

Statement by Mr Gennadii Marushevskyi, the representative of Ukraine at the Second Intercessional Meeting of the Preparatory Process for the UNCSD

New York City, 16 December, 2011

Mr Co-Chair,

1. A significant obstacle to achieving sustainable development globally is the lack of a coherent approach that fully integrates three pillars of sustainable development. On the contrary, a number of different processes have emerged that address each pillar in isolation. There is a need of integrated, more holistic approach towards sustainable development that will allow integrate economic, social and environmental approaches.

2. The Rio+20 conference provides an opportunity to secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development. An outcome document would include voluntary commitments from governments, UN and other key stakeholders how they are going to provide an integrated approach to sustainable development. Such commitments would be annexed to the outcome document in the form of Compendium of Commitments, as it was proposed by the delegation of the USA.

3. Integration of three pillars of sustainable development could be realized first of all through strategic planning at the global and national level. At the global level, sustainable development goals should be set by the global community. Most environmental problems are global in nature and sustainable development goals should be directed on supporting of governance of global commons. An outcome document would include a statement on sustainable development goals as well as description of mechanism that will define clearly how to set such goals. At the national level, national sustainable development goals should be set by national conferences and adopted in the national sustainable development strategies. In such a way, each country could choose its own model of sustainable development.

4. To integrate three pillars of sustainable development, there is a need to integrate views, opinions and interests of key stakeholders. At the international level, the UN provides such an opportunity through the world summits on sustainable development. At the regional level, there is, for example, the process “Environment for Europe”. At the national level, it could be national conferences like regular multi-stakeholders forums. For example, in Ukraine, the forum “Environment for Ukraine” was launched two years ago. The problem is how to transform a discussion forum into a national decision-making forum. From this point of view, the outcome document could include commitments of governments to support conducting of regular national multi-stakeholder decision-making forums for setting of national sustainable development goals, assessing the progress to date and addressing new and emerging challenges.

5. To reach sustainable development goals and successfully implement relevant strategies and action plans, an institutional framework for sustainable development

should be strengthened. At the global level, there is a complicated objective for UN how to provide integrated approach to international policy. Ukraine supports establishment of World Environmental Organization with universal membership by UNEP transforming and strengthening. At the national level, Sustainable Development Agencies would be established as implementing bodies. They should have enforcement power for integration of sustainable development pillars and integration of environmental policy into sectoral policies, programs and plans.

Thank you