

INTERVENTION — AUSTRALIA

Session 2 (Theme 1) – Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication

Thank you Co-chair

Thank you to the Secretariat and the panel members for an excellent and stimulating set of presentations on the Green Economy theme. The interactive discussion has helpfully identified a number of important issues relevant to how we move forward.

Firstly - The broad recognition of the cross-cutting nature of the green economy theme and the identification of the interaction with the other themes and objectives is welcome and important. It strikes us that the challenge for the preparatory process will be not only consistent framing of scope and rationale around the green economy theme but how we draw out in a clear and practical way the key cross-cutting elements as a basis on which to move forward – We are interested in views on how drawing out these linkages could be facilitated in the lead-up to the next preparatory meeting.

Secondly - The wide recognition of the potential for a green economy approach to act as a vehicle to support more powerful integration across the three pillars of sustainable development is welcome. Implementation of the approach will demand greater emphasis on broader measures of progress and success and a number of other interventions have recognised the need to develop tools beyond purely economic indicators to those perhaps focussed more broadly on measures of ‘wellbeing’. Measures of wellbeing will need to draw in social and environmental elements in an integrated way.

A question to the panel is how important is it to have a framework of integrated measures or indicators developed alongside any specific outcomes related to the green economy theme.

