

**Statement by the Chinese Delegation on International Institutional Building in
Promotion of Sustainable Development**

(Mar. 8, 2011, New York)

Mr. Chairman,

As the Secretary General stated in his report, currently there are over 500 multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) in the world, but these agencies and treaties failed to prevent environmental degradation effectively. On the contrary, the worsening of global environmental problems has exposed the weakness of the multilateral environmental system as expressed by fragmentation, duplication, lack of coordination and low efficiency, thus bringing into sharp focus the need to strengthen international institutional building in promotion of sustainable development.

The Chinese delegation is in favor of further promoting international institutional building for sustainable development. In recent years, the international community has conducted full exchange of views on this issue. UNEP in particular has carried out in-depth discussions which resulted in certain common understanding and some useful recommendations. However, we must recognize that strengthening international institutional building for sustainable development is an integrated undertaking that involves multiple fields and sectors. It is also of great complexity and sensitivity, and therefore cannot be achieved overnight. Efforts to improve international institutions for sustainable development should take the existing system as the basis, enhance integration and coordination among various institutions, and aim to strike a balance among economic development, social progress and environmental protection so as to promote the timely realization of the MDGs.

In this context, we believe that priorities should be given to the following areas:

1. Enhancing the role of UNEP. We should further reinforce its functions, increase financial and technical support for it and raise its efficiency so that UNEP can play a significant role in global environmental governance.

2. Strengthening the coordination among various environmental institutions and between them and other multilateral development agencies. We support the recommendation put forward by the Secretary General in his report on the establishment of more extensive institutional frameworks on sustainable development. It is necessary to strengthen the leading role of relevant UN agencies such as the CSD and the ECOSOC in sustainable development,

and foster synergy of these institutions. Meanwhile, international financial institutions, WTO and multilateral development banks should give priority to sustainable development and further enhance coordination with UN agencies.

3. Ensuring stable, adequate and predictable financial support. While ODA commitments should be honored, it is also necessary to provide new and additional financing for sustainable development. In the meantime, innovative means of financing should be explored, which can serve as a useful supplement to the ODA.

4. Providing advanced and environment-friendly technologies on preferential terms. The international community, developed countries in particular, should implement in good faith commitments on technology transfer to developing countries in order to help build their capacity for green and sustainable development.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman