

**STATEMENT DELIVERED BY CLAUDIA SANTOS - BRAZILIAN DELEGATION -
AT THE XV SESSION OF THE CSD ON MAY 1ST, 2007**

Madam Chairperson,
Distinguished delegates,

Brazil wishes to add its voice to those ready to act to respond to the challenge of increasing access to affordable, clean and reliable energy sources to meet the goals of sustainable development.

With this objective, the Brazilian Government has developed a comprehensive strategy to bring electricity to all its citizens by 2008 and has been implementing with great success extensive energy efficiency programmes.

Brazil believes that renewable energies should play a very relevant role in the global supply of energy and as a testimony to that statement, 45% of Brazil's total energy mix is made up of renewable energies such as hydropower and biofuels.

About 30 years ago, Brazil has engaged in a pioneer biofuels programme. Initially aimed at addressing the adverse impact of the 1973 oil crisis, Brazil's biofuels programme has proven to be a useful tool to reduce poverty and generate income in rural areas, enhance energy access of vulnerable populations in parts of the country not served by the national grid and last, but not least, contribute to the reduction of greenhouse gases emissions. Brazil is ready to share such experience and has been dialoguing with interested countries in this direction.

Brazil looks forward to the strengthening of international cooperation to facilitate the deployment of renewable energy technologies as well as to new and additional financial resources to increase the share of renewable energies in the global energy mix.

Brazil hopes that the final document of CSD 15 reflects the growing importance of renewable energies and the political will to move in this direction.

Thank you.