Statement on: Wastes

Mr. Chairman,

Brazil aligns itself with the statement of the G-77 and China. In order to better inform about Brazil’s experience in the matter of recycling and waste management, I would like to call your attention to the followings points.

Management of waste and recycling is still a big challenge in Brazil, besides the recent progress achieved. To assure this progress, at the end of last year our Congress approved the National Policy for Solid Waste Management. This Policy, which was in discussion at the Congress for a long time, takes into consideration, among other important social aspects, the necessity of the economic and formally inclusion of organized communities in the process of recycling. The Policy establishes also the share responsibility; reverse logistical and incentives to the adoption of sustainable standards of goods and services production.

I take this opportunity also to call your attention about the information put into the Box 2, page 7, of the document of “Policy Options and Actions…” (E/CN.17/2011/6). Brazil fell honored with the mention of this example of the recycle chain of aluminum. Otherwise, I have to inform you that the percentage nowadays is about 95% - not 80, as mentioned there, and, more important, the high level of aluminum recycling is not based on economic incentives. It is based on a voluntary initiative and its success is linked to the economic value of this specific waste, and the opportunity gave by the private market to receive and transform it.

Regarding this discussion about the options and actions on waste management, Brazil would like to reaffirm that the capacity building in terms of waste management do not have to be based on the objective of transferring wastes to be treated in developing countries. As established in Basel Convention, the waste trans boundary movement should only be considered in exceptional situations, when it cannot be processed at the country that it has been produced. Regarding this, we reaffirm the G-77 and China statement about the necessity of the urgent implementation of relevant international agreements/conventions on waste management – particularly the amendment of liability and compensation for damages under de the Basel Convention.

Thank You