

NOTES FOR THEMATIC DISCUSSION AT CSD 14 (2006)

Addressing energy, industrial development, air pollution/atmosphere and climate change in an integrated manner, focussing on inter-linkages and cross-cutting themes.”

Conference Room 4, Friday May 5, 2006

Mr. Chairman:

The Canadian delegation would like to associate itself with those colleagues who understand that an integrated approach is the best way to address cross-cutting issues such as capacity building, poverty alleviation and managing the natural resource base for economic and social development. Moving on one sector without due consideration of its impact on the others in fact inhibits implementation of our international commitments and hobbles the forward momentum of sustainable development.

Balanced and Integrative approaches are needed:

The international community has consistently called for an integrated approach as is evident in Agenda 21 and in the JPOI. Canada is working with partners to apply our collective resources to this challenge. For example the G8, when it met in 2005 in Gleneagles, Scotland, joining with the leaders of major emerging economies in calling for an integrated approach. Collectively they tasked the World Bank to develop an investment framework for clean energy and development. In its report, the Bank reminds us that if action is not taken now, the costs and demands for development assistance and disaster relief in the future will be much higher. Canada shares this concern as well.

One such place where constructive action was taken was at the Montreal Climate Change Conference. Here, 180 countries agreed to participate in a Dialogue on Long- Term Cooperative Action. This Dialogue, - which begins next week - is structured to move beyond viewing climate change as only an environmental issue and instead focusses on an integrated approach to addressing four key themes: advancing development in a sustainable manner; realizing the full potential of technologies; addressing action on adaptation; and realizing the full potential of market-based opportunities.

Different Levels of Capacity Exist At The Local and Regional Levels:

An integrated approach to these inter-linked sectors is one thing; having the tools to move forward is another. As already noted, Canada is active in catalysing the resources of the international community. We also act regionally.

Canada strongly believes that there is a continued need to support the development and application of effective mechanisms for public dialogue and stakeholder engagement. Increased

citizen engagement - at the regional and local levels - is a means to ensure that government policies and industry engagement in resource development have the confidence of the people they will affect.

For example, through our international development agency, CIDA, Canada is part of the Latin America Energy, Environment and Population (EAP) Program. This program was developed in response to the challenges of developing an oil industry compatible with the objectives of sustainable development in countries sharing the Amazon basin. Canada's involvement focusses on the regulation component of development. With Canadian support, guideline and reference documentation have been developed on establishing and maintaining relationships with indigenous people, public participation in the environmental assessment process, prevention and settlement of disputes, and management indicators to evaluate the process.

World Urban Forum:

Communities are on the front line of sustainable development, and their many challenges in practising an integrated approach warrant the attention of the international community writ large. In this regard, Canada will host the upcoming World Urban Forum in Vancouver, British Columbia from June 19-23. Sponsored every two years by UN-HABITAT, Canada is honored to host this important event. For the first time in human history, nearly 50% of the world's population now lives in cities and this, of course, presents many challenges, including importantly in the areas of our thematic cluster. Participants will share ideas, inter alia, for action to reduce energy consumption of cities and minimize their contribution to air pollution and global warming while ensuring they remain vibrant contributors to economic development and poverty alleviation.

Join us next month in the beautiful city of Vancouver on the shores of the Pacific Ocean and share your knowledge, learn from others, and expand your network. Information on the World Urban Forum is available at our booth in the Partnership Fair area.