

First Meeting of the Preparatory Committee (PrepCom 1) for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development
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A Green Economy in the Context of Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication

Statement by Brazil,
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Thank you Mr. Chairman,

We align ourselves with the intervention made by the distinguished representative of Yemen on behalf of the G-77 and China.

We approach this debate from a position of constructive doubt. Doubt because there is no universally accepted definition of "green economy". Constructive because we believe it can lead us to a common understanding in the context of UNCSD.

The response to the economic and financial crises has highlighted the need to reinstate the role of the State both as regulator and driver for sustainable development. The packages and plans put together as a response provide an opportunity for ensuring that the economic recovery is driven towards both social and environmental sustainability, thus bringing forth a greener, more sustainable economy where the three pillars are dialectically integrated.

It is vital to ensure that the Millennium Development Goals be attained by 2015. But securing those goals is only part of the answer to transform the vicious cycle of poverty and underdevelopment into a virtuous cycle where prosperity is coupled with sustainability at the economic, social and environmental levels. In-depth structural changes are required to sustain that transformation.

Whereas there has been widespread perception that the integration of the economic, social and environmental pillars of development is essential for providing adequate and sustainable responses to the global multiple crises, the concept of "green economy" has been used in the contexts of various differing approaches. UNCSD offers an opportunity to consolidate a broad-reaching agreement around the evolving paradigm of "green economy" in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and allows for the involvement of a large spectrum of stakeholders (governments, civil society, businesses, academia, and so forth).

Translating the concept of "green economy" into nationally appropriate measures is a complex challenge. There are no universally applicable solutions: several alternatives of

reform, regulation, fiscal stimulus, capacity building and prioritization of sectors and regions should be analyzed. These efforts must result from an in-depth dialogue with civil society and the private sector.

Stimulating the world economy through policies that give priority to sustainable patterns of consumption and production may prove to be a win-win approach, with the potential to generate environmental, social and economic benefits. New investment opportunities - in fields such as energy, transport, agriculture and infrastructure - can be coupled with incentives to sustainable innovation and technology transfer.

The creation of jobs, income and skill continues to be the priority for developing countries to alleviate poverty and enhance prosperity. Ample mobilization of the international community in order to establish a renewed engagement for sustainable development and ensure the consistency of policies at all levels is called for.

Financing and technology transfer are two elements that require cooperation at all levels among countries. They are crucial stepping-stones for the success of the "green economy". According to the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, the financial and technological support provided by developed countries to developing ones should be enhanced. South-South cooperation should also be fostered in that context.