

**Statement of the Chinese Delegation on Mining  
at the 18<sup>th</sup> session of CSD  
May 5, 2010**

The mining industry is an important sector of national economy. In the face of population increase, resources shortage and environmental degradation, countries are confronted with a huge challenge of developing a sustainable green mining industry so as to ensure resources supply and economic development on the one hand and realize sustainable use of resources and environmental protection on the other. In this connection, we believe that efforts should be focused on the following aspects:

One, adhere to the principle of sustainable exploitation and utilization of mineral resources and apply this principle effectively in economic development planning and industrial policies.

Two, establish a comprehensive set of relevant laws and regulations to ensure that proper laws are in place and are strictly enforced.

Three, strengthen technological research and development in order to provide strong technical support to the sustainable exploitation and utilization of mineral resources.

China has a large mining industry and a huge demand for mineral resources. It is also experiencing rapid industrialization and urbanization and is faced with challenges such as a large population, inadequate resources per capita as well as severe environmental pollution and degradation. For these reasons, the Chinese government is committed to sustainable development, and is making huge efforts to promote the development of a circular economy and green mining.

China has enhanced its efforts to establish a complete set of laws and regulations for the protection of the geological environment of mines. Long term mechanisms have been set up for geological environmental protection and restoration. We have also developed plans for the protection of the geological environment of mines to be implemented in a systematic, orderly and phased manner in order to bring about an improvement of the geological environment. We are working hard to develop “green mines” and to achieve a balance between mineral resources development and environmental protection.