

Statement by Namibia- Mr. Teofilus Nghitila, Director of Environmental Affairs,

Mr. Co- chair,

Thank you for the opportunity. Namibia is a country with a lot of opportunities and a great future. Namibia is a country that seize opportunities and maximize them for her greater benefit. Namibia would therefore like to align itself with the statements made on behalf of G77 & China and that of the African group.

Namibia still believes that the first principle of the Rio declaration on Environment and Development that human beings are at the center of Sustainable Development is still relevant. Namibia still believes that the call for sustainable development made at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 1992, World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002 remains relevant. Since these major world events, the sustainable development process has mainly been led and spearheaded by the Governments with very minimal or peripheral involvement and engagement of the private sectors and other role players in the socio-economic development sectors. What we need now in terms of structure is to scale up the means of implementation for sustainable development, make finance available, bolster technical diffusion and co-operation and build capacity and strongly involve private sector and civil society in the process. Overall, the Rio+20 should be about assessing progress towards sustainable development and meeting challenges through an action oriented plan and enhance means of implementation.

We therefore, view the Rio +20 process as the political platform that must consider the eradication of poverty as a priority. With regards to the Outcome document, we recommend it to be structured in such a way that it should accelerate sustainable development. It must clearly be action oriented and for the Green Economy Road map, we would like to see clear guidance on policies, its goals and timelines and for the operations, best practices and tools must be used and clearly detailed to an Annex document.

In conclusion,

Namibia views the Rio+20 Summit not about negotiating marginal issues, but as a means to address the fundamental challenges of the 21st century, the fundamental challenges that developing countries are facing. Lastly, Mr. Co-Chairs, emerging consensus from the Rio+20 prep meetings on what a green economy should be including; a top-down approach to development conditionality's, and the co-operate control of nature.

I thank you Mr. Co-Chairs..