



International Chamber of Commerce

The world business organization



RIO+20
United Nations
Conference on
Sustainable
Development

Business

Part of the Solution



UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20)
20-22 June 2012 – Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Business ABC*

Background - Business - Calendar- ICC - Participate - Process -- Useful information
(as of 1 February 2012)

Background

In June 2012, world leaders will gather in Rio for the 20th anniversary of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, which produced Agenda 21, the first comprehensive global blueprint on sustainable development. This Conference is a time for the international community to reflect on what has been achieved and what has been left undone by the past generation.

**Please note that this document constitutes work in progress and has been drafted in best knowledge as of the date shown above. We will update it regularly as we receive new information. If you would like to inform us about updates or events to be added, please write to gdu@iccwbo.org.*

The objectives of Rio+20 are to

- secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development;
- assess the progress to date and the remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development; and
- address new and emerging challenges;

The main themes of the conference are:

- green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication,;
- institutional framework for sustainable development;

Critical issues discussed at Rio+20

Jobs, energy, cities, food, water, oceans and small island development states (SIDS), disasters;

Further topics referred to in the first negotiations text

- Climate change, forests, biodiversity, land degradation and desertification, mountains, chemicals and waste, sustainable consumption and production (10Year Framework of Programmes as part of the Marrakech Process), education, gender equality, measuring progress;
- Means of implementation: finance, science and technology, trade;

Rio+20 United Nations Process

- UN secretariat responsible: Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA).

Business – Is Rio+20 important for business?

Since the first United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD) in Rio in 1992, the role of business in sustainable development has changed considerably. Both the UNCSD and the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Rio+10) have led to the creation of concrete international frameworks and processes. These have mostly indirectly influenced the way business operates, such as the

- Agenda 21
- UNFCCC climate change process (e.g. Kyoto Protocol)
- Convention on Biodiversity (CBD)
- Global framework for sustainable production and consumption (SCP)
- Sectorial frameworks, such as the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM)
- Other national and regional legal frameworks



International Chamber of Commerce

The world business organization



RIO+20
United Nations
Conference on
Sustainable
Development

Business has already demonstrated considerable success in integrating sustainability into business practices, for example, via voluntary codes like the [ICC Business Charter for Sustainable Development](#), which has provided thousands of large and small companies around the world with the basis for sound environmental management, and the [ICC Ten conditions for a transition toward a Green Economy](#) – a part of a longer term so-called “Green Economy Roadmap”. Other examples include reporting initiatives such as the [Global Reporting Initiative \(GRI\)](#), standards and guidance such as [ISO 14001](#), as well as voluntary sectorial approaches and “soft law” approaches such as the [OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises](#). Companies in all sectors have taken concrete actions, from reducing environmental impacts across value chains to increasing energy and resource efficiency, investing in low-carbon and renewable energy and reducing waste.

However, more needs to be done if we are to meet economic, developmental and environmental challenges. Efforts by all actors should reconcile the need for short and medium-term profit with longer-term systemic change. Economic growth is and will be essential to provide the resources and social equity necessary to build capacity and finance actions in a transition towards a “green economy”. A “green economy” must ultimately function in a self-sustaining way and become integrated in international and global markets.

For how you can participate, please see sections on “ICC” and “Process”.



International Chamber of Commerce

The world business organization



RIO+20
United Nations
Conference on
Sustainable
Development

Calendar – Rio+20 key meetings for business

(as of 31 January 2012; further business events in Rio will follow)

- Official UN Rio+20 meetings
- Business related key meetings for Rio+20
- Key meetings/ stakeholder engagements related to or at Rio+20
- Other meetings for consideration

