Mr. Chairman,

In this final statement, the Scientific and Technological Community would like to acknowledge your leadership and that of the Bureau and in the same vein we acknowledge also the strong support expressed in this CSD-18 session by governments and Major Groups, notably Farmers and Business and Industry, for a better harnessing of science, engineering and technology in addressing sustainable development challenges in the areas under review.

While the application of existing know-how and technology which meet sustainable development criteria is often providing appropriate solutions, the way forward will also require substantial innovative advances in science, engineering and technology, and in this regard a very significant enhancement of public and private investments in research, science and technology. Public-private partnerships will be one important means in moving to implementation.

A related priority for the CSD-19 policy session should be policies aimed at enhancing education, training and institutional capacity building in science, engineering and various domains of technology with focus on the areas of sustainable consumption and production, transport, mining; waste and chemicals.

While a major responsibility for this lies with each national government, the global development assistance community and the international S&T community should enhance support to and collaboration and partnerships with developing countries.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, our community is looking forward to work with you and all stakeholders beyond CSD-18.