

**Canada's Statement
Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting for
United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development – 19th Session**

**10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and
Production**

New York, 3 March 2011, 9:00 am

Canada would like to start its intervention by reporting on the January 31 - February 1, 2011, North American Sustainable Consumption and Production Workshop on Green Building that the Governments of Canada and the United States as well as the United Nations Environment Program held in Ottawa, Canada.

The goal of the workshop was to foster a multi-stakeholder dialogue promoting bi-national collaboration on green building, as an important application of advancing international Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) efforts.

The Workshop successfully accomplished this goal and demonstrated that North America's approach has something to contribute to other countries in showing collaboration among governments and business/ civil society can move us forward with SCP. A key message emerging from the workshop is that government policy frameworks could be complemented by industry initiatives and partnerships as much as possible, in pursuit of SCP. A variety of stakeholders should be involved in such partnerships.

More specifically, in North America the green building sector has led development of greening standards and certification processes that build on government frameworks. Industry is also partnering with governments to move toward 'net zero' impact buildings and beyond. This collaboration among diverse partners can be a model for advancing SCP in other regions.

The workshop also demonstrated how existing collaborations can move forward. Indeed, many topics for collaboration emerged at the workshop such as on life cycle databases, partnerships between cities, and the skills gap in the operation and building performance of green buildings. Based on this success in establishing collaboration and partnerships, participants agreed that this workshop could serve as a good model for North American workshops on other sectors, such as agriculture and tourism.

With respect to developing draft decisions for the 10 Year Framework of Programmes on SCP (10 YFP), Canada is interested in a 10 YFP that supports

the numerous SCP activities that are currently taking place in Canada and elsewhere, whether they are being promoted by the federal, provincial, municipal governments, civil society, business or other stakeholders. This support could take the form of giving international recognition to these initiatives and promoting best practices that could be shared with other countries.

Canada supports the role of the CSD as a forum which provides the opportunity to share experiences, assess risks and challenges, and make informed decisions based on an integrated perspective on economic, social and environmental objectives.

Canada also believes that the Marrakech process and its bottom-up approach have been useful in supporting Sustainable Consumption and Production initiatives. Canada hopes that we can draw on the Marrakech process experience to develop a practical 10 YFP that is open and supportive of national and regional actions.

Canada supports the criteria of flexibility identified in current discussions about the 10 YFP model. Also, while acknowledging the need to simplify communications, Canada has concerns with the potential reporting burden that could arise from any new structure.

Canada also considers that many SCP related topics (e.g., energy, water) are already covered by other international agreements / institutions and that in developing a 10 YFP it will be important to avoid duplication of effort and resources with other international processes.

Canada's Federal Sustainable Development Strategy released in October of 2010 includes most of Canada's Federal Government programs related to Sustainable Consumption and Production. The Strategy will be updated every three years and will reflect Canada's current Federal SCP priorities and programs.

Canada's Federal Sustainable Development Strategy also includes greening government operations targets for the federal government that will contribute to promoting sustainable consumption and production.

The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development taking place in 2012 (Rio+20) includes the Green Economy as one of its themes. As SCP initiatives support the transition to a green economy, there are opportunities to make a clearer link between the CSD-19 discussions on SCP and the Rio+20 Conference.