



MISIÓN PERMANENTE DE MÉXICO

**Statement by Mr. Antonio Cuesta, Deputy Director General,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico, on Waste Management during the
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Good afternoon Mr. Chairman,

Sustainable waste management in all its aspects is an element of vital importance to move towards economies and societies that won't produce waste unsustainably and that generate negative impacts on health and the environment. To know about the amount generated and the characteristics of different kinds of waste is essential to develop new policies that will allow approaching adequately this topic.

Also, the principles of reducing, reusing and recycling are elements that we can't leave aside when implementing strategies for the proper waste management.

We think that the main obstacles to move towards a proper waste management can be found on the lack of data and information, in the lack of regulation laws, in technical and organizational flaws, as well as in the lack of proper trust funds.

Nevertheless, significant efforts must be taken into account to strengthen proper waste management, such as the elaboration of manuals and guides, the development of technologies and the implementation of new and better environmental practices. In this regard, a main component that must be promoted is the proper access to technologies and resources, enough to properly implement national strategies goals.

Mr. Chairman,

Radioactive waste management is such an important topic as well as a delicate one, since basically all countries generate these wastes from industrial and health related activities, reason why proper measures should be implemented for its management and production, as well as regulatory frameworks, clear policies and proper infrastructure.

For proper waste management, it is essential to develop a long term management strategy that includes, among others:

- Development of a public awareness campaign
- Waste management infrastructure planning

- Creation of economic instruments, such as payments for home-service waste collection, fiscal instruments including taxes on the final disposition of waste and measures to encourage consumers to reduce waste and to implement recycling
- Creation and/or update of the legislation on the producer's responsibility to promote recycling and avoid production of goods difficult to recycle
- Establishment of proper waste management policies, being aware of and understanding the great amount of different waste that is produced

Mr. Chairman, political decisions must be sustainable, must transcend government changes and favor actions oriented to:

- Promote didactical material on waste management, such as: manuals, guidelines, technology summaries, awareness workshops and good practices
- Exchange information and promote waste management technologies from developed countries, in particular the innovative technology of the 3Rs (reducing, reusing, recycling)
- Create platforms so that technology providers and recipients can interact with governments to establish partnerships in favor of society
- Develop comprehensive inventories of the sources, quantities and composition of electronic and dangerous waste
- Promote environmentally rational management of electric and electronic waste, during its recollection, storage, transport, repair or renovation in workshops and elimination
- Strengthen regional mechanisms to support multilateral agreements, including the promotion of information exchange and sanctions to illicit traffic
- Increase technology transfer to strengthen development and research systems, and promotion of the development of new solutions and technologies
- Promote international cooperation that contributes to proper management of dangerous waste and other kinds

Finally Mr. Chairman, sustainable waste management in developing countries requires counting with the necessary financial resources for its instrumentation, as well as to develop and implement innovative financial resources.

Thank you.