

**Statement by**

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**of the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development  
of the Republic of Latvia**

**on the occasion of the 19<sup>th</sup> Session of  
the UN Commission on Sustainable Development**

**Ministerial Roundtable 1:**

***Developing programmes and a framework to accelerate the shift towards SCP***

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**- Check against delivery –**

Mr. Co-Chair, Honourable ministers, Excellences, Distinguished delegates,  
Ladies and gentleman

I have the honor to speak on behalf of Latvia.

Our country aligns itself with the position of the European Union and its Member States, presented by Commissioner Janez Potocnik.

Using this opportunity, I would like to share our experience for greening of economy, which is one of the keystones for successful implementation of the principle of Sustainable Consumption and Production.

The primary goal is to ensure, that implementing activities are in place.

Latvia is a country, which put great efforts, while undergone from centralized planning system and unsustainable way of living under Soviet regime, to environmentally friendly country - member of the European Union.

Development and implementation of strict requirements now prevents return to environmentally harmful management. Yes, in a short term we have faced higher business running costs, but, if we look to long term, then for sure, we should be winners.

As an example, we already have good experience, running our Green Investment Scheme, which is supported by national Climate Change Financial Instrument. It serves as a key tool for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

We consider that it is very important to use our positive balance of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions only to ensure sustainable development activities - at state and municipal level, as well as promoting activities in private sector.

Through Green Investment Scheme we support activities, such as:

- Improvement of energy efficiency in private and public sector buildings;
- Greenhouse gas reduction in transport sector;
- Energy saving solutions - both in private and public sectors;
- Support for design and implementation of technologies, using renewable energy resources, namely - biomass, geothermal, solar etc); as well as
- Different integrated solutions for GHG emission reduction in the energy production, consumption and technological processes.

I would like to express our support for adoption of 10 Year Framework of Programmes of Sustainable Consumption and Production, and in conclusion our

appreciation to CSD19 Chair and his team for the excellent work that has been done so far.

Thank you for your attention.