

Thank you co-chair, and we are of course very pleased to see sustainable consumption and production as one of the 19 focus areas and also the emphasis there is towards addressing the urgency of this issue.

I am making this brief statement on behalf of the Major Groups for Children and Youth, Women and NGOs. The statement is based upon a joint full response to the paper of focus areas, which can be found on the sustainable development knowledge platform.

Sustainable Development is *development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs*. The world is currently 'doubly unsustainable' - we are not ensuring good lives for those living today and at the same time, some of us are consuming in ways and amounts that are not sustainable and accordingly jeopardize the lives of future generations and people from the global south. Achieving Sustainable Development is tied to our capacity of delivering products and services to fulfill those needs, producing them in a sustainable way. Therefore, sustainable consumption and production- or SCP- is essentially about poverty eradication now *and* for future generations.

SCP is not only important for the developed countries as highlighted in the paper on focus areas, but also for the developing countries, and especially for the BRICS. People in urban areas in China, India and Brazil, experience every day the high levels of air pollution, health problems, indecent labour conditions and environmental degradation caused by unsustainable patterns of production and consumption.

We would also like to emphasise that to monitor sustainable development on all levels, policies should be based upon the concepts of planetary boundaries and ecological footprint.

We are therefore suggesting the following points- which are among others that can be found in our co-chairs response text available online:

- Firstly, environmental consequences of government and business policies should be done based on environmental and social impact assessments, to ensure decision makers are fully taking into consideration long-term environmental consequences.
- Secondly, SCP will remain only a concept unless we implement caps on resource extraction and biodiversity liquidation within the bio physical limits of the planet, as part of appropriate caps of energy and resource use, that leaves room for rights based allocations also.
- Thirdly, Ecological tax reform that shifts the collection base to the extraction and exploitation of natural resources- instead of taxing the upcycled added value- will form a part of the solution.
- All production needs to ensure good working conditions and respecting human rights for workers engaged, including *living wages*.
- Finally, education for sustainable development should include the understanding of ecosystems and the responsibilities involved in our

actions. It requires both transforming to sustainable lifestyles, as the co-chairs have highlighted, but also a broader concept of educating citizens that are taking responsibility politically.

How SCP is included in the agenda will be crucial and we urge you to be bold for the sake of our common future. Preference has to be given to collective interest and not to the corporate or private ones.

Thank you