

Thailand's Statement

Ministerial Roundtable 3:

“Moving towards zero waste and sound management of chemicals”

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Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment

Thursday, 12 May 2011, 15.00-18.00 hours, Room 4

Thank you Mr. **Co-Chair**

Thailand wishes to thank the panelists for their contributions and would like to align our statements with the Group of 77 and China.

Thailand has actively taken chemical issues and considers the health and environmental concerns that they pose as a high priority for action. The country has been implementing the 3rd National Strategic Plan on Chemical Management, which aims to develop a system for sound management of chemicals throughout their life cycle that is inline with the Rio Declaration and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation. The Thai Government has also taken efforts to effectively implement chemical-related conventions and supports synergy, wherever possible.

In moving towards zero waste, Thailand has been implementing several key policies on integrated waste management, including

- Applying the Reduce, Reuse and Recycle or 3Rs principle by promoting recycling businesses, creating tax incentives for using recycled materials in production process, and promoting recycling markets at community level;
- Promoting waste to energy program to utilize organic and agricultural waste;
- Promoting cleaner production and technology to minimize pollution and waste from the production lines and industrial activities; and
- Promoting Corporate Social Responsibility and Public-Private Partnership initiatives, such as a Waste Exchange Program and a waste take-back system for hazardous and recyclable waste materials.

The national policies also focus on capacity building of communities and municipalities in waste management by promoting the reduction of household waste and segregation of generated household hazardous wastes at the sources. In addition, the establishment of centralized facilities is promoted for treatment of community hazardous waste and infectious waste, with encouraging investment from the private sectors.

Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,

Sustainable production and consumption pattern is one of the key factors in moving towards zero waste and sound management of chemicals. Green procurement policy should be promoted to increase the demand and creation of new markets for green products and services. The use of incentive and financial instrument is also an important tool to encourage the change in consumption behavior as well as to create a sustainable financial mechanism for chemicals and waste management.

The CSD-19 outcomes can provide the important policy options and actions for further achieving sustainable chemicals and waste management. Thailand would like to take this opportunity to reaffirm our commitment in continuing to work closely with the international community for sound chemicals and waste management in paving towards sustainable future.

Thank you.