2012

What	When	Where	How
Initial discussions on the zero draft of the outcome document	25-27 January	New York, USA	through an accredited organization, such as ICC; please contact abh@iccwbo.org
Informal breakfast invitation from Member states – presentation of BASD 2012	27 January	New York, USA	By invitation; Contact ICC: lkw@iccwbo.org
UNEP Global Major Groups and Stakeholders Forum (GMGSF)	18-19 February	Nairobi, Kenya	through an accredited organization, such as ICC; please contact gdu@iccwbo.org
UNEP Governing Council / Global Ministerial Environment Forum (GC/GMEF)	20-22 February	Nairobi, Kenya	through an accredited organization, such as ICC; please contact gdu@iccwbo.org
Special High-level Meeting of ECOSOC with the Bretton Woods Institutions, WTO and UNCTAD: Discussion on common issues related to the global economy and sustainable development	13-14 March	New York, USA	http://www.un.org/esa/ffd/
1st "informal-informal" negotiations	19-23 March	New York, USA	through an accredited organization, such as ICC; please contact gdu@iccwbo.org
3rd Intersessional Meeting	26-27 March	New York, USA	through an accredited organization, such as ICC; please contact abh@iccwbo.org
REALISING GREEN GROWTH: Business & Industry Consultation with Government and Civil Society for Rio+20, hosted by the Government of The Netherlands, United Nations, BASD 2012	11-12 April	The Hague, the Netherlands	By invitation; Contact ICC: abh@iccwbo.org
2nd "informal-informal" negotiations	23 April - 4 May	New York, USA	through an accredited organization, such as ICC; please contact abh@iccwbo.org
Rio public-private dialogue (tbc)	March	New York, USA	By invitation; Contact ICC: lkw@iccwbo.org




International Chamber of Commerce

The world business organization



RIO+20
United Nations
Conference on
Sustainable
Development

13th Session of the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD XIII) - theme, "Development-centered globalization: Towards inclusive and sustainable growth and development."	21-26 April	Doha, Qatar	through an accredited organization, such as ICC; please contact gdu@iccwbo.org
UNFCCC meeting	14-25 May	Bonn, Germany	through an accredited organization, such as ICC; please contact gdu@iccwbo.org
G8 Summit	19-20 May	Chicago, United States	-
3rd Preparatory Committee Meeting	13-15 June	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	through an accredited organization, such as ICC; please contact abh@iccwbo.org
B20	16-17 June	Los Cabos, Mexico	ICC G20 Advisory Group For further information: www.iccwbo.org/g20 Contact: jeffrey.hardy@iccwbo.us
G20	18-19 June	Los Cabos, Mexico	-
UN Global Compact Corporate Sustainability Forum (focus on linkage UN with business)	15-18 June	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	For further information: www.unglobalcompact.org
BASD Business Day	19 June	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	By invitation; Contact ICC: abh@iccwbo.org
World Business and Development Awards in support of the Millennium Development Goals – ICC/IBLF/UNDP	19 June (evening)	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	By invitation; Award nomination process and further information: www.iccwbo.org/wba Contact: lkw@iccwbo.org
Rio+20 Conference 	20-22 June	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	through an accredited organization, such as ICC; Contact ICC: abh@iccwbo.org

Past Rio+20 official UN meetings

2011

1st Intersessional Meeting	10-11 January	New York, USA
2nd Preparatory Committee Meeting	7-8 March	New York, USA
2nd Intersessional Meeting	15-16 Dec	New York, USA

2010

1st Preparatory Committee Meeting	16-18 May	New York, USA
-----------------------------------	-----------	---------------

ICC – How is ICC working towards Rio+20? How can you participate?

ICC's engagement towards the Rio+20 Conference is channelled through:

- 1) ICC Green Economy Task Force and
 - 2) Business Action for Sustainable Development (BASD) 2012.
- 1) The [Green Economy Task Force](#), a part of ICC's Commission on Environment and Energy, is developing policy recommendations which serve as business input into Rio+20 as well as other initiatives on "green economy" issues. These ICC recommendations feed also into the global business perspectives which are promoted via the BASD 2012 initiative.

Products produced and under preparation:

- [Business definition on green economy, green growth and green economy](#);
 - [Conditions for a green economy – a summary document describing ten conditions that are required for a transition toward a green economy](#);
 - Under preparation: **Green Economy Roadmap** with concrete [recommendations for both business and government](#) on each of the ten conditions for a transition toward a green economy. The roadmap will also include [case studies/best practices and calls for proposals for new collaborations](#) to accelerate the transition to a green economy. Please write to the [ICC Secretariat](#) if you would like to make a contribution to the roadmap.
 - [ICC input to the Rio+20 zero draft](#);
 - [BASD input to the Rio+20 zero draft](#);
 - [ICC comments on harnessing investment and green growth \(OECD\)](#);
- 2) [BASD 2012](#) is a temporary business initiative for Rio+20, jointly convened by ICC, the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) and the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC). It is joined by a number of international sector associations. *Please see "Process" section for more information.*

In addition, ICC is linking its green economy work with its thirteen [policy commissions](#) (e.g. [Intellectual Property Roadmap](#)) and [G20 policy work](#), as well as its practical tools (e.g. [model contract on international transfer of technology](#)), and action-oriented platforms such as the Green Growth Trade and Investment Forums (China, May 2012 tbc). In this way, the green economy Roadmap and its call for action is becoming the unifying platform on the Green Economy theme. To propose collaborations or best practices for the roadmap, please contact the [ICC Secretariat](#).

