



SLOVENIA

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**STATEMENT
BY**

H.E. Mr. Roko Žarnić

Minister

**of the Environment and Spatial Planning
of the Republic of Slovenia**

**at the
Ministerial Round Table 3: Moving towards zero waste and sound management
of chemicals**

New York, 12 May 2011

**on the occasion of the 19th Session of
the UN Commission on Sustainable Development**

Mr Chairman,

Slovenia aligns itself with the statement made by the EU Commissioner for Environment, Mr. Janez Potočnik on behalf of the EU and its Member States.

In addition I would like to touch upon one important issue in the field of chemicals which my country, Slovenia, estimates as very relevant in today's world. Namely, I would like to address the problem of obsolete pesticides and related clean-up measures.

We must bear in mind that there is a very strong link among chemicals, environment and health and on the other hand connection to other issues such as climate change, biodiversity loss, failure of ecosystems, water contamination, food contamination related to chemical use in agricultural practices, whereby one of the challenges are obsolete stocks of pesticides and other obsolete chemicals, particularly in the developing countries and countries with economies in transition. Therefore we have to solve the problem of obsolete pesticides and provide better monitoring over the hazardous chemicals all over the world in a near future in order to prevent further deterioration of our natural environment.

To achieve this goal the activities for elimination of old stocks of obsolete pesticides and other obsolete chemicals and prevention of future stock-piling should be fostered and the measures against illegal dumping of dangerous chemicals, including obsolete pesticides, strictly implemented.

We should provide preventive chemicals management all around the globe and secure that hazardous chemicals will not be in the market. It is very important for the global chemical security to eliminate the practice that forbidden chemicals are exported to other places in the world where the legislation is less strict.

To this aim consistent implementation of the adopted relevant conventions is crucial.

Thank you for your attention!