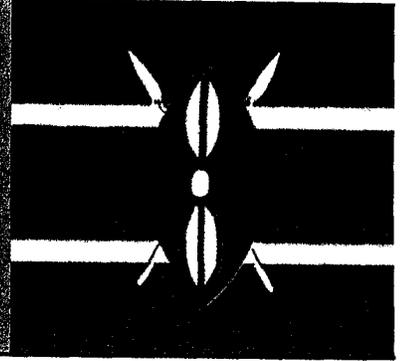




REPUBLIC
OF
KENYA



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STATEMENT BY

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DURING THE

**HIGH-LEVEL SEGMENT OF THE 14TH SESSION OF
THE COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

HELD AT

THE UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS, NEW YORK

11TH MAY 2006

**Mr. Chairman,
Hon. Ministers,
Excellencies
Distinguished delegates,**

It gives me great pleasure to address this 14th Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development. My delegation associates itself with the statement delivered yesterday by South Africa on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

At the outset let me reiterate Kenya's commitment to the achievement of the goals of Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and the 2005 World Summit outcome. We are convinced that this Review Session will bring about improved understanding of the priority concerns towards the achievement of sustainable development and in particular those related to energy for development, industrial development, air pollution/atmospheric problems and climate change.

My delegation takes this opportunity to thank the Secretary General for an elaborate report on issues that are subject of this particular session of the CSD. The report highlights ways and means of responding to the many challenges that face implementation of activities and programmes related to the thematic cluster. We equally commend the Chairman of CSD 14 for his excellent summary of the proceedings of the first week of the session.

Mr. Chairman,

Many people in developing countries live without access to modern energy services relying on traditional forms of energy. Fuel wood remains the main source of energy supply. Often girls and women trek long distances in search of fuel wood resulting in loss of schooling, healthier life and productive employment. It is in this regard that developing countries should be assisted to develop reliable, affordable and cleaner sources of energy.

Intricately linked with energy is climate change and air pollution. Reducing greenhouse gases calls for renewed efforts to improve energy efficiency, promote technological innovation, use advanced fossil fuel technologies, and expand markets for renewable energy sources. Such efforts along with adaptation strategies will help strengthen to focus on air pollution and other atmospheric problems including trans-boundary air pollution.

Industrial development is closely linked with energy, climate change and air pollution. Promoting sustainable consumption and production patterns and recycling economy, including through corporate responsibility will help tackle the environmental dimensions of industry. The close relationship between the thematic issues under CSD-14 therefore calls for resolve and commitment by global leaders in government, industry and civil society to work together in order to collectively address the related challenges.

Mr. Chairman,

We should address the urgent need for fostering economic growth in developing countries through among others increased investments in infrastructure, technology transfer, capacity building and broad-based industrial development that creates employment and generates income, including through promotion of small and medium-sized enterprises in developing countries. Some progress has been made towards achieving Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation goals related to the thematic cluster under consideration. However, considerable work still needs to be done.

A number of developing countries have taken significant steps towards meeting their commitments towards the achievement of sustainable development. We have adopted a range of domestic measures, including improved policy formulation and coordination to enhance implementation. Kenya has undertaken policy, legal and institutional reforms and committed considerable resources to meet her commitments. However, implementation of these reforms is still constrained by the inadequacy of resources, high poverty levels, lack of appropriate technologies and capacity.

Mr. Chairman,

Kenya appreciates the role played by the United Nations system through its various specialized and intergovernmental agencies and organs, as well as the various international organizations and partners that support Africa's initiatives such as NEPAD and the East African Community in achieving sustainable development. It is necessary that the CSD process takes deliberate steps to address the special needs of Africa, least and landlocked developing countries in the areas of energy, industrial development, air pollution and climate change.

The challenges we face can be addressed through renewed political will, practical steps and genuine partnerships involving issues currently under review. We strongly believe that unless deliberate corrective and practical actions are taken now, most of the commitments contained in Agenda 21 and Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and the 2005 World Summit will remain a mirage.

Mr. Chairman,

In conclusion, let me reiterate Kenya's commitment to the principles of common but differentiated responsibility for development and protection of the environment. We hope the outcome of this session will form a strong basis for CSD-15 and further implementation of agreements of previous session.

I thank you.