

Statement by:
H.E Dr. M.Shafie-Pour
Vice-Head of Department of environment on International Affairs of
The Islamic Republic of Iran

on “Chemical and Waste Management”
During
The High-Level Segment of the Eighteenth Session of the
Commission on Sustainable Development
12-14 May, 2010
United Nations Headquarters, New York

In the Name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

Mr. Co-Chair;
Excellencies;
Ladies and Gentlemen;

Allow me to express my appreciation to the distinguished panelists for their enlightening comments. I associate myself with the statement made by Tanzania on behalf of G-77 and China. Modern technologies have led to the development of thousands of new **chemicals** that play an important role in economic growth and industrial development. Many have common applications in daily life. These chemicals could exert harmful effects on the global environment and pose a serious health hazard because of their persistence and dispersion in various locations. In fact, chemical industry contains advantages and disadvantageous.

On the other hand, economic development and population growth have led to rapid increase in volume and diversification of wastes. Consumption patterns severely impact the global and local environment, natural resources, public health, local economies, and living conditions. It also threatens the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals

(MDGs). Many countries face huge challenges in disposing urban wastes including waste water as well as contamination of subterranean water sources.

The main objective for our collective efforts in waste management should be waste prevention and minimization through, reusing, recycling and recovery of useful materials in wastes. .

Policies and measures that have to be taken at the national, regional and international levels to have sound management of wastes and chemicals should include, inter alia:

1. Development, diffusion and application of new and clean technologies to reduce production of hazardous wastes and use of hazardous chemicals.
2. Cooperation on promoting early warning system to control the spread of impacts of chemicals hazardous waste related accidents.
3. Application of new technologies including nano and bio technologies identify control and restore quality of contaminated soil and water.
4. Cooperation on research on development of zero hazardous waste production technologies.
5. Assisting developing countries to phase out application of energy and waste intensive technologies, and transit to modern, efficient and environmentally sound technologies including through expansion of regional centers of excellence on environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes.

6. Promoting of exchange of experiences and success stories at all levels on management of chemicals and hazardous wastes, in particular, on developing effective standards and regulations on chemicals and waste management.
7. North-South, south –south cooperation on finding innovative ways for waste treatment, recycling, reuse and disposal of hazardous wastes , in particular in costal and mountainous areas that lack enough landfills.
8. Transfer of equipment, exchange of knowledge and expertise on phasing out toxic, persistent and biodegradable wastes and chemicals as well as on their sound and safe treatment and disposal of hazardous wastes.
9. Addressing the challenge of site selection for hazardous waste disposal in coastal cities including through establishing small scale environmentally sound and waste free recycling centers in coastal cities, through cooperation between owners of such technologies and countries in need of such technologies.
10. Implementing policies and measures that change the challenge of waste management to an opportunity for income generation, job creation and poverty eradication including through expansion of recycling and reusing centers as well as application of methods and technologies to use methane in landfill as a source of energy.

Through undertaking such policies and measures, Mr. Co-Chair, countries may be able to change the current pattern of waste management threat to a manageable problem.

In conclusion Mr. Co-Chair, Islamic Republic of Iran attaches a paramount importance to "Waste Management" for proper health, environmental protection and natural resource management and sustainable development. Iran has made significant progresses on municipal wastes and is engaged currently on hospital and industrial hazardous wastes neutralization processes.

I thank you very much Mr .Co-Chair.