

[CONSULTATION REPORT – TEMPLATE]

Canadian Environmental Network  
CONSULTATION REPORT

*(Consultation Delegates – please note – this report will be made publicly available on the CEN website.  
Please provide additional comments/concerns to the National Caucus Coordinator for distribution to  
Caucus.)*

**Title of Consultation:** Commission on Sustainable Development – 14<sup>th</sup> session

**Date(s) held:** May 1 -12, 2006

**Location:** United Nations Headquarters, New York, NY

**Author(s)**

**Name and Affiliation:** Samantha Green, Sierra Youth Coalition

**Contributor(s)**

**Name and Affiliation:**

**Number of ENGO Delegates at Consultation:** 1 ENGO representative, 1 youth representative

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**What was the purpose of the consultation?**

CSD-14 was the Review Session of the second two-year “Implementation Cycle” of the CSD, focusing on the thematic cluster of Energy for Sustainable Development, Industrial Development, Air pollution/Atmosphere, and Climate Change. CSD-14 was intended to undertake an evaluation of progress in implementing Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, as well as the Millennium Declaration, while focusing on identifying constraints and obstacles in the process of implementation with regard to the selected thematic cluster of issues for the cycle. CSD-15, a Policy Session to take place in 2007, will build upon the discussion that took place at CSD-14.

**What were the outcomes of the consultation?**

Since CSD-14 was a Review Session, there was no negotiated text outcome. The Chairman’s Summary, which will form the basis for negotiations at CSD-15, can be found here: <http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/csd/csd14/documents/chairSummaryPartI.pdf> (May 1 – 9) <http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/csd/csd14/documents/chairSummaryPartI.pdf> (“high-level” segment) The Matrix, a compilation of case studies prepared by the CSD Secretariat, can be found here: <http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/csd/csd14/documents/matrixCSD14.pdf> and a searchable database here: <http://webapps01.un.org/dsd/caseStudy/public/Welcome.do>

The International Institute for Sustainable Development’s Earth Negotiations Bulletin has a summary and brief analysis of CSD-14 here: <http://www.iisd.ca/vol05/enb05238e.html>

Outcomes from the Youth perspective:

- While the private sector is an admittedly important part of energy for sustainable development, youth felt that business and industry were over-emphasized at CSD-14. Youth are concerned that many governments are willing to interfere in the market only on behalf of big business and not on behalf of people or the environment. The CSD must emphasize corporate responsibility and accountability with respect to the private sector.
- The chair's summary includes nuclear and so-called "clean coal" in the definition of clean energy. Nuclear, "clean" fossil fuels, and large-scale hydroelectric and incineration are neither clean, renewable, nor sustainable.
- Youth called on governments to include clear target and timelines in the outcome to CSD-15, especially regarding a redirection of IFI funds from unsustainable energy projects to sustainable ones; a phase out of all subsidies for large hydro, fossil, and nuclear energy worldwide; and international cooperation on technology transfer.
- Although identified as an important crosscutting issue at CSD-11, youth do not believe that education was adequately addressed at CSD-14; education is the critical link between international discussion and grassroots action. The UN Decade on Education for Sustainable Development plays an important role and governments must embrace it with ambitious national plans. Young people must be involved in educating their peers; the youth caucus provided upwards of twenty case studies of youth who have initiated viable, sustainable, and profitable development projects, from Sweden, the UK, Nepal, Ghana, the US, Mexico, and Canada.

### **What are the implications of the outcomes of the consultation?**

The outcomes of CSD 14 form the foundation for the negotiations that will occur at CSD 15, 30 April – 11 May 2007, and the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting occurring 26 February – 1 March 2007.

The CSD NGO caucus is given the opportunity to produce a 1000-word policy statement. Preparation of the NGO statement, which will begin in late August 2006, is being coordinated by the CURES-Network (<http://www.cures-network.org/>). Those wishing to become involved in the process should sign up for the SDIN-Info listserve found at [www.sdissues.net](http://www.sdissues.net).

### **What action, in your opinion, should be taken by the ENGO community in the aftermath of this consultation?**

The Canadian ENGO Community should narrow its focus for CSD-15: What issues are most important to us? On what issues can we sway the government? ENGO representatives who attended CSD-14 and those who followed the CSD negotiations from Canada can provide comments to Foreign Affairs (through me at [greens@mcmaster.ca](mailto:greens@mcmaster.ca) or through Randy Christensen, the ENGO delegate to CSD-14, at [rchristensen@sierralegal.org](mailto:rchristensen@sierralegal.org)).

A two year youth delegate process has worked well for Sweden, Germany, and the Netherlands; each delegate serves for two years; there are two youth delegates at one time and their terms overlap. The purpose of the two-year youth delegate cycle is to facilitate introduction to the CSD, and to knowledge share. Canadian ENGOs and in particular YENGOs should lobby the government to implement this two-year process. Moreover, YENGOs should lobby the Canadian government to fund a youth delegate from the global South.

Canadian ENGOs can submit both positive and negative case studies to the matrix by registering here: <http://webapps01.un.org/dsd/caseStudy/public/Welcome.do>. Canadian ENGOs should also follow and participate in the development of the NGO statement that is being coordinated by the CURES-Network and should seek a meeting with the Canadian Delegation prior to the IPM in February 2007.