Thank you Mr Chairperson. The report produced by the Secretary General on waste management is an excellent document. Efficient waste management is a must for sustainable development and poverty eradication. I would like to enlist some of the initiatives taken by India:

To address the issues related to management of industrial hazardous wastes, the Hazardous Wastes (Management, Handling and Transboundary Movement) Rules were notified in 2008. These rules provide the broader definition of hazardous waste harmonising it with that of Basel Convention and bring issues of e-waste management into the ambit of hazardous waste management.

The Environmental Impact Assessment notification of 2006 requires environmental clearance of common waste treatment and disposal facilities developed in different states generally via public–private partnerships.

The National Action Plan on Climate Changes has identified eight missions including mission on sustainable habitat, which addresses issues related to municipal solid waste management.

Central Pollution Control Board has issued guidelines on co-processing of waste in cement, power and steel industry sectors in February 2010. In addition to identifying possible waste streams which can be co-processed, the Board also provides waste acceptance criteria and emission standards for facilities processing such wastes.

To solve the problem of fly ash emanating from thermal power plants, use of fly ash based construction material by agencies involved in construction have been mandated. This has resulted into the thermal power plants now getting revenues for disposal of fly ash as compared to their paying earlier.

With regard to Municipal solid waste, it has been made mandatory for municipal authorities to set up waste processing and disposal facilities, identify sanitary landfill sites, and improving existing dumpsites. A Waste to Energy programme has also been started by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.

Mr Chairman, because of the economic growth and industrialisation, the increasing volumes of solid and hazardous waste and its management is becoming a major problem for the developing countries. These developing countries need enhanced support in the shape of transfer of technology and financing for efficient waste management.

Thank you.