Intervention of Saudi Arabia

By Aysar Tayeb 2nd Prep-Com for Rio+20 UN Headquarters, New York, 7-8 March 2011

Saudi Arabia Supports G77 Statements

Green Economy

As I did not get a chance to make an intervention yesterday, I would like to provide additional reflection on Green Economy.

- We agree with the G77 that there is a lot of ambiguity on what this Green Economy is, and more importantly, what is the intention of the introduction of this idea.
- The point to be stressed, it that this title should not a mean to follow for a new approach that breaks the balance of the three pillars of sustainable development, and lean towards environment at the expense of economic and social development.
- This should not also be a tool for trade protectionism
- Can this approach Green Economy be a tool for sustainable development? Can the architects of this approach prove that it can be implemented without compromising energy and food security? This is yet to be seen.
- It is thus not possible to endorse this Green Economy approach in light of all these concerns.
- We heard interesting views about this Green Economy. From some perspectives, it was a Blue Economy. And perhaps other colors and shades are also present.
- The differentiation between developed and developing countries, as enshrined in the Rio Principles, and the wide divergence between different levels of development and poverty, as well as the varying access to natural resources, all these factors and more, command that there has to be different colors and shades of economy.