

Swedish intervention at CSD-15 2 May 2007: Interlinkages and cross-cutting issues, including means of implementation

Sweden supports the intervention made by Germany on behalf of the European Union. Sweden acknowledges the importance of the interlinkages between the CSD themes and the crosscutting issues, including means of implementation.

Sweden would like to highlight sustainable consumption, including sustainable lifestyles, and the Marrakech process. Sweden consider Sustainable Consumption and Production as a precondition for Sustainable Development and an essential mean of implementation in order to reach success within the CSD themes of this cycle: energy, sustainable industrial development, air pollution and climate change. Especially we need to consider unsustainable patterns of consumption – we need to change the way we consume, use and dispose of products and services. This is a challenge especially for the developed countries and countries in transition. But it is also essential to consider for developing countries. In this we must also consider the differences in women and men's patterns of consumption in order to find the right measures. We thank the Swiss delegation for their kind words in support of the Swedish side event last night on the theme scp and gender equality as a precondition for sustainable dev. An area which indeed deserve further attention, including within the Marrakech process.

In promoting sustainable consumption and sustainable lifestyles within the Marrakech process, Sweden has taken a leading role and established a Task Force on Sustainable Lifestyles, in order to make the work more concrete. We welcome more countries to participate in the task force, especially from developing countries,

Sweden will host the next International Expert Meeting on SCP in Stockholm in June 2007. We will arrange the meeting together with the UN. The meeting will serve to report and share progress on national and regional activities related to SCP and advance the work of the Marrakech Process on sustainable consumption and production that was launched in Marrakech, Morocco in June 2003.

The objectives of the meeting are to assess progress on the Marrakech Process, notably in the work of the Task Forces, the regional and national strategies, and in the development cooperation dialogue; to start conceptualising the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on SCP to be presented at the CSD 18/19; and to identify new mechanisms to build a more active cooperation between the Marrakech Process and major groups, such as business, NGOs, and academia, among others.

We are hoping for a broad participation.

Thank you.