

CSD 18 NORWAY- Sustainable production and consumption

Mr. Chair and distinguished delegates

The Marrakech process has produced results not as a unitary, common effort but because interested countries, assisted by UNEP and DESA, have hosted specific initiatives, and regions like Africa that have developed a common framework.

Today, facing the grave consequences of resource depletion, we need to enter a new phase of intensified global and regional cooperation. The ten year framework should hence aim at a common vision and clear targets.

The goal of more sustainable consumption and production patterns must form part of a future green economy. Hence, our deliberation on a ten year SCP framework must be closely linked to the broader discussion of green economy in the Rio+20 process.

The measures presented should support and strengthen the principles of ecological efficiency and the polluter pays principle.

Right pricing of ecosystem services are essential for promoting sustainable economies and reducing the environmental impact of production and consumption. A green economy must provide reduced stress on the environment, while at the same time contribute to social development and poverty reduction.

A combination of individual educated choices, together with regulations and other incentives may lead to a more sustainable consumption level.

The development of more ecoefficient production patterns is crucial. Using less resources and causing less damage throughout the entire supply chain may reduce costs to society. SCP can also offer new business opportunities related to the establishment of green jobs and new markets.

As an illustration, financial results for 2009 for companies registered on the Dow Jones Sustainable Index show better results than the Dow Jones Global Total Stock Market Index . This is an important example of how fulfillment of sustainability criteria can make both economic sense and contribute to a positive reputation.

Thank you Mr. Chairman