

Talking Notes for Mr. Lawrence Lenayapa, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Mineral Resources during the High Level Interactive of the 18th session of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development; Discussion on the way forward

Mr. Chairman

Hon, Ministers

Excellences

Ladies and Gentlemen

1. Let me take this opportunity to make a few remarks on the way forward on this important discussion. This delegation concurs with the statement by the representative of Yemen on behalf of the G77 and China.
2. We are cognizant of the global efforts to promote sustainable consumption and production. We have however, face critical challenges, particularly in the implementation of decisions made at the various CSD fora.
3. The continued lack of implementation undermines the expectations of meeting the internationally agreed development goals including the MDGs. The status

quo only diminishes the noble overarching goal-which is to improve the living standards of the global population in a sustainable manner.

4. It is time we collectively formulated concrete measures to deal with cyclical crises such as food, water, energy and the effects and impacts of climate change in a more comprehensive and sustainable manner. The crises not only disrupt lives in vulnerable countries, but also exert disproportionate pressure on sustainable consumption and production patterns.
5. Decisive and concrete action-oriented interventions could promote sustainable consumption and production in line with the principles of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities.
6. There is need to generate the necessary political impetus for the range and level of an accelerated action plan to bridge the implementation gaps in vulnerable countries particularly in sub-Saharan Africa. We need to address sustainable development in a more holistic, coordinated, integrated and balanced manner in line with the three pillars of sustainable

development, social, economic and environmental protection.

7. As we forward to even more defining conferences including the COP 16 and Rio+20, the outcomes should result in a strengthened governance institution of the environment pillar. The principle that form must follow function should be adhered to. We could be guided by the set of options proposed by the consultative group of Ministers co-chaired by Kenya and Italy. Among is that incremental reforms are only possible within the existing mandate of UNEP alongside other broader reforms. This will forestall further fragmentation, avoid duplication of functions and cut cost of discharging mandates.

8. We need to mutually formulate coherent policies and approaches in areas of finance, trade investments, capacity building, technology transfer and sustainable consumption and production. All these issues should take into account national priorities and ownership since 'no one size fits it all'.

9. Finally, the good decisions do not translate to tangible results without information and knowledge sharing. Dissemination of environmentally sound technologies is seminal to the realization of internationally agreed development goals including the MDGs. Developing countries need the technology transfer as they transit from the current unsustainable development model to a low carbon development pathway.

I thank you.