

## INTERLINKAGES AMONG THE THREE THEMES INCLUDING ALL CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES (4.30-6.00 PM)

The EU supports those who have called for thematic action as well as cross-cutting action at the CSD in favor of the three overarching objectives of, and essential requirements for, sustainable development:

- ✓ poverty eradication,
- ✓ changing unsustainable patterns of consumption and production,
- ✓ and protecting and managing the natural resource base of economic and social development.

As we have also seen in the previous sessions, cross-cutting action on financing, capacity building, technology support and governance are key elements to expedite implementation. These important elements have already been largely considered in interventions made by EU and others during interactive discussions on water, sanitation and human settlements to recommend policies concerning these issues.

But we have not enough addressed policies concerning three cross-cutting issues which are clearly connected to the needed change for adopting sustainable lifestyle patterns in the long term:

- ✓ Sustainable consumption and production patterns,
- ✓ Education on Sustainable Development
- ✓ and Gender Equality

These three issues are essential to ensure a truly efficient and sustainable result of efforts made on all themes of each cycles.

What we will do in this second slot, Mr Chair, is to propose three policy recommendations regarding these three themes.

- ✓ I shall present the two first one which concerns the education on sustainable development and gender equality.
- ✓ My colleague from Belgium will then also intervene on behalf of the European Union to present the issue on sustainable consumption and production patterns.

Copies of our presentation will be made available. We will pick out our key points. These are points that we want to add in the fourth section of the negotiated outcome of CSD13.

### POLICY RECOMMENDATION 3

On education for sustainable development in general, the EU thinks that CSD should underline that:

ESD demands a fundamental change of method compared to the traditional environment education;

- It implies a broadening of the scope of attention towards social and socio-economic aspects;
- Cooperation with local authorities is furthermore essential.

Furthermore, action at the CSD must be interlinked to, and develop synergies with, cross-sectoral efforts made in existing global or regional processes such as:

- The Decade on Education for Sustainable Development (UNDESD)
- The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development.

#### PRACTICAL MEASURES CONCERNING EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The EU believes that States should:

- promote **education for sustainable development** on water, sanitation and hygiene, targeting schoolchildren and young people, especially adolescent girls and
- endorses the following measures proposed in the Chair's Summary :
  - highlighting the necessity of adequate efforts for sanitation funds at national level by including a separate budget allocation for gender-segregated sanitation facilities in schools
  - raising the importance of a dissemination of hygiene and sanitation messages that are culturally and gender sensitive
  - introducing the combination of hygiene education with provision of sanitation facilities
  - proposing to introduce sanitation and hygiene into school curricula and education campaigns in a holistic manner

#### POLICY RECOMMENDATION 4

The EU thinks that CSD13 should ensure full participation of all relevant actors and should particularly highlight the **right of women to participate in decision-making processes**. Moreover, the EU supports Chair's Summary regarding full involvement of women in program, project development, implementation and evaluation.

#### PRACTICAL MEASURES CONCERNING GENDER EQUALITY

The EU believes that States should:

- **Eliminate constitutional and legal barriers** that bar women from access to credit, ownership or inheritance of land
- Improve access and ensure equal rights to basic services and land tenure, with particular attention to women.

- Include women in consultative dialogue for preparation of integrated water resources management plans.
- Adopt all appropriate measures by Governments for ensuring women's equal right to enjoy adequate living conditions, as provided for in the **Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)**
- Ensure **private sector involvement** consistent with and supportive of corporate responsibility and accountability principles, as addressed in the JPoI and by adherence to International Labour Organisation (ILO) core labour standards
- Invest in education, collaborative research and social and technological innovation to **strengthen the capacity of local authorities and actors, particularly women's groups**, to deal with CSD themes, including water, sanitation and human settlements issues, in a cost effective and integrated way and in response to local capacity building demands
- Use a gender-sensitive monitoring and evaluation systems, by collecting gender-disaggregated data as appropriate, by developing gender-sensitive indicators and gender analyses.

In order to ensure the provision of services and access to housing financing to low income groups including in rural populations, emphasizing the equal rights and access to women, States should :

- Promote **access to financial services at local level** by encouraging **micro-finance**, improving access to **micro-credit** and encouraging **community based organisation** and micro financial institutions to provide financial services to the poor, in particular in housing and sanitation facilities
- Create a **gender balanced enabling legislative framework** in order to support economic opportunities in the informal sector to **improve employment** and other economic opportunities at the local level

Belgium supports entirely the statement made by Luxemburg on behalf of the European Union. As announced by my colleague from Luxemburg, I am also intervening now on behalf of the European Union.

- ✓ My colleague has stressed the importance of policies regarding education on sustainable development and gender equality.
- ✓ What I shall do now is to stress the crucial importance of changing unsustainable consumption and production patterns.

May I recall, Mr Chair that what the EU has and will propose in this session are policy recommendations and practical measures which we want to **add in the fourth section of the negotiated outcome** of CSD13, to recommendations already made on these three items by our colleagues and in the Chair's Summary.

## POLICY RECOMMENDATION 5

The EU thinks that actions proposed at CSD13 should reflect the JPoI commitment to change unsustainable patterns of consumption and production, with developed countries taking the lead. The EU regards SCP as a priority in the follow-up of WSSD and the outcome of CSD13 should be to further elaborate on SCP in the context of the themes of water, sanitation and human settlements.

## PRACTICAL MEASURES CONCERNING SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

The EU thinks that States should:

- Adopt coherent **strategic approaches** at all levels to policy development and communication with regard to unsustainable and sustainable consumption and production patterns
- Act as a forerunner, by using sustainable criteria (environmental, ethical, gender etc) in their public purchasing
- Promote mutually supportive policies at the global level, i.a. environmental regulation mutually supportive with trade regulation
- Promote frameworks for **consumers' and producers' decisions**, including better information on consumption and production patterns,
- Encourage **effective governance structures** regarding consumption and production patterns
- Develop **analytical tools** and flexible mix of policy instruments, including economical instruments in order to **internalize external cost**, to improve synergies and better integrate between the wider range of policies and programmes impacting SCP
- Mainstream and articulate **decent employment and better services** in national and local policies and programmes for slum upgrading, targeting youth and women
- Promote frameworks for **sustainable finance and business SCP strategies**
- Develop infrastructure such as housing, energy/water systems, waste treatment systems and transportation systems that provides and facilitates a sustainable consumption and production of products and services

Regarding consumption patterns, we would like to support the Chair's Summary in the recommendation encouraging:

- ✓ Implementing demand management measures to promote water use efficiency across all sectors, in particular agriculture
- ✓ Managing competing water users at the appropriate level whether river basin, catchments, or aquifer

- ✓ Promoting water use efficiency by urban users
- ✓ Promoting international technology and know-how transfer in the areas of water conservation and efficiency

Regarding production patterns, we would also like to support the Chair's Summary in the following policy options:

- ✓ Encouraging water conservation and improving water productivity in agriculture,
- ✓ Integrating waste-water treatment into water resources management plans,
- ✓ Introducing cost recovery mechanisms for operation and maintenance of waste-water treatment plans
- ✓ Examining scope for waste-water recycling and re-use.
- ✓ Integrating waste-water treatment into water resources management plans