



FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

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STANDARDS & REGULATIONS ENFORCEMENT AGENCY (NESREA) OF
NIGERIA AT THE 18TH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT IN NEW YORK ON 6 MAY 2010.**

**THEMATIC DISCUSSION ON A 10-YEAR FRAMEWORK OF PROGRAMMES ON
SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION PATTERNS**

Thank you Mr. Chairman,

My delegation associates itself with the statement delivered by the representatives of Singapore and Tanzania on behalf of the Group of 77 and China and the African Group respectively. We also commend the highly insightful and elaborative presentations by the panelist on this thematic issue of sustainable consumption and production.

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation recalls that at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, the issue of sustainable consumption and production was extensively discussed. Ten years after, at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg in 2002, all countries agreed on the need to eradicate poverty and change unsustainable production and consumption patterns. Today, the issue is still before us. The 18th and 19th Sessions of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development offer us yet another unique opportunity to address the issue.

Nigeria is the most populated country in Africa and is endowed with rich mineral and agricultural resources, including biodiversity. This has implications on our production and consumption patterns. Nigeria is very much aware of the need to ensure that her development is sustainable. We have therefore put in place various policies, actions and programmes to address the issue of sustainable production and consumption. Specific policies have been developed for each sector, for example, the National Policy on Environment; National Industrial Policy, National Policy on Agriculture, and the National Energy Policy. Various action plans such as the Vision 2020:20 and the National Agenda 21 have been developed through a participatory process involving all stakeholders at all levels in both public and private sectors, including the civil society.

Various institutions have also been established by the Government in this regard. National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC), is responsible for enforcing standards on food and drugs; Standards Organisation of Nigeria (SON) establishes standards for products and processes; Department of Petroleum Resources regulates petroleum production and consumption; Consumer Protection Council (CPC) deals with the protection of consumer interests; National Environmental Standards and Regulation Enforcement Agency (NESREA) enforces compliance of environmental laws, standards, regulations and guidelines, including the provisions of environmental conventions and treaties to which Nigeria is a signatory. The mandate of various Ministries and

Departments of the Government also support programmes on sustainable consumption and production.

Mr. Chairman,

All these policy instruments and institutional mechanisms are efforts by Nigeria to protect human health and the environment, and to ensure sustainable production and consumption of our natural resources.

Petroleum is our highest foreign exchange earner and sustainable utilization of the resource is of high priority to the Government. Various strategies have been put in place to ensure sustainable production and utilization of our oil and gas. The gas reinjection programme, the tax incentives on investments in eco-friendly and clean technology projects, and the mandatory environmental impact assessment of any project with potential negative impact on human health and the environment, are some of the efforts of Nigeria in this regard.

Nigeria is concerned about the lack of global equal playing field in the sustainable consumption and production patterns. We view it as unethical, situations where sub-standard technologies, obsolete products and services that are polluting and harmful to humans and the environment are sent to developing countries like Nigeria under various guises, especially when unfortunately, the exporters are fully mindful that such exports do not meet the required standards in their own countries. A situation also where multinational companies will have different rules and operational guidelines in their parent companies and in their subsidiary in the developing countries, creates opportunities for double standards and malpractices.

Mr. Chairman,

Nigeria welcomes the Marrakech process. It is our hope that the evolving work of the Process and the 10-year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Production and Consumption will lead to a clear understanding and appreciation of the proper mix of measures - voluntary, market-based and mandatory – that can promote sustainable production and consumption. The challenge of the framework therefore must be to identify actions that must facilitate the shift from unsustainable to sustainable production and consumption. And this will require equity and transparency, education and public awareness, knowledge-sharing, access to technologies, training, technical support and capacity building, particularly for developing countries.

Nigeria supports the view expressed by the Secretary General in his report on this thematic area about the necessity for complementary regulatory and market-based measures. We believe that such measures can create the required incentives to change business models and align resource use and resource costs. We also believe that sustainability principles must be entrenched in such business models.

In conclusion, global efforts to promote sustainable production and consumption patterns will be more meaningful only when those who produce more and consume more are able to do more to address the emerging issues. Nigeria will continue to intensify efforts at the country level to ensure sustainable production and consumption. We shall also support efforts and initiatives and partner with the international community on projects and programmes at the regional and global levels to address the issue.

I thank you.