

- it creates a high level advisory board of eminent persons to advise the UN Secretary-General, the CSD, ECOSOC and the UNGA on issues relating to sustainable development.

The next steps in setting up the CSD will be taken at the February organizational session of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). At that session, the rules of procedure will be agreed upon, the workplan will be drafted, and elections for three year terms will be held. Canada is planning to seek membership in this first round of elections, although no formal steps have yet been taken.

Following the ECOSOC meeting, the CSD will have a short organizational session in New York to finalize the workplan. The first substantive session is scheduled for June of 1993, to be held in New York.

The permanent venue of the Commission has not been decided. The UN Secretary-General announced in December that the Secretariat for the Commission would have its headquarters in New York, with a branch office in Geneva. However, the UNGA was not able to reach a consensus on where the Commission should hold its sessions. The two options are (a) to hold sessions exclusively in New York and (b) to rotate sessions between New York and Geneva. The question will be taken up again when the General Assembly resumes its current session in March 1993.

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