

GREAT ITALIAN GX INITIATIVES

A Non Paper from the Non Network

Summit Expansion

Italy formally expands the Leaders summit into GX – somewhere between 13 and 20, setting in train in January 2009 the rigorous Sherpa preparation process required by the larger number.

Financial crisis

Request the G20 Finance Ministers to present a plan by November 2009 to redesign the global financial institutional architecture and arrangements to reflect the contemporary global economy. Ideas to examine include:

1. Expand the Financial Stability Forum (FSF) to include the G5 countries.
2. Mandate the IMF to play a catalytic role in convening regulatory and supervisory officials from major economies to engage in peer reviews and exchanges of current practices to strengthen oversight, supervision and regulation of financial market practices transnational financial institutions and sovereign wealth funds.
3. Expand the “college of regulators” beyond the EU to include cooperation on oversight of large financial institutions with substantial operations in multiple countries.
4. Mandate the IMF to design plans to move swiftly to an international system with multiple reserve currencies.
5. Phase out over 10 years of trade-distorting agricultural supports.
6. Initiatives making credible progress on the climate change/ energy, trade, and development issues.

Climate Change/ Energy

Incorporate the MEM process into the expanded Summit, with Italy hosting a series of preparatory meetings at Sherpa level. Leaders may agree to:

1. Invite China and India to join the IEA and enlarge its mandate to include sharing plans for expanding energy supplies and lessening demand.
2. Mandate the IEA, OECD, World Bank and UNDP, to together develop options to devise a global carbon market and an independent regulatory framework to be operable by 2013.
3. Assist the UNFCCC process by agreeing to 1990 as the base for future negotiations on targets to reduce future emissions.
4. Commit to substantial funding of the Adaptation Fund, the World Bank’s Clean Technology Fund, and the CCS pilot projects agreed at Hokkaido, with governance of all funds to be revised to include all GX countries in decision making and administration.

Nuclear proliferation policy imperatives

Leaders could request plans to be prepared for consideration at their next meeting to:

1. Encourage the reduction of nuclear inventories among the NWS (noting the longstanding commitment to abolish nuclear weapons).
2. Strengthen controls over nuclear stockpiles and material among NWS.
3. Minimize the attraction of the nuclear energy option to those who do not have these weapons, internationalize the nuclear fuel cycle by, among other initiatives, increasing the number of suppliers of enriched uranium and establishing permanent waste storage facilities.

Development

Leaders could instruct their Ministers to:

1. Organize preparatory meetings of science and/or development Ministers from the GX, with participation from the CGIAR Secretariat, the Gates Foundation, the STI group at UNCTAD, the IPCC, and the IUCN, to design proposals to:
 - Strengthen biodiversity and the international agricultural research system and support the re-engineering of the CGIAR system, fund initiatives directed at the development of high-yield plant varieties resistant to climate change. Connect the CGIAR to national agricultural research systems and extension programs.
 - Support a global competition for the best inventions, innovations and applications in two areas: low carbon energy technologies, and agricultural productivity (a la Gates Foundation's Grand Challenges in Global Health), with resulting patents to be held in the public interest. Provide advanced market commitments to minimize "up front" risk
2. Request GX aid and Finance Ministers to design new aid architecture for management of ODA, which includes funders (official and private philanthropic). The mandate would be to determine ODA priorities, share best administration practices, and provide a conduit for intended beneficiaries to report "client satisfaction" assessments to funders.

Responding to future US requests for troops for Afghanistan

Leaders could instruct their Ministers to explore complementary approaches:

- Strengthen the Afghan military and police and increase development assistance expenditures;
- Work through "good" warlords to achieve stability, particularly in the North;
- Depart in 2011 (or a pre-established date);
- Transform the mission into a UN operation instead of NATO;

NGOs

Italy could, as President of the G8, decide that:

1. In January 2009, following the example of Prime Minister Mori (2000) and President Putin (2006),¹ would meet with NGO leaders in preparation for the Summit.
2. Prime Minister Berlusconi would announce a process for dialogue between NGOs and GX teams to create a more credible and accountable GX - the "Magdalena Process" – a structured dialogue to strengthen the cooperation with civil society. To engage NGOs throughout the Summit preparatory process, working groups and task forces could be created with GX officials and civil society representatives. A progress report could be provided at the Canadian Summit in 2010, with recommendations to the 2011 French summit.

Unexpected Issues

To protect the important from the urgent, the Italian Presidency must prepare contingency plans for the unexpected on the eve of the Summit – e.g. civil war in Pakistan, a Russian invasion of Ukraine, an Israeli pre-emptive strike at Iranian nuclear facilities.

¹ e.g. as with the Putin St Petersburg Summit, the leaders of Greenpeace, WWF, Amnesty International, Oxfam, Social Watch, CIVICUS, Action Aid International, Consumers International, Human Rights Watch, Global Campaign for Education, Global Call for Action Against Poverty, International Council of Women and Transparency International.