SWEDEN



STATEMENT

by

Ms. Åsa-Britt Karlsson State Secretary, Ministry of Environment of Sweden

at the CSD-19 Ministerial Roundtable 1 on "Developing programmes and a framework to accelerate the shift towards SCP"

New York, 12 May 2011

- CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY -

Thank You Mr Chairman,

I align myself with the statement made by Commissioner Potocnik on behalf of the European Union and its 27 Member States .

Finally, after nine years of hard work, we are to adopt the 10 Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production. The framework offers a solid foundation and is a concrete and actionable response to various environmental challenges. It will also contribute to the greening of economies and assist us in the transition to sustainable development and the eradication of poverty. The African countries have understood the benefits of sustainable consumption and production and have already developed a Ten Year Framework of Programmes for their region.

Sweden has been very active in the Marrakech process. We hosted the third Marrakech meeting in 2007. And we have lead an international Task Force in support of the Framework with participants from different stakeholders in developing and developed countries.

The theme of the Task Force was Sustainable Lifestyles – not the easiest of tasks but crucial in order to achieve sustainable development. In our view new technology and innovation is important but not enough.

We have also supported UNEP in their work and the participation from developing countries, at regional and international meetings.

In order to implement the framework, we now need to establish an efficient organisation and ensuring participation and collaboration between Governments, UN-organisations and other stakeholders. Programmes and activities should be enabled and implemented in all countries.

Sweden will continue the support and commit to the implementation of the 10 year of framework, globally and nationally.

Not to loose any time – we already been waiting 9 years - we would welcome a number of programmes to start with. And we should start elaborating these programmes as soon as possible. For some of them, excellent proposals are already developed.

In our view, one of the programmes should of course be on Sustainable lifestyles, including, consumer information, education and infrastructures facilitating sustainable behaviour.

The 10 year framework of programmes is now our window of opportunity to actually make concrete progress – Let us not hesitate any longer.

Thank you