



Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

At the outset let me congratulate you, Mr. Chairman, and the Bureau on the excellent way you have been guiding the Commission on Sustainable Development at its 18<sup>th</sup> Session. Poland remains strongly convinced that the CSD plays a critical role in promoting sustainable development in an integrated manner at the global level.

Poland fully associates itself with the statement of the European Union.

Mr. Chairman,

Poland fully supports the need for developing an ambitious 10-year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production and expresses the hope that it will address key global sustainability challenges and contribute to the transition towards a resource-efficient, competitive and socially just economy.

In accordance with provisions enshrined in the country's Constitution of 1997 (specifically Article 5 thereof), Poland is committed to the principles of sustainable development. In October 2003, the Polish Government adopted the "Strategy of changing production and consumption patterns to favour the implementation of sustainable development principles". The key goal of the strategy is to decouple the economic growth from the use of natural resources and environmental degradation and improve the quality of life. Furthermore, efforts are made to incorporate social, ethical and environmental aspects into different national strategies and programmes. Thus, for example, in 2008 the Council of Ministers adopted "The new approach to public procurement. Public Procurement and Small and Medium-sized Enterprises, Innovation and Sustainable Development". Sustainability aspects have also been reflected in the "National Reform Programme for 2007-2011 to implement the Lisbon Strategy".

The issues concerning sustainable consumption and production are particularly promoted among business. Owing to the co-operation with Norwegian Government, a Cleaner Production Programme was launched in Poland as early as in 1991. The agenda of activities addresses a broad range of interested parties, including representatives of local authorities and administration at all levels, managers of enterprises being restructured, and owners of SMEs. In addition, Poland's Cleaner Production Centre, operating under the patronage of the Minister of the Economy, is running a National Registry of Cleaner Production and Responsible Entrepreneurship (organisations are inter alia obliged to sign up to the UN Global Compact principles).

