synergy-events.com (logistics of the meeting). Additional information, including a background note, is available on the following webpage: <http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/jrec>.

Yours sincerely,



Jos DELBEKE