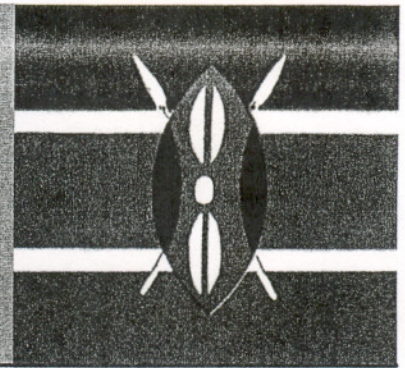




REPUBLIC OF KENYA



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**STATEMENT BY DR. TIMOTHY U. K. M'MELLA
LEADER OF THE KENYA DELEGATION DURING THE
INTERGOVERNMENTAL PREPARATORY MEETING OF THE
FIFTEENTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT (CSD-15)
ON THE THEME
“ENERGY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT”
ON
TUESDAY, 27TH FEBRUARY 2007
UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS, NEW YORK.**

Mr. Chairman,

May I on behalf of my delegation, thank you for your wise leadership in guiding the deliberations of today's meeting. Through you, also allow me to pay special tribute to the panelists for presentations well done.

Kenya delegation associates itself with the statement made by the distinguished delegate of Pakistan on behalf of G77 and China.

Mr. Chairman,

Energy for sustainable development is the provision of clean energy for development purposes in the long term without compromising the quality of the environment. Kenya recognizes the centrality of energy in achieving the goals of sustainable development, poverty eradication, environmental sustainability and even realization of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). According to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) none of the Millennium Development Goals can be met without major improvement in the quality and quantity of energy services in developing countries like Kenya.

Mr. Chairman,

The energy sector in Kenya comprises petroleum and electricity as the prime movers of the economy. Wood fuel provides the basic energy needs for the rural communities, urban poor, and the informal sector.

An analysis of the nation's energy use shows heavy dependency on wood fuel and other biomass that account for 68% of the total energy consumption, followed by petroleum at 22%, electricity at 9% and others about 1%. The sessional Paper 4 of 2004 on Energy lays the policy framework upon which cost effective, affordable and adequate quality energy services will be made available on a sustainable basis over the next twenty years (2004-2023).

Mr. Chairman,

For Kenya and other developing countries to meet the challenges that we are faced with in the area of energy for sustainable development, we propose that the following policy options be endorsed by CSD-15: -

- Ensure provision of quality, reliable, efficient and cost-effective power supply services to people majority of whom live in the rural areas,
- Expand the population's access to electricity as a means for stimulating income and employment growths,
- Improve the efficiency of power supply through reductions in technical and other losses,
- Strengthen capacity building in the area of the regulatory framework,
- Strengthen power transmission and distribution infrastructure,
- Enhance regional and international partnerships and cooperation in the area of energy production and distribution.

Mr. Chairman,

In other areas of Renewable Energy, Kenya proposes the following policy options for consideration by CSD-15: -

- To bridge the widening gap between supply and demand for wood fuel through the exploitation of other potential power generation using biomass resources,
- Promote sustainable biomass production and utilization,
- Chart policy direction that will lead to a shift of rural energy consumption from biomass based to cleaner fuels like Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) and electricity.
- Put in place fiscal regimes and regulatory framework that create an enabling environment to accelerate the development and utilization of solar energy technology,
- Encourage investments in the fabrication of wind power systems,

- Invest in pre-feasibility and feasibility studies in pico, micro and mini hydro-power in order to establish their economic viability.

Mr. Chairman,

On Energy and Gender, Kenya would like to propose the following for consideration during CSD-15: -

- Mainstream gender issues in policy formulation and in energy planning, production and use,
- Undertake public education and awareness creation on the cultural structures and practices hindering the access by women to bio-mass fuel resources,
- Undertake public health education on appropriate use of biomass and promote the use of fuel efficient biomass cooking stoves.

Mr. Chairman,

On Research and Development, Kenya would like to propose the following policy options for consideration during CSD-15: -

- Assist developing countries develop national energy research strategies,
- Help define specific roles of government energy suppliers and private sector in R&D funding,
- Assist governments to increase budgeting allocation for R&D,
- Improve coordination and reporting mechanisms on energy research activities and results,
- Facilitate local/national participation in international and regional research activities, particularly in technology oriented research.

Mr. Chairman,

In conclusion, Kenya hopes that the current discussions during IPM and the outcome of the forthcoming CSD-15 will lead to the implementation of policy options on Energy for Sustainable Development.

I thank you.