

**South Africa's Statement to the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting for the 19th Session of the
United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development**

Session of Sustainable Consumption and Production

03 March 2011

New York

Thank you Chairperson

The South African Delegation appreciates the useful interventions by the panel as well as the secretary general's report as presented by the secretariat. South Africa associates fully with the statement made by Argentina on behalf of the G77 and China.

Chairperson, South Africa has responded to the commitments made at the WSSD in 2002 as outlined in the Chapter III of the JPOI on sustainable consumption and production, as well as the goals and objectives reflected in the Africa 10 year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production that was adopted in 2005. To this effect we have made substantive progress as outlined in the country's review report presented at CSD 18.

Chairperson, as the world faced serious economic crisis in 2008, like many other economies, in November 2009, the South African Government, Civil society and business developed a framework in response to the economic crisis. In that response, we recognized the opportunities in industries that combat negative impacts to the environment and natural resource base and believed that we should develop strong capacity in clean technologies and industries in order to ensure sustained growth; this move requires significant support and lesson sharing.

We would therefore support a 10 YFP that includes systems that support incentives for investment in programmes that create large numbers of jobs in industries and facilities that are designed to reduce environmental impacts and enhance natural resource conservation and efficiency while enhancing social well being while contributing positively to economic wellbeing. This ideal chairperson is in line with the specific objectives outlined in the resource paper.

South Africa further wishes to highlight that even though positive steps towards SCP have been undertaken through the Marrakesh Process, there is still a lot that needs to be done as a collective, both at a regional and global level. Adoption of a coherent 10 Year Framework will enable countries to reflect their good practises in this area and to effectively acquire the necessary resources for up scaling such existing and ongoing initiatives A 10 Year Framework of Programmes on SCP should enhance cooperation among all key stakeholders, namely the UN and related agencies, business, civil society and governments. This enhanced cooperation should focus on up scaling existing initiatives rather than inception of new programmes.

South Africa has adopted a resource efficient and low carbon approach as one of the key drivers of our economic growth path; to this effect we see the implementation of a 10 year framework of programmes on SCP as one of the enabling factors towards that goal and we see no other alternative to ensure sustainable development globally. We therefore urge parties to build on the work achieved through the Marrakech process to make it more formalised and structured from its current form, we would support an improvement that would include a review and reporting system that will allow for sharing of lessons learnt and improvement of programmes, a global oversight and coordination mechanism that will ensure the up scaling and provision of the necessary means of implementation, regional coordination mechanism that will ensure joint planning and information exchange as well as strengthened national focal points that will oversee implementation of SCP programmes.

In Conclusion chairperson, we call on parties to work towards a 10 YFP on SCP that will unblock resource acquisition processes and routes; one that will ensure that developed countries take the lead in providing the necessary support for developing countries based on unique national circumstances and needs; one that will have a clear monitoring and reporting framework to track progress and address blockages. The South African delegation looks forward to engagements on this issue and will act in the most positive and progressive manner to see a successful conclusion of the negotiations at CSD 19.

I thank you