



**INTERVENTION by
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**THEMATIC DISCUSSION:
INTER-LINKAGES, CROSS CUTTING ISSUES
AND MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION**

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Mr. Chairman,

I would like to thank the panelists for their presentations that highlighted some interesting cross-linking approaches that might be useful for the selected themes of CSD-18.

First and foremost, allow me to reemphasize the important inter-linkage between sustainable development and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Both serve to underline the important principle of achieving economic and social progress while ensuring that the natural resources that we depend on are managed to meet present and future needs.

The thematic cluster under consideration in the CSD certainly has an important linkage with the economic and social goals of the MDGs, while also having an environmental dimension. The themes under consideration are vital economic drivers and important in developing countries' development, particularly mining, and could serve as useful indicators to chart progress for goal 1 of the MDGs – poverty eradication.

In this connection, it is crucial that our deliberations ensure that implementation and management of the thematic issues, based on common but differentiated responsibilities, observe the three pillars of sustainable development, particularly in fulfilling economic growth for developing countries.

There are certain cross-cutting considerations to take into account for the selected themes, particularly in relation to their contribution for the MDGs.

First, is financing for sustainable development. Resources derived from economic growth have traditionally been the source of funding for sustainable development in developing countries, albeit not always sufficient. With the tight grip of the crisis still taking hold on the global economy, added with new challenges such as climate change, volatility of food prices, and energy crisis, developing countries' resources have been spread thin. The challenge is to fairly distribute resources between meeting the needs of the poor, education, developing infrastructure, and cutting down emissions.

For this reason, apart from traditional financing, innovative financing has become an important factor that needs to be explored. Innovative financing has and could continue to be created through public-private partnerships. Involvement of the private sector in achieving the three pillars of sustainable development, as well as involvement of multilateral banks in supporting the sustainable development agenda, is another option to consider.

I would like to also add that investment in the public as well as private sector in this regard, also should be geared towards green economy growth.

Second, because sustainable development cuts across many sectors, there should be an effective international institution arrangement that could integrate the broad spectrum of issues. It is important for the institution to operate on the basis of coherence and effective coordination, which are integral aspects of sustainable development.

Since the UN SG has placed sustainable development as one of the UN's seven priorities for 2010, we should use this momentum to make progress in institutional reform for sustainable development. It is hoped that this international governance could assist developing countries to meet the financial challenges, facilitate technology transfer, promote capacity building and monitor implementation. Sustainable development should be the main focus of this institutional framework.

Third, technology plays a critical role in promoting sustainable development, in particular the implementation of this thematic cluster. Furthermore, for transportation, waste management, mining, chemical management to play a role in sustainable consumption and production, the transfer of environmentally sound technologies must be facilitated. This is because developing countries lack the capacity and resources in particular for research and development, which limits their ability to dispense the appropriate technology to scale. A global partnership should promote investment for developing countries on transfer of technology, and to have access to environmentally friendly technologies.

Thank you.