INTERVENTION BY THE DELEGATION OF INDONESIA AT COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT Roundtable 4: Strategies for sustainable chemicals and waste management May 13, 2010

Mr. Chairman,

Indonesia would like to associate itself with the statement of the G-77 and China.

On Chemicals

The availability of chemicals is essential for meeting the social and economic needs of the world community. While significant progress has been made in managing chemicals in a sound manner we must not blind ourselves to the fact that the mismanagement of chemicals could gravely affect human health and the environment.

To ensure the implementation of sound chemicals management, we offer the following thoughts:

First, a more sustainable funding mechanism should be at the disposal of developing countries so that they can comply with multilateral agreements. This should be done without reducing financial support for each of the Conventions. The Quick Start Programme, for instance, should be further enhanced so that it becomes a permanent funding mechanism similar to the Multilateral Fund of the Montreal Protocol.

Secondly, having access to cost-effective technologies and sufficient scientific information in order to develop environmentally-sound policies can be a challenge for developing countries. This must be remedied if local bodies are to develop the capacity for risk-assessment and to put preventative measures in place to achieve risk-reduction.

Thirdly, instead of using chemical management as a new non-tariff trade barrier,

Indonesia urges our international partners, especially developed countries, to continue helping developing countries mainstream sound management of chemicals into their national development plans in accordance with the principle of "common but differentiated responsibilities".

On Waste Management

Mr. Chairman,

On the issue of waste management, there are at least four issues which must be considered:

First, The role of local government and local communities is vital to minimize waste production. We need to equip these stakeholders with highly effective and cheap technologies capable of meeting local needs as well as empowering them to develop their indigenous management capacities.

Second, management of the different types of waste necessitates cooperation and support from the private sector. The government could provide incentives to industries to enable them to use cleaner production processes and formulate green product policies.

Third, some countries are impacted negatively by hazardous waste coming from other countries, including toxic chemicals and e-waste. As a result, there is an urgent need for developing countries to build their capacity to deal more effectively with transboundary movement of hazardous waste as well as to develop or strengthen their expertise for hazardous waste management. In addition, to prevent illegal transboundary movement of hazardous waste, we need to strengthen the role of the Basel Convention.

Fourth, the effective implementation of sound waste management requires tremendous efforts and resources and alternative solutions. Implementation of 3R's approach may serve as one of solutions and should be further explored. As we reap benefits from this approach, it is important to enhance countries' capacity in 3R through regional cooperation including partnership between developed and developing countries. In this context, we need to enhance the capacity of the Basel Convention Regional Centers (BCRC). BCRC can also serve for regional capacity building for both sound chemicals and waste management.

I thank you.