

**Statement**  
**By Dr. CHHUN Vannak, Advisor to H.E. Dr. MOK Mareth, Senior Minister and Minister of Environment**  
**& Deputy Director General for Inspection,**  
**Head of Cambodia's Delegation to the CSD-18**  
**Waste Management**  
**6 May 2010**  
**New York, the UN Headquarter**

**Mr. Chairman**

First, Cambodia would like to associate itself with the statement made by Algeria on behalf of the Group 77 and China. I would like to express my high appreciations to the very elaborate illustrations and explanations of the panelists this morning and yesterday vital to sound waste management. Regarding the waste management, the Ministry of Environment in cooperation with other line ministries, in particular the Phnom Penh Capital City authority, has launched cleaning campaign days ranging from collection of litters and other solid wastes in the public streets and places and reforestation programs of actions as well as green national parks. The country as a whole has mainstreamed waste recycling and waste management into national strategic development plans. Cambodia still adheres to and practices the principle of clean and green city. In effectively collecting solid waste and liquid waste, authority has been decentralized and de-concentratized to the communities to well manage local wastes. The awareness campaign through national and regional seminars on harmful wastes and how to effectively manage waste has been conducted nationwide.

What the country is carrying out is the transformation of waste from sewage, liquid and solid, i.e. industrial wastes and chemical wastes. The Ministry of Environment has a sub-decree on sound waste management, and it tries to transform the wastes into productivity, like artistic products and goods. Human, animals and plants wastes are decomposed to producing the natural fertilizers for agriculture. From training on the decomposed fertilizers to the usage, there is a national spirit for organic plants and animals and agricultural products. Hazardous waste from oil spillover along the coast and in the sea is managed through bilateral and multilateral cooperation and coordination. Yet, heavy metals, like lead and sulfur from mining and other toxic substances are contained and are used for recycling through the early warning indicators from the conduct of the social environmental impact assessment (SEIA). The common practices for the country for clean natural resources are to identify types of wastes, classify solid and liquid wastes, wastes from hospitals and harmful wastes, such as chemicals and non-chemicals and recycle and process them into social and economic products. Bio-mass energy is promoted from the biosphere reserve management of resources around the Tonle Sap areas and methane gas is produced from the dumped wastes arriving from the land fill. The burning funnels are one of the most successful means in managing wastes since they are less cost, but are effective for domestic consumption of natural and harmless energy, which are very beneficial to the rural poor. Further, eco-tourism areas from natural resources and ecosystems are enhanced and established with a close cooperation with the Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Tourism. Last, Cambodia tries to protect, conserve and preserve forest and natural resources to contribute to the effective waste management and as resilience to climate change impacts, and the country also promotes low-carbon credit trade from the protected forestry and protected areas of the natural resources. Key to challenges to the sustainable development are the issues from the inability to well manage nuclear waste, radioactive waste and any non-dissolving waste by the natural process and selection, but very dangerous to air, land, water and underground water. Another key challenge to the efficient waste management is from the externalities from climate change and the transboundary wastes from the unexpected natural disasters from flood, earthquake and volcanoes and the transportation and movement of transnational wastes, the issues from emission of CO<sub>2</sub> from motorcycles and spread of the GM products. Solutions: capacity building, awareness raising, technical know-how, effective treatment of biological waste, legislation on biodiversity safety, multistakeholders, cooperation on containing nuclear and radioactive wastes, changing mode of industrial production including environmental costs, integrated public transports and transfer of green and clean technology to the less developed and developing countries. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.