



STATEMENT BY THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA AT
THE HIGH LEVEL ROUNDTABLE ON
STRATEGIES FOR SUSTAINABLE CHEMICALS AND WASTES
MANAGEMENT

**18TH REVIEW SESSION OF THE UN COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT, NEW YORK, 13TH MAY 2010**

Mr. Chairman,

Nigeria observes that the sound management of chemicals is integral to sustainable development. The need for an integrated management framework involving comprehensive legislation and associated governance structure is also a crucial component, which must be addressed for an efficient overall national chemicals management infrastructure.

The establishment of general frameworks for risk assessment procedures and controls by government and the elimination of barriers to information detailing inherent hazards of chemicals and hazardous wastes should also be treated as priority concerns within national chemicals management systems.

Nigeria recognizes that the sound management of chemicals requires adequate support from the global community to complement efforts at country level. Therefore, resources for capacity building in developing countries like Nigeria, should be increased and technologies scaled up, in order to meet agreed goals and target related to sound management of chemicals.

On addressing the issue of sustainable wastes management, Nigeria takes the issue of e-waste seriously with grave concern that developing countries including Nigeria have become dumping ground for near-end of life and end-of -life electrical electronic equipment and materials. This informed the decision of

Nigeria to host the International Conference on e-waste Control in Abuja in July 2009.

We will continue to intensify efforts on the Toxic Waste-Dump-Watch Programme through in-country collaboration as well as at sub-regional and regional levels to put in place adequate checks and eradication of trans-boundary movement of wastes. In furtherance to our resolve, Nigeria is participating in a seaport inspection month in June 2010, coordinated by the Seaport Environmental Security Network (SESN) involving other countries at the sub regional level.

We call for unflinching support especially on capacity building and investment in waste management ventures, we urge the international community to join hands with developing countries in preventing trans-boundary movement of wastes in all forms as a further step towards consolidating the gains already made. Nigeria further aligns with the submission of the G77 and China on the call to electronics manufacturers to adopt the Extended Producer Responsibility through voluntary take-back schemes as one of the measures to control e-waste, and the use of green design in their products. It is on this, that, the sustainable development we all crave for, could be meaningful and achievable.

I thank you.