

Statement by Mr. Elyes LAKHAL, Counselor at the Permanent Mission of Tunisia to the United Nations at the UN Workshop 4 on the way forward: Strengthening the international architecture for environmentally sound technology development, transfer and dissemination

Mr Moderator,

Empirical studies demonstrate that Sustainable development can't be achieved without science, technology and innovation at the national level in each and every country. Acquiring clean and environmentally sound technologies through technology transfer is an important stimulus to developing countries efforts in the economic and social field as well as facilitating their integration into the global economy.

Indeed technology is an increasingly important element of globalization and of competitiveness. Therefore the international community should enhance its support to Developing countries efforts and investments in quality education, infrastructure and manufacturing capacity as well as technological capability.

Over the past 20 years, a system of capacity-building mechanisms for technology and sustainable development has emerged that is increasingly fragmented, including within the United Nations system. There is no global framework, agreement, assessment or monitoring mechanism for science and technology for sustainable development. The four workshops as well as the proposals listed in the report of the secretary general A/67/348 pursuant to General Assembly resolution 66/288, demonstrate the need for a global technology facilitation mechanism, as a way forward, which is commensurate with the sustainable development challenge. In my delegation view, **this global technology facilitation mechanism should consist of the following:**

(a) A global network, mechanism, or partnership, together with a technology development fund, in order to strengthen global research, development and demonstration cooperation, technology transfer and participation of developing countries;

(b) A global network of national business incubators, together with support programmes and technology prizes;

(c) A global clean technology venture capital fund, and sharing pools/funds related to intellectual property;

(d) A global network of technology transfer and information mechanisms, based on existing global and regional centres, online platforms, clearing houses, international conventions with technology provisions and economic partnership agreements;

(e) Public-private partnerships on collaborative intellectual property systems and licensing;

(f) A network of capacity development programmes and knowledge platforms within the United Nations system, to promote clean technology transfer, diffusion and public participation;

(g) An international network of technology assessment centres and/or national and global advisory groups on technology assessment and ethics;

(h) An independent advisory team (or dialogue mechanism) within the United Nations, composed of experts and stakeholders, drawing on a large pool of experts;

(i) A management and coordination structure within the United Nations, including regional and subregional cooperative mechanisms and national coordination units.

And in order to approach the matter systematically and comprehensively, the **global technology facilitation mechanism** should provide an intergovernmental forum under the United Nations, as it has been suggested by several panelists during the 4 workshops, including by Mr. Errol Levey, Counsellor at the delegation of the European Union in Washington. This technology facilitation mechanism should be able as well to interact with the high level political forum, in order to ensure global coordination and monitoring.

We believe that to be effective the **global technology facilitation mechanism** needs to:

(a) Address gaps throughout the full technology cycle, from research to development, demonstration, market formation and diffusion;

(b) Address these gaps in each and every country;

(c) Provide special support to developing countries.

(d) Promote partnerships to achieve technology-related sustainable development goals and reduce poverty, by enabling all countries to contribute to knowledge and technology development;

(e) Take action across sectors and countries to address issues related to technology convergence and underpinning technologies;

(f) Greatly improve technology transfer,

(g) Address intellectual property rights constraints for technology transfer, wherever they exist, including by exploring innovative voluntary approaches;

(h) Promote voluntary technology assessment through a global network;

(i) Build and greatly expand open international networks of collaboration in research, development and demonstration that allow for the participation of all countries,

Finally, the Global technology facilitation mechanism should provide the space and the forum to moving towards an interlinked and integrated approach, by bringing different tracks as well as different forces together, through approaching the matter systematically and comprehensively, in order to achieving the transformational change which is required for sustainable development in all countries, rich and poor.

Thanks