

Statement on  
“Meeting Targets, Goals and Timetables”

By

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New York - 28<sup>th</sup> April 2004

**Mr. Chairman,**

My delegation would like to start by expressing its confidence in your leadership and that of the Bureau of the 12<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development. We are convinced that this Review Session will bring about an improved understanding of priority concerns and the best options towards the implementation of sustainable development within the framework of the thematic cluster. Meeting the targets, goals and timetables that were agreed upon at the Millennium Summit and reaffirmed at WSSD remains a major pre-occupation for us.

The Secretary-General's report highlights the slow and limited progress on a wide range of areas in Africa. It provides some of the concerns and constraints facing most African countries. It also points out that without sustained interventions, my region will have difficulty in meeting the commitments made at the Millennium Summit and Johannesburg. It is within this background that I wish to reiterate that inadequate global and domestic resources to fund sustainable development initiatives and fragmented approaches to the implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation still remains our major challenge.

**Mr. Chairman,**

The Johannesburg Summit stressed the importance of trade, finance, technology transfer and capacity building in the implementation of sustainable development. We believe that the Summit introduced a major shift from the donor-recipient paradigm to one that focuses on the obstacles to economic growth in poor countries. It emphasized the need to reform the unfair global economic and trading systems. It also called upon the international community to fulfill its ODA commitments, among others. African countries still require enhanced international cooperation and provision of means of implementation to enable them achieve the set targets and goals. It is our sincere hope that during this session, ways and means of strengthening mechanisms for implementation will be enhanced.

Meeting the targets on water, sanitation and human settlements is a prerequisite for the targets in other areas such as poverty eradication and environmental sustainability. Halving the number of people without access to safe drinking water and access to adequate sanitation by 2015, and improving the lives of at least 100 million of slum dwellers by 2020, is a daunting challenge for us in Africa. However, I believe with greater cooperation and commitment, we can do it within the set timeframes.

**Mr. Chairman,**

Our approaches need to be comprehensive and participatory, involving all sectors of the society, including civil society organizations. Efforts directed towards achieving sustainable development should be integrated into the national planning process and clear commitments to promoting coordination and coherence at all levels spelt out. Stronger political will and more effective institutions matched with additional financial resources are required for us to be successful.

**Mr. Chairman,**

Financing of sustainable development under the three thematic areas require a combination of public and private resources. We should explore innovative sources of financing such as through fiscal policies and private contributions.

We recognize the role partnerships can play in sustainable development. As such establishment of credible partnerships based on mutual respect and shared responsibility of all partners involved should be encouraged.

Efforts need to be directed towards establishment of the necessary responsible institutions and legislation, so that an enabling environment that enhances sustainability can be created.

Further efforts should be made to increase the volume; quality and effective use of ODA in developing countries, for it will remain a significant source of financing for years to come.

Countries and development partners should prioritize water, sanitation and provision of adequate shelter for all in the allocation of investment resources.

**Mr. Chairman,**

Towards this end, Kenya has undertaken policy, legal and institutional reforms on the socio-economic development and environmental protection. We have identified poverty unemployment as the biggest challenge facing us and have developed a national Economic Recovery Strategy for Wealth and Employment Creation. The strategy translates the agreed goals and targets contained in the Millennium Declaration and the Johannesburg Plan of

Implementation into a concrete national programme of action. The key priority actions that the strategy intends to address are inter alia:

- i) Improving poor people's access to productive resources
- ii) Integrating natural resources and environmental conservation into the national planning process, and
- iii) Of interest to this session, paying particular attention to the provision of safe drinking water, adequate sanitation and shelter to Kenyans. We have ranked this as priority areas of focus.

**Mr. Chairman,**

In conclusion, let me say that to meet the targets, goals and timetables set at Millennium Declaration and WSSD requires a change of heart among colleagues seated in this room today. A will to "make it happen" as agreed at Johannesburg. We urge the international community to support Africa implement strategies that integrate economic, social and environmental aspects of sustainable development for the benefit of us all.

Thank you.