

Expert Meeting on Definitions and Dimensions of
Environmental Goods and Services in Trade and Development

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KENYA

Prepared by: Michael Otieno

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UNCTAD EXPERT MEETING ON DEFINITIONS AND DIMENSIONS OF ENVIRONMENTAL GOODS AND SERVICES IN TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT SWITZERLAND 9 – 11 JULY 2003

Background

The Doha Ministerial Declaration paragraph 31 (iii) had mandated negotiations on the reduction of trade barriers to environmental goods and services. However, the Declaration did not further define either “environmental goods or services”. Member countries therefore felt that in order to have meaningful and effective discussions at the working group (WG) on Trade and Environment they first had to be clear on these definitions.

Kenya’s Definition of Environmental Goods and Services

Environmental goods services are defined as those goods and services which measure, prevent, limit or correct environmental damage to water, air and soil as well as problems related to waste, noise and ecosystems and (may) include clean technologies, processes, products and services which reduce environmental risk and minimize pollution and material use depending on a country’s level of economic development.

The above definition was derived by the sub-committee on Trade and environment from the services definition of environmental goods and services adopted by the OECD.

There is no universally accepted definition of environmental goods and services whereas some WTO member countries have attempted to come up with what the definition in their view is or should be, it is important to recognize at the outset that neither has an agreement been reached on what definition is, nor does the Doha Declaration attempt to define environmental goods and services.

List of environmental goods and services

The sub-committee came up with the list of environmental goods and services which promote and/or preserve environmental conservation.

Some of the goods have future potential exports while others can be imported to carry out environmental services such as equipment to carry out waste water management.

The list is divided into two:-

A. Goods Focusing on:

1. Recycled waste
 - ◆ Products recycled from waste paper and plastics
 - ◆ Scrap metal products

- ◆ Coffee by products – e.g. recycled fuel from coffee husks
- ◆ Waste incinerators
- ◆ Ornaments from waste bones
- ◆ Sodium hydroxide
- ◆ Products made from sugar by products
- ◆ Gas from Biomass

2. **Water products**

- ◆ Water hyacinth products
- ◆ Water treatment plants and equipment
- ◆ Waste water recycling plants and equipments.

3. **Air pollution**

- ◆ Gas detectors
- ◆ Filter equipment
- ◆ Soot removers
- ◆ Catalytic converters

4. **Soil**

- ◆ Erosion control equipment
- ◆ Irrigation and drainage equipment, fertilizers (organic fertilizers)
- ◆ scrubbers – prevent things like gases and dusts in the cement factory
- ◆ Equipment –PH and electrical conductivity meters
- ◆ lime

5. **Ecosystems**

- ◆ Pyrethrum
- ◆ Natural pest control products
- ◆ Silk worm products
- ◆ Insect pollinators
- ◆ Organic products
- ◆ Honey and bee products
- ◆ Tea – (conserve environment or soil without application of fertilizers)

- ◆ Solar panels
- ◆ Hydronchloro fluoro cartons

6. **Others**

- ◆ Personal protective clothing/equipment (these products help in correcting environmental damage)

B. Environmental Services

- ◆ Services related to water for human use and waste water management
- ◆ Solid and hazardous waste management
- ◆ Sanitation and similar services
- ◆ Services focusing on the protection and ambient air and climate (exhaust gases)
etc
- ◆ Remediation and clean up of soil and water
- ◆ Services focusing on noise and vibration a battement
- ◆ Protection of biodiversity and landscape

Kenya's concern on Environmental Goods and Services

1. As we discuss issues on a possible multilateral environmental framework we should look at possible potential benefits and effects as capital importers and potential capital exporters of environmental goods and services.

Kenya is artisanal manufacturers of land brooms which also a key export and also a potential exporter of honey, bamboo, beeswax and medicinal substances from our tropical forest.

2. Kenya needs more technical assistance and capacity building in order to identify how trade in environmental goods and services can contribute to national environmental and developmental objectives and therefore be in a position to effectively participate in the fundamental element towards the negotiations in EGS.

Conclusion

Although the lists proposed by the OECD and APEC countries could be a good starting point, there is need to define or come up with a list that reflect the export interest to developing countries.

Sub-committee on Trade and Environment has attempted to come up with the list.