Statement by

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Commission on Sustainable Development
On The Way Forward

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Mr. Chairperson,

As we approach the end of our deliberation, allow me to share with you some thoughts on the way forward to our policy session next year at CSD-19.

Let me begin by associating myself with the statement to be made by the G77 and China.

Mr. Chairperson,

Sustainable development is a cross-cutting process comprising of an economic, social, and environmental dimensions. The mindset that shapes policies and specific actions in the context of sustainable development however must be that of achieving the MDGs and one that is pro poor, pro job and pro growth.

Apart from political will, important prerequisite towards achieving sustainable development is adequate and reliable financial resources, access to technologies, and capacity building.

Financial resources should go beyond budgetary allocations and ODA. It must include resources from innovative financing mechanisms including those created through public-private partnerships.

Access and transfer of environmentally sound technologies is critical. A global partnership should be established to promote the transfer of green technologies.

All issues under thematic clusters will require a renewed commitment to meeting the three prerequisite I mentioned. Transport will further benefit from the use of cleaner sources of energy and promoting non-motorized transportation and mass-rapid transportation. Combined with the use of modern technology this will bring economic efficiencies, reduce the cost of trade and the creation of domestic and regional markets.

**Sound management of chemicals and wastes** requires commitment by all parties to implement various international agreements that have been made. Ensuring sustainable, predictable, and adequate financial resources for the chemicals and wastes agenda is critical. These require concrete national actions and an enabling international environment as well as promoting innovative solutions among others through 3R’s initiative.

In this regard, we need to immediately implement the “Nusa Dua Declaration” adopted during the 11th Special Session of the UNEP Governing Council last February. Particularly pertinent is the call to enhance synergy between the Basel, Rotterdam and
Stockholm conventions and to support Governments in their efforts to implement, comply with and enforce the multilateral environmental agreements.

The next CSD policy session should serve as a good opportunity to facilitate the consultative process towards a successful third session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management in 2012.

Mr. Chairperson

Implementing Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI) and Agenda 21 is important to changing the behaviours of consumers and producers towards a more equitable and sustainable growth. Attention should also be given to the Marrakech Process on the 10-year framework of programmes for regional and national initiatives to promote sustainable consumption and production patterns. It is also important for this process to continue and be linked to the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development.

Recent events have reminded us there continue to be great social and environmental challenges associated with mining. Promoting good governance through transparent verification process that brings together government, local communities and civil society in monitoring these responsibilities should be in place. In order to optimize benefits from mining activities, effective use of resources is a pertinent factor. Corporate entities need to better live up to their social and environmental responsibilities. In this regard, a global ethics on mining may be further explored by CSD 19.

Mr. Chairman,

Sustainable development has been placed as one of the UN Secretary-General’s seven priorities for 2010. This provides important political momentum for us to make progress and take concrete actions to advance sustainable development agenda so as to achieve fruitful results in the Rio+20 Summit.

Sound international governance and mechanism to monitor implementations, including from a coherent UN system, is indispensable in this regard. In the context of environmental governance, reform of International Environment Governance should render the UN system more coherent, responsive and effective.

We must act with decisiveness to conserve the environment for current and future generations.

Thank you.