Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates,

It is my pleasure to contribute to our discussion on Means of Implementation on behalf of the major group Business and Industry, through Business Action for Energy.

We have appreciated the space created by CSD, the Bureau and the delegations here for business and other major groups to join with you in moving ahead. It is longstanding but we do not take it for granted. If I may say so, when you talk about Means of Implementation, you are simply using another term for Major Groups. All the groups here are essential, governments cannot do it alone. Thank you for including us.

Business is at the heart of implementation. We have been engaged on many fronts and in myriad ways in driving progress in the cluster of issues before us. Widespread efforts on eco-efficiency and cleaner production are just the beginning in the evolution of delinking commercial activity from environmental impact, and in increasing societal benefits.

- Business regards energy for sustainable development, atmosphere/air pollution, climate change and industrial development as interwoven priorities that require balanced, integrated and cooperative implementation involving civil society, governments and business. These issues should be actionable through integrated policies that promote cleaner and more sustainable investment and technology innovation and transfer, with supportive policies in export promotion and market access, financing, trade liberalization and Intellectual property right protection.
- Sustainable energy strategies must be innovation friendly and advance competitiveness, energy access and security and environmental protection. Achieving economic, social and environmental objectives requires efficient frameworks that allow market forces to operate and increase long-term certainty to support the increasing level of investment that is so clearly necessary. Key features of enabling frameworks include open markets; strong institutions and good governance; human rights protection; science- and risk-based regulations that are enforced; and protection of private property.
- Innovation, technology deployment, good management systems and capacity building come in significant part from business. The business community recognizes the urgency to act swiftly in these areas and is committed to engage with governments and other societal partners to develop and implement energy-related investments and technological cooperation and advancement.
- Governments should support business technological development and deployment activities by funding R&D activities; Assisting in capacity-building initiatives through streamlining processes for international cooperation and participation; Supporting R&D and technology transfer across borders; Providing an R&D friendly environment through a workable effective patent system and engaging major stakeholders on innovation and new technologies; Barriers to technology transfer should be identified and eliminated.
• The business community works with partners to identify, develop, commercialize and deploy technologies suited to individual national priorities, resource availability and development strategies. Business will continue to play an important role in finding solutions, within its sphere of responsibility, in partnership with other stakeholders.
• Governments, business and civil society need to partner to leverage resources to provide training, share knowledge and skills, share more sustainable energy technologies and cooperate to accelerate their dissemination. Empowerment and inclusion of women is essential in this regard.
• To move consumption and production patterns in more sustainable directions, the international community should:
  • stimulate innovation through competition in the marketplace
  • provide consumers with information and choices
  • enable market access for developing countries
• A closing word on globalization. There are many definitions of globalization that evoke a wide range of reactions. Yet at base, globalization simply means that we are becoming every day more aware of interconnectedness of people, ideas, economies, countries and societies as well as between people and their natural environment. The question is how we can harness the power of such interconnections, through the market, through cooperation and partnership, to achieve progress on sustainable development.

We are ready to continue to our work in support of this effort.

Thank you for your attention.