



UNCTAD



Sub-Regional Brainstorming Workshop on the Trade and Environment Issues Contained in Paragraphs 31 and 32 of the WTO Doha Ministerial Declaration

Bangkok, 30 July – 1 August 2003

EVALUATION OF THE WORKSHOP

Summary of the Evaluation Questionnaires:

1. The workshop was attended by 32 participants representing the six beneficiary countries in the region, and 20 evaluation questionnaires were returned. Of all the respondents, 65 per cent were government officials, 15 per cent from NGOs, 10 per cent from academia and 5 per cent from the private sector. In evaluating the relevance of the workshop, 90 per cent of the respondents were of the view that the workshop had met the needs of their organisation, with 70 per cent of them considering that the needs of their organisation were fully met. All respondents considered the issues debated relevant to their work, with 75 per cent considering the issues debated of close relevance to their work. Market access and eco-labelling were identified as the most important subjects of discussion.

2. With regard to the impact of the workshop, 95 per cent of the respondents believed that the workshop had enabled them to deepen the knowledge and level of comprehension of the issues debated. When asked if the workshop would be useful for further discussions at the national level, 70 per cent fully agreed and 20 per cent somewhat agreed, while on the usefulness for further discussions at the regional level, 55 per cent fully agreed and 40 per cent somewhat agreed. When asked to evaluate the effectiveness of the workshop, all respondents considered that the workshop had provided them with sufficient feedback, and 95 per cent were of the view that the event had met to various degrees their expectations. The workshop objectives were clear to the 90 per cent of the respondents, and the same percentage considered the time dedicated to each issue appropriate.

3. When asked what follow-up activities they would have liked to see, whether concrete projects in their respective country, (ii) more follow-up workshops in their respective country, (iii) initiatives at the regional level, or (iv) other activities, 75 per cent of the respondents wished to see concrete projects in their country, 60 per cent follow-up workshops, and 40 per cent initiatives at the regional level.¹ It was highlighted the need for closer coordination between trade and environment negotiators. When asked what further activities they wished to see UNCTAD undertake, answers included:

¹ Respondent could select one or more options.

- continue the ongoing project of capacity building for two more years;
- collect and disseminate information, undertake research and organise brainstorming workshops on environmental services;
- provide guidance, financial support, training on what is required at national level on specific trade and environment issues;
- organise more specific/targeted sessions, helping to achieve outcomes on specific issues that countries could further elaborate;
- country studies on specific issues as eco-labelling;
- more research work, providing sector specific analysis;

Summary of Answers:

Questions	Assessment					Average	4 or 5 (%)	Number of responses
	5=I agree/maximum		1=I disagree/minimum					
	5	4	3	2	1			
The workshop has met the needs of my organisation	14	4	1	1	0	4.55	90	20
The issues debated are relevant to my work	15	3	2	0	0	4.65	90	20
The workshop has enabled me to deepen the knowledge/level of comprehension of the issues	15	4	0	0	1	4.6	95	20
The workshop will be useful for further discussions and exchange of views at national level	14	3	2	0	1	4.45	85	20
The workshop has enabled useful discussions and exchange of views at regional level	11	8	0	1	0	4.45	95	20
The workshop objectives were clear to me	15	3	0	2	0	4.55	90	20
The activities of this workshop gave me sufficient feedback	11	6	3	0	0	4.4	85	20
The event has met my expectations	10	8	1	1	0	4.35	90	20
Time dedicated to each issue was appropriate	12	5	1	1	0	4.75	90	19
Did you find the networking opportunity that the workshop provided to be valuable?	13	3	3	1	0	4.4	80	20