



MISIÓN PERMANENTE DE MÉXICO

Statement by the Delegation of México, on the Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development in the Second Session for the Preparatory Committee of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

New York, 8 March 2011.

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Thanks to the Co-Chairs for the opportunity to exchange points of view related to a topic that is extremely important for the international community: the Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development

Mr. Co-Chairs,

Mexico has been and will continue to be a relevant actor in the search for an inclusive and efficient international system that will solve the immense challenges sustainable development poses.

Current challenges the international community faces to achieve sustainable development are also an opportunity to develop new mechanisms and commitments at the highest political level to achieve the objectives and goals of sustainability.

Economic, social, and environmental problems that humankind faces at the dawn of the new century must be addressed effectively by a solid, competent, transparent, and inclusive international structure towards prosperous and low carbon economies.

Mexico firmly believes that it is necessary to implement an institutional reform at national and international levels, which will strengthen all the efforts aimed to the preservation of natural and human systems.

Strengthening the environment pillar of Sustainable Development, through an appropriate reform of the International Environmental Governance System, will contribute to the success of an integral reform of Sustainable Development Governance.

Mexico believes that the current Environmental Governance scheme must be strengthened through an intensive cooperation and coordination process among the various organisms and conventions within the environmental agenda.

This will impose the achievement of obstacles, such as the multiple and consequent fragmentation of autonomous international environment treaties and initiatives, dispersion of resources and efforts, effort duplication, lack of financing, among others.

We believe that the Commission for Sustainable Development must be strengthened. We must take into account its potential to become a unique global forum that reflects the priorities of sectors with regards to sustainability.

In this regard, it is necessary to adopt complex measures, as well as procedures that will allow the current options for an environmental governance reform take action.

In order to develop an integral analysis, it is necessary to clearly define what would be the necessary reforms to UNEP, to which would be pertinent to consider the experience of those subsidiary bodies to the United Nations that have universal membership.

There is a general agreement in that the proliferation of international environmental agreements had several effects, such as the generation of multiple forums to address environmental problems, growth and dispersion of international bureaucracy, unmanageable number of regional and international meetings, inadequate financing for all agreements, lack of effectiveness and coherence among the agreements, as well as lack of national capacities, human, institutional, technological, and financial, for adequate participation and compliance to the agreements.

Secure, predictable, and coherent financial support for environmental programmes is a precondition to succeed in the international framework for sustainable development reform.

Therefore we must look for agreements that will strengthen the link between international financial bodies and forums, in which political decisions related to sustainability are adopted, like the Ministerial Environment Global Forum and the Commission for Sustainable Development.

The transition to sustainable development demands new paradigms in which the needs presented by economic growth are sustained in social and cooperative responsibility, as well as on environmental integrity.

Mr. Co-Chair,

During July and November of 2010, in Nairobi and Helsinki, we discuss the option for a broad reform of the International Environmental Governance. In addition, a few weeks ago, the 26th Session of the UNEP Governing Council decided that the options identified in the Nairobi-Helsinki debates be discussed integrally, among other options, in the Rio+20 process.

The Preparatory Committee of the Rio+20 Conference will be now responsible for deciding how the institutional options identified by the Consultative group are to be approached, in the context of the institutional framework for sustainable development, in order to adopt a decision as important as the mandate of our conference.

We make a call to make use of the time frame available between March and December to move forward in our positions and reflect it in our national contributions to the process. We must also promote routine discussions amongst our countries and missions to move towards a shared pragmatic vision on strengthening a coherent institutional framework for sustainable development.

Finally, Mr. Co-Chairman, the Rio+20 meeting is a valuable opportunity to reform the institutional environmental framework aimed to the construction of solid public policies that allow building a low carbon future, according to the results from the Sixteenth Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held in Cancun last December.

Thank you.