

**United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development
Second Preparatory Committee**

**“Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication”
7 March 2011**

BRAZIL

Brazil aligns itself with the statement made by Argentina on behalf of the G-77.

In different settings and at the initiative of many countries, we have seen on-the-ground experiences, both in developed and developing countries, of actions that have positive benefits for the economy, society and the environment. Many developing countries are at the forefront of promoting these activities, leading the way towards sustainable development. Some have labeled these actions part of a “green economy” approach; others view them through a different prism.

From now to Rio, we need to reach a common understanding on how the aforementioned activities can contribute to advancing sustainable development and poverty eradication. Responding to some of the elements in the list of questions suggested by the Chair could help us move towards this shared understanding.

To support a “green economy” in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication we have to listen to people, we have to learn about local models and experiences. Most answers are already in front of us but many don’t want to see.

The “green economy” approach should be a tool for reducing international inequalities and for opening up new opportunities for developing countries, including through **trade and investment under a supportive international framework**. Abusive subsidies and trade-restrictive measures contribute to worsening international asymmetries; these matters should be tackled in this Conference.

The decisions that the UNCSD will take on this issue should be anchored on two conceptual elements:

- a) Reaffirming the balance between the economic, social and environmental aspects of sustainable development, with the human being at the center of our efforts.
- b) Recognizing that a “green economy” approach should be flexible, with activities carried out in response to different local realities and the different needs and capabilities of developing and developed countries. A “green economy” has to support the change in unsustainable patterns of consumption and production, with developed countries taking the lead.