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IPM CSD-13 on Water, Sanitation and Human Settlements
New York, February 28 to March 4, 2005

Speaking Points

Subject: Capacity and financing requirements for meeting the sanitation targets
Date and Time: 2.3.2005, 10:00-13:00, Conference Room 3
Responsible Person: Thomas Knecht, Member of the Swiss Delegation

- A way forward in sanitation is to focus on **demand-oriented policies** with a fresh look at what roles and responsibilities the different actors (public and private) should and can play.
- **Private sector involvement is *important to meet this demand***. For Switzerland it is primordial to develop and promote the role particularly of small and medium-sized entrepreneurs for the rendering of sanitation services. Because these private sector actors have the capacity to deliver creative and innovative solutions that 'provide better services for all customers, including the poor.
- Governments and civil society must actively work together to promote an enabling framework and the **creation of markets** for sanitation and hygiene. At the same time, public funds are still needed for hygiene campaigns, sanitation promotion and social marketing.
- We also believe that governments, **donors and financing institutions should make initial investments** to enable the emergence of small scale service providers in the form of technical assistance and capacity-building, and to promote locally-adapted technological approaches.
- Moreover, the sector still **needs intelligent and effective subsidies**. This is to say that subsidies must be high-impact investments and should focus on sanitation facilities in public infrastructures such as schools, health centers as well as target the poorest who cannot pay even for basic services.