

**ASIA-PACIFIC FORUM FOR ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT  
MULTI-STAKEHOLDER MEETING  
24 January 2003  
Guilin, People's Republic of China**

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## **Points for discussion**

### **Introduction**

APFED was convened to formulate a new and long-term development framework that will lead to greater equitability and sustainability in Asia and the Pacific region. At its organizational meeting in October 2001, APFED members decided, as its immediate goal, to formulate a message to the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD). In 2002, APFED met on two occasions and formulated the APFED Message to the WSSD. After reviewing the environment and development issues facing Asia and the Pacific region, APFED members identified, and put forth recommendations on, five major issues and two overarching issues that require priority attention. Commitments were also made in the APFED Message to the WSSD to pledge APFED members' commitment to be active partners in putting the WSSD results into concrete action. This Message was disseminated at PrepCom IV and at the WSSD, through side-and parallel-events.

As the first APFED meeting since the WSSD, two objectives of APFED 3 have been identified. One, APFED members will decide what the Final Report will look like in terms of its substance and structure. Two, Members will discuss implementation of the Commitments made in the APFED Message to the WSSD.

At the Multi-stakeholder Meeting held on the occasion of APFED 3, it is expected that participants will discuss the APFED Final Report and Commitments in order to provide important input to the APFED deliberations on these two topics.

### **I. Final Report**

APFED Final Report should appropriately reflect the unique characteristics of APFED, such as:

Advantages:

*APFED is...*

- *a group of eminent persons representing themselves and not bound to any country or institution*
- *an international body representing 19 countries and 7 international entities, mainly from Asia and the Pacific region*

Restrictions:

- *officially meets once or twice a year*
- *must finalise its final output by the end of 2004*

With those characteristics in mind, below are discussion points regarding the Final Report:

1. **Content:** in the APFED Message to the WSSD, recommendations on five sectoral issues: freshwater resources, renewable energy, trade, finance, and urbanization; and two overarching issues: good governance and capacity building; were developed. Taking into consideration the mandate of APFED, namely to develop a framework of sustainable development that will lead to greater equitability and sustainability in the region, what perspectives on the issues should be reflected in the Final Report?
2. **Components to be included:** what should be included in the Final Report?  
e.g. recommendations, plan of action, do's and don'ts and their analysis, etc.
3. **Drafting Process:** how should the Final Report be drafted so that views of multi-stakeholders can be reflected?

## **II. APFED's commitments**

The three partnership initiatives that APFED committed in its Message are:

Collect and analyse best policy practices (BPP) in close collaboration with stakeholders;

Develop a network of researchers and research institutions (NetRes); and

Develop an inventory of capacity building programs (CBP) in the region and disseminate the information to those needing training

Points for discussion regarding Commitments are:

How can BPP be collected...

1. so that it is differentiated from other existing "best/good practices collection"?
2. so that it will capture the attention of policy makers and become a common asset in Asia and the Pacific region?
3. so that it will represent the uniqueness and diversity of the region?
4. to make the best use of the existing network of multi-stakeholders and experts who have

been involved with APFED?

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How can NetRes be developed...

1. in an effective manner to meet its objective, namely to put into practice the APFED recommendations on governmental policies and measures in the region?
2. so that it may involve stakeholders other than researchers and research institutions?
3. so that close collaboration with relevant international and/or inter-governmental organizations can be secured after 2004 (when APFED is over)?

How can CBP...

1. be made user-friendly and meet the needs of those who require training? i.e. what kind of information (such as topics, type of training, duration of training) should be collected?
2. be delivered to potential users in an effective manner?
3. secure collaboration with relevant stakeholders?