



Date: 3 April 2014

Cluster 5: Sustainable cities and human settlements; Promote sustainable consumption and production; Climate
Joint input of Montenegro and Slovenia for the 10th Meeting of OWG SDG

I have the honour to speak on behalf of Slovenia and Montenegro.

Sustainable cities and human settlements:

We wish to point out that sustainable cities and human settlements are strongly linked to energy. We should give proper attention to this inter-linkage. Urban areas represent one of the greatest energy consumers; policies and activities for greater energy efficiency and for more sustainable transportation systems are among key measures to make cities and human settlements in general more sustainable.

Slovenia and Montenegro support actions, included in Focus area on sustainable cities and human settlements. For us, especially important are possible actions to promote sustainable urban planning; on enhancing social cohesion and personal security; on strengthening positive economic and social links between cities and peri-urban and rural areas; and on providing access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport, improving road safety and urban air quality.

In further considerations we should give additional emphasis on:

- promoting energy efficiency;
- promotion of healthy and sustainable lifestyles;
- providing green spaces and recreational areas as part of sustainable urban planning; and
- promotion of greater stakeholder cooperation in urban decision-making.

Promote Sustainable Consumption and Production:

SCP is a universal challenge and opportunity. For many developed countries and emerging economies it means resource - and energy-efficiency in production and adoption of more sustainable lifestyles. For many developing countries, it means opportunities to achieve economic prosperity by making use of sustainable practices. Waste prevention and reuse, increasing recycling are also essential.

Slovenia and Montenegro generally support proposed actions in Focus Area on SCP.

However, we wish to point out three additional comments:

- Possible action should include also resource efficiency (not only energy efficiency);
- We believe that attention should be also given to industry and private sector, which in general have a role in advancing technologies for sustainable consumption and production;
- As possible action we wish to add integrating environment into other policies and sectors.

We have already pointed out some points on chemicals during our intervention on cluster 4 which remain relevant also for today's discussion:

- Appropriate use and management of chemicals must be taken into consideration. Phasing out of harmful chemicals can be achieved through eliminating their production and use. We should seek sustainable alternatives globally. There is also a need to promote rational, informed and responsible use of chemicals in general, also taking into consideration their negative impacts on human health.
- Some other challenges also include reduction of exposure to harmful substances, including in products, and leaking of toxic substances into the environment.
- We also wish to point out the importance of implementation of SAICM (Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management).

Climate:

We are of the view that the issue of climate change should be rather streamlined in relevant goals then addressed through individual stand-alone SDG. Its multidimensional and cross-cutting nature demands such approach.

Ambitious targets for the adaptation and resilience need to be developed, in addition to the reaffirmation of the global mitigation efforts.

Concrete decisions on those issues should be made within UNFCCC process and other relevant frameworks. We need to avoid duplication of our work with the UNFCCC process and achieve that the inclusion of climate change in the future agenda and UNFCCC process are mutually supportive.

We support proposed possible actions in Focus Areas document. We wish to point out that special emphasis should be given to development of low-carbon technologies, especially in energy sector.

Resilience and disaster risk reduction:

As we have pointed out during our stock-taking discussion on resilience and disaster risk reduction, this issue is cross-cutting and not limited only to climate change.

We believe that disaster risk reduction should be reflected in relevant areas. There is a need for more coordinated and managed approach to disaster risk reduction.