



HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Under the auspices of ECOSOC

11Session 11a- Sustainable Consumption and Production

2 July 2015 10:00-11:30 AM

The 2015 Global Sustainable Development Report highlights that a key feature of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) proposed by the Open Working Group on SDGs at the United Nations is the recognition of the need for countries to secure strong economic foundation for shared and sustainable prosperity, including productive systems and strong technological capabilities. It notes that inclusive sustainable industrial development strategies that targets simultaneously the development of domestic production and innovation capabilities together with long-term sustainable development objectives, can act as a cornerstone of a transformative post-2015 development agenda. It finally stresses that sustainable consumption and production provides a systemic approach to achieving sustainable and inclusive growth and managing the related trade-offs. Changing consumption and production patterns is vital for eradicating poverty and hunger, as well as protecting and managing the natural resource base and ecosystems, which underpin our development.

The Open Working Group on SDGs emphasized the importance of considering sustainable consumption and production patterns as integral to the transition towards sustainable development. It included in its final proposal a Goal twelve “Ensuring Sustainable Consumption and Production” with eleven associated targets, including three related to means of implementation.

The 2012 UN on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) recognized that sustainable transport can enhance economic growth and improve accessibility, achieving better integration of the economy while respecting the environment. It noted the importance of efficient movement of people and goods, and access to environmentally sound, safe and affordable transportation as a means to improve social equity, health, resilience of cities, urban-rural linkages and productivity of rural areas. The proposed SDG 11 “Making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and Sustainable” introduced a target along these lines by 2030.

Rio+20 reaffirmed that sustainable consumption and production patterns, is one of the overarching objectives of, and essential requirements for, sustainable development. It adopted the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns (10YFP) elaborated at the 19th session of the Commission on Sustainable Development and the General Assembly subsequently decided that the High-level political forum on sustainable development can provide recommendations to the board of the 10YFP, as well as the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) as secretariat of the 10YFP, taking into account their reports. Resolution 69/214 requests that reporting is made to the HLPF through the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). A Note by the Secretary-General E/2015/56 constitutes the 2015 reporting.

Possible questions for discussion:

1. Which policy measures are being implemented to support a transition to SCP as a key pillar of inclusive and sustainable growth, and achievement of the SDGs?
2. What role can sustainable transport play in transitioning to SCP patterns?
3. Which recommendations are necessary to improve the implementation and impact in countries of the 10YFP adopted at Rio+20?
4. How can the HLPF support a transition to SCP in countries after 2015?