

Division for Sustainable Development Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) Thematic Seminar Series: Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns

Tuesday 30 March 2010 10:00 am – 1:00 pm ECOSOC Chamber (NLB)

The CSD Secretariat announces the Thematic Seminar on the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) Patterns, the third event in the CSD seminar series.

Topic Overview

Despite improvement in eco-efficiency, absolute consumption of resources continues to increase, driven in the first instance by consumption in the richest countries and in the second by rising consumption of growing upper and middle classes in emerging economies. At the same time, the gap between the haves and haves-not continues to widen. The challenge of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes (10YFP) on SCP is to support a quick shift toward sustainable consumption and production patterns coupled with upward convergence of living standards across the planet. Taking a life-cycle approach to consumption and production and using tools and innovative techniques such as industrial ecology and supply chain governance, product life-cycle analysis, and labeling and other schemes that signal to consumers the social and environmental impacts of their consumption can all be effective in delinking economic growth from natural resource extraction and environmental degradation while ensuring broad social benefits.

Report Launch

A new publication will be released by Consumers International, entitled *Checked Out: Are Supermarkets Taking Responsibility for Labor Conditions in Developing Countries?*

Panel Presentations

Thomas E. Graedel

Director, Center for Industrial Ecology, Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies "Industrial Ecology, Resource Decoupling, and the 'Master Equation'"

Catherine Nicholson

Senior Project Coordinator, Consumers International "Affecting Sustainable Consumption"

Gemma Adaba

Representative of the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) to the United Nations, and organizing partner for the Workers and Trade Unions Major Group Respondent

Jim Fava

Managing Director, Five Winds International "The Value of Life-Cycle Perspective"

Al Iannuzzi

Senior Director, Worldwide Environment, Health and Safety, Johnson & Johnson "Sustainable Product Design and Supply Chain Governance" The panel presentations will be followed by an open discussion, which will be moderated by Dr. Ulf Jaeckel, Vice-Chair (Germany) of CSD-18. For more information on the Commission on Sustainable Development Thematic Seminar Series, please visit: http://bit.ly/9WdiIn