

Australian Statement on Industrial Development for CSD15

Delivered on 1 May 2007

Thank you Mr Chairman

Australia believes that effective industrial development can contribute to broad based economic growth, poverty reduction, employment creation and the achievement of internationally agreed development goals.

We are pleased that this has been suitably recognised in the Chairman's draft negotiating document.

In Australia's experience, sustainable industrial development is only achievable where stable and effective national governance frameworks are in place.

Economic growth will predominately come from the private sector. While each country needs to determine the range of measures that best suit their differing national circumstances, there are benefits to be gained from regional collaboration. These include public-private partnerships to enhance the effectiveness of policies and measures, increased access to new technologies and avoiding duplication of effort.

In order to build private sector investor confidence and enable the flow of investments, effective national governance frameworks are necessary. An effective enabling environment provides both the transparency and certainty needed by investors and the appropriate environmental and social regulatory settings.

Australia recognises that the international community must support countries to establish enabling environments by providing capacity building support. Australia's Overseas Development Assistance program focuses on a range of measures to help strengthen the financial sectors in partner countries.

An enabling environment can be created by improving financial and business sector regulation, providing financial literacy training and supporting business skills

development. These factors are particularly important in facilitating the emergence and growth of small businesses.

Mr Chairman,

Sustainable industrial development is also dependent on access to appropriate technology. Technology transfer arrangements need to provide sufficient return on investment for ongoing innovation whilst ensuring that developing countries have affordable access to technologies.

Finally, sustainable industrial development relies on liberalised world trade. We note the Chair's draft negotiating document recognises the benefit of liberalised trade and we hope that all parties will work towards the successful conclusion of the Doha Round.

Mr Chairman,

Governments will continue to face the challenge of reducing the environmental impact of industrial development while improving economic outcomes. While each country is best placed to address its own sustainable production and consumption issues, the benefit of the CSD is its valuable role in providing a forum for the sharing of national experiences and promotion of practical approaches.

Thank you.