



Permanent Mission of  
the Federal Republic of Germany  
to the United Nations

**EU 2007 DE**

Commission on Sustainable Development  
Fifteenth Session

30 April to 11 May 2007

Speaking Points of the  
Federal Republic of Germany  
on behalf of the European Union

Industrial Development

New York, 01 May 2007

Industrial development can be an engine for achieving the MDGs if it builds upon the principles of sustainability and good governance. Making production processes sustainable by integrating the economic, environmental and social dimension is a key challenge worldwide and creating employment and improving resource efficiency is essential. In that regard, the role of business and industry should be acknowledged.

Increasing resource productivity, enhancing technological innovation and decoupling economic growth from resource use, offer opportunities for cost reduction, increased competitiveness and employment creation.

The EU believes that the outcome of CSD 15 should include the following elements:

### **Promote resource efficiency and sustainable production and consumption**

- Encourage countries and businesses to assess the potential for increasing resource efficiency in various applications;
- Develop and implement policies for resource and energy efficient production as well as integrated product policies;
- Intensify research on and adaptation of resource efficient technologies, technological innovation and cooperation, taking particularly into account the needs of developing countries;
- Pursue progress in the field of sustainable production and consumption patterns through full commitment to the Marrakech process and its task forces;
- Support dialogue between business and other key stakeholders – including trade unions, non-governmental organisations and political leaders – in order to develop ambitious business and consumer responses for sustainable consumption and production, which have the potential to go beyond existing minimum legal requirements;
- Encourage business and industry to elaborate and implement innovative management instruments, e.g. environmental management systems, life cycle analysis, eco-design and corporate social responsibility;
- Promote international eco- and social labelling, including harmonized eco-labelling criteria in the Global Ecolabelling Network, labelling schemes for the energy consumption and recycling capabilities for products with relatively high environmental impact.

### **Framework conditions for sustainable industrial development**

- Strengthen business capacity, in particular SMEs, to address unsustainable industrial practices and to implement supportive management instruments. This includes better access to loan and credit programmes, strengthening industry support institutions, such as cleaner production or energy efficiency centres (e.g. the UNIDO/UNEP cleaner production centres), as well as strengthening universities and other higher education institutions;
- Work towards further integration of developing countries in international trade and improve conditions for and promote greater flows of trade and investment, i.e. in expanding market access, removing non-tariff barriers and promoting economic and social development;
- Encourage investment in new and more efficient production facilities and products and the adoption and use of cleaner technologies, as well as stimulating demand, in order to overcome market barriers;

- Promote upfront Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEA) to be applied to national and regional plans and programmes as well as in development cooperation in order to prevent potentially negative impacts of investments;
- Promote corporate social and environmental responsibility and accountability as foreseen in para. 49 JPoI and support initiatives as the Global Compact and the OECD Guidelines for Multinational enterprises or the Global Reporting Initiative on a regional and global level. ILO core labour standards should be enforced.