

**Mr Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, Distinguished Delegates,**

**Spain as the Strategic Approach on International Chemical Management (SAICM) Bureau member of the WEOG region, would like to welcome the decision of the Commission on Sustainable Development for including the thematic focus on chemicals matters in 2010-2011 cycle and its support to consider chemicals in relation to sustainable development.**

**Mr. Chairman, let me first make a reference to the successful outcome of the Extraordinary Conference of the Parties of Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions in Bali, February this year. The ExCOP has marked the beginning of a synergistic approach among the chemical conventions showing us a very positive way to improve the effectiveness of multilateral environmental agreements and processes. We consider this CSD meeting is an opportunity to progress in fostering synergies.**

**Mr. Chairman, the second session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management held in May 2009 adopted Resolution II/7 which underlines the importance of the sound chemical management for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and invites this CSD session to highlight it, including stressing the need to mainstream chemical management in development strategies and assistance efforts.**

**In addition, we would like to emphasize the need for a change in approach to chemicals management.**

**The Sound Management of Chemicals is still designed in isolation from broader development objectives in many countries and has no significant relevance in the decision making processes at national level. However, strengthening the links between chemicals management and central decision making processes is as a way to also secure financial and technical capacity for the Sound Management of Chemicals at national level.**

**Chemicals management policies should be integrated into the development strategies. The Sound Management of Chemicals, currently identified as part of the environment and health protection strategies, should be reflected in other sectoral strategies and interlinked with major development priorities, involving both public and private sectors.**

**Mainstreaming chemical management in development strategies implies coordination of interventions and presents benefits not only in terms of environment and health but also in economic terms, showing the links of the Sound Management of Chemicals with the Millennium Development Goals and the poverty reduction.**

**Finally Mr. Chairman, I would like to draw the attention of this meeting to the current and ever changing social needs in relation to chemicals and the importance of having early resorts to address emerging issues and of developing safer alternative products and processes. In this regard, we welcome that the second session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management adopted**

**Resolution II/4 to deal with four “Emerging policy issues” (lead in paints, chemicals in products, hazardous substances within the life cycle of electrical and electronic products and nanotechnologies y manufactured nanomaterials) and Resolution II/5 to address the management of perfluorinated chemicals and the transition to safer alternatives.**

**Thank you all for your attention.**