



MISIÓN PERMANENTE DE MÉXICO

**Statement by H.E. Mr. Claude Heller, Permanent Representative of Mexico  
to the United Nations, on Green Economy in the Second Session for the Preparatory  
Committee of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development**

New York, 7 March 2011.

*Check against delivery*

Good afternoon Mr. Chairman,

I would like to congratulate you for the excellent coordination that you and your team have presented and that I am sure will lead us to a successful Sustainable Development Summit next year. Following up your recommendation and based on the questions formulated, I would like to present some remarks on green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication.

I would like to start by emphasizing that after many decades of debates and their fragmentation in various forums, today there is no doubt that economy and the protection of the environment are interdependent and supplementary concepts that should be reflected in our development models if we really want to move towards a sustainable growth.

Achieving this goal sets huge challenges for all. It demands a change in the model and selection of new or strengthened economic instruments, which promotes this transformation and takes into account the specific contexts of each country. An important step is the dialogue being held now that will allow us to reach the agreements and understanding needed for this economic transformation.

Today there are more questions than answers on the table, but there is also a huge political will of moving forward in this very important agenda. There are new concerns of many countries, which we have to deeply analyze. Avoiding obstacles imposed in the trade sector or limits to financing in the context of green economy, development assistance and other ways of international cooperation. We also need to secure an international economic system that provides with the appropriate space for social and economic variables. Achieving the necessary balance to make sustainable development a reality is a great challenge, but we know that we can't afford to fail because of the devastating consequences that the current economic model is taking us to, based on the excessive and abusive consumption of resources and the intense use of fossil fuels.

As an example an element in the report "Towards a Green Economy" presented by UNEP, which shows that an investment of 2% of the world gross national product in primary sectors for a green economy, would allow for a 36% reduction of global energy intensity, measured in million tons of oil equivalent per gross national product unit before 2030.

We know therefore, that the fundamental tools for this economic transformation are in clean, innovative, resource efficient, and low carbon technologies and infrastructures. We must promote sustainable production and consumption, so it is essential the existence of incentives for research

and development of clean technologies and viable mechanisms to facilitate access and use in developing countries.

A lot of discussions are being held in other forums, inside and outside the United Nations. In the road to Rio in the 2012, we must take into account these discussions and focus on what we have to do in subsequent years and generate synergies among all international institutions.

A clear example about the discussions about the sustainability of the future development model is in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. In Cancun, after several years of tough negotiations, the collective will of the parties opened the door to a new era of international cooperation.

Trough the Cancun Agreements, derived from the Bali Roadmap, was achieved, in first place, the consolidation of a long term approach for the climate regime. This is the first time that we have a worldwide long term goal to maintain global temperature rise below 2°C. This objective will guide the collective action in the following decades, including trying to increase the limit to 1.5°C.

Likewise, and following strictly the Convention principles, the Cancun Agreements develop a solid and multidisciplinary institutional structure, establishing the Framework for Adaptation, the Technology Mechanism, the Green Fund for Climate Change, and the mechanism to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, known as REDD plus. This is accompanied by emission reduction goals from developed countries and national mitigation actions from developing countries, subject to transparency parameters.

As a whole, the Cancun Agreements position us, as international community, in the correct direction to move forward to the accomplishment of the ultimate objective of the Convention.