Information about further ICC activities at the Rio+20 Conference will be shortly available.

Participate – How can you get involved?

Please see the section "ICC" and "Process".

Process – How is business organized at Rio+20?

- **Business Action for Sustainable Development (BASD) 2012** – a temporary coalition of business organizations – is the official United Nations coordinator of business and industry and will ensure the voice of business is heard at Rio+20 and during the preparatory process.
- Launched in October 2010; chaired by *Mr S. Gopalakrishnan (Kris), CEO and Managing Director of Infosys*
- BASD 2012 is convened by the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD), the UN Global Compact, joined by a number of international sector associations.
- The ultimate objective of BASD 2012 is to strengthen the contribution of Rio+20 to sustainable and inclusive markets and promote joint action between stakeholders – business, government, civil society and consumers towards green growth.
- BASD has a two-folded engagement:
 - **Official major group coordinator for all business and industry participants (B&I)**; please write to lea.felluss@iccwbo.org if you would like to be added on the Business & Industry (B&I) list to receive updates on Rio+20 provided by the United Nations for circulation, as well as participate, amongst others, at providing input to Rio+20 B&I statements.
 - **BASD 2012 policy input and engagement opportunities**
 - BASD key policy inputs
 - [BASD input to the Rio+20 zero draft](#)
 - [BASD input to the UN questionnaire](#)
 - The main event of BASD will be the Business Day during Rio+20 on 19 June. Additionally, a global business consultation (11-12 April 2012) and a Rio dialogue (tbc) will be organized.
 - Representatives for BASD conveners and partners work through their organization.



Further information: www.basd2012.org

Useful information

Registration for conferences

- Registration is open – you can register through organizations/associations accredited under the UN ECOSOC, such as ICC;
- For information: www.uncsd2012.org/rio20/index.php?menu=90.

Trainings/workshop for business

- [ICC webinars – Rio+20 in 60 minutes](#) (first webinar: 13 March 2012)



- Trainings are also organized by the UN – mostly during official UN Rio+20 meetings

Information sources for business

- BASD 2012: www.basd2012.org
- ICC
 - green economy: www.iccwbo.org/policy/environment/id40754/index.html
 - Rio+20: www.iccwbo.org/policy/environment/id47311/index.html
- UN Rio+20 major group website: www.uncsd2012.org/rio20/index.php?menu=35
 - Direct link - overview of key meetings and related outcome documents at a glance:
www.uncsd2012.org/rio20/index.php?page=view&type=12&nr=281&menu=23

Other useful links:

- Official Rio+20 website: www.uncsd2012.org/rio20/
- Summary reports on Rio+20 meetings: www.iisd.ca
- OECD – green growth: www.oecd.org/greengrowth
- UNCTAD – trade and sustainable development implications:
www.unctad.org/Templates/WebFlyer.asp?intItemID=5634&lang=1
- UNEP – green economy: www.earthsummit2012.org/
- WTO – trade and environment: www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/envir_e/envir_e.htm
- Stakeholder Forum: www.earthsummit2012.org/



Questions? Please contact us:

Strategic engagement

Carlos Busquets

Deputy Director, Policy and
Business Practices
carlos.busquets@iccwbo.org

Georgiana Degeratu

Assistant
gdu@iccwob.org
+33 1 49 53 29 16

UN engagement coordination

Louise Kantrow

Permanent Representative to
the United Nations
louise.kantrow@iccwbo.org

Lea Felluss

Assistant
lea.felluss@iccwbo.org
+1-212-703-5091

Content and communication

Andrea Bacher

Policy Manager - Environment
and Energy
andrea.bacher@iccwbo.org

About the International Chamber of Commerce

The International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) is the largest, most representative business organization in the world. Its hundreds of thousands of member companies in over 120 countries have interests spanning every sector of private enterprise.

A world network of national committees keeps the ICC International Secretariat in Paris informed about national and regional business priorities. More than 2,000 experts drawn from ICC's member companies feed their knowledge and experience into crafting the ICC stance on specific business issues.

The United Nations, the World Trade Organization, the G20 and many other intergovernmental bodies, both international and regional, are kept in touch with the views of international business through ICC.

For more information please visit: www.iccwbo.org