Report of the IMG teleconference on the preparation of the EMG’s input to the 14th session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD-14) on ‘Industrial Development’
7 July 2005

1- The first IMG teleconference on the preparation of the EMG’s input to the CSD-14 in the area of ‘Industrial Development’ was organized by the EMG Secretariat in Geneva and attended by a number of EMG members, the list of which is attached to this report as Annex 1. Mr. Mohamed Eisa from United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) who was assisted by Mr. Skip Luken, the EMG consultant, chaired the teleconference.

2- In his introductory remarks, the chair explained that the objectives of the teleconference were to review the outline proposed by the EMG consultant for preparation of the Group’s input to the SG report, to identify the contribution and input of each agency and to agree upon the suggested timetable for preparation of the suggested input. He referred to the Information Note (attached to this report as annex 2), which contained information on the background, the scope and the schedule of the work of this IMG.

3- The EMG consultant introduced the outline and went through the suggested elements and issues therein. He suggested that the IMG input could focus on a selected number of UN agencies’ joint programs and could include descriptions of the more innovative programmes; their contribution to better industrial environmental management and to improved environmental quality. The report could also include a summary of the lessons learned from undertaking these programmes. He added that the suggested programs that could be likely considered in the report were “public disclosure (World Bank), corporate social responsibility (UNEP and UNIDO as separate efforts), national cleaner production centres (NCPC) (UNIDO and UNEP as a joint effort), environmental management accounting (UNEP) and Multilateral Fund for Implementation of Montreal Protocol (UNDP, UNEP, UNIDO and World Bank).

4- Regarding the IMG’s brief input for preparation of the SG’s report, the consultant proposed the “UNIDO/UNEP NCPC” and the “accomplishments of the four implementing agencies of the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol” as possible cases for the consideration of the Group. The consultant also informed the Group on the proposed schedule of work for the preparation of the IMG’s inputs.

5- Upon the request of the Chair and in order to better define and shape the Group’s input for the SG’s report, the Representative of the UNDESA described the outline of the SG’s report and its chapter on industrial development. He underlined that the report included a section on “industrial development and resource use/environmental impact” where the IMG’s input would be inserted. He underlined that the material from the IMG should focus on results and lessons learned and should avoid lengthy programme descriptions.
6- The participants put forward several suggestions for case studies that could be included in the full report from the IMG, which is due in December 2005. These included topics related to sustainable production and consumption, such as industrial ecology and eco-design; corporate social responsibility and the global reporting initiative; voluntary agreements; emergency response (APEEL); chemical management and the Stockholm Convention (as related to the manufacturing sector). One participant suggested the possibility of including off-site issues, not directly part of industrial environmental management; such as plastics recycling and take back of generated wastes. The IMG members also agreed on the two proposed programs suggested by the consultant to be considered as case studies in the brief input of the EMG to the SG report.

7- The Group agreed that additional inputs from the IMG members including the cases studies and programs should observe the following considerations:

1. They should be programmatic efforts with documented results at the country level. Plant-level case studies while interesting are not appropriate nor are reports on workshops and guidance documents unless they are integral to a larger programmatic effort.

2. The case studies should be the work primarily of specialized UN agencies (UN agencies and development banks). However, they could be done in cooperation with bilateral technical cooperation agencies.

8- It was proposed that the information on the case studies should be approximately five pages and should address the following points:

1. The nature and scale of the challenge/problem
2. Description of programmes, projects, policies to address it
3. Major outcomes (positive and negative)
4. Key factors for success
5. Main obstacles/problems encountered
6. Sustainability of results
7. Transferability of model
8. Key references for further information

9- The Group agreed that the members’ submission, including any case study documentation, should be sent to Mr. Luken (rluken@unido.org) with a copy to the EMG Secretariat (Hossein.Fadaei@unep.ch) by 12 August 2005.

10- The Group agreed as well on the schedule of the work proposed in the Information Note.