

**Opening remarks of Mr. Abdelghani Merabet, Vice Chair of CSD19
Permanent Mission of Algeria
At the CSD Intercessional Conference on Building Partnerships
For moving towards zero waste
16-18 February 2011, Tokyo, Japan**

Mr. Chairman,

Let me at the outset on behalf of the Bureau Members of CSD19 and the delegation of Algeria, thank H.E. Mr. Ryu Matsumoto, Minister of Environment of Japan and through him the government of Japan for hosting this important Intercessional Conference on Building Partnerships for moving towards zero waste.

Let me extend my sincere thanks to the Secretariat of the United Nations for setting the stage as organizers and providing as with requested information and tools to achieve a successful meeting.

This meeting, I hope you will agree with me, is timely and necessary since it intervenes at two weeks of the starting work of the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting and deals with one of the main clusters of the current cycle of the Commission on Sustainable Development. In that sense, I believe that this meeting could play a key role in catalyzing discussions, coming up with policy recommendations and bringing a broad agreement that should pave the way to adopt a good and balanced outcome during the 19th session of CSD in May 2011.

Mr. Chairman,

Since the world Summits of Rio and Johannesburg, the management of solid wastes and sewage has been raised as an environment issue of critical concern and the international community has come to understand the priority to be accorded to waste prevention and minimization, reuse, recycling and the use of environmentally friendly alternative materials.

Progress on this important topic of building partnerships for moving towards zero waste can not be achieved without a strong partnership among States, all stakeholders and a strong involvement and awareness of the civil society.

Through these many partnerships, responsibility and advantages should be shared between the main actors, especially in terms of financial resources and technological access, managerial efficiency, environmental awareness and job creation in the activities linked to waste management.

From our perspective, it is clear that a well structured approach to support and assist the efforts made at regional and national levels, coupled with a strong commitment from member States in mainstreaming waste management in their policies and decision making processes within an inclusive and adapted frameworks, are prerequisites to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of delivering services in waste management.

Mr. Chairman,

Waste management and waste minimization represent a serious challenge for all countries. However, developing countries, where economies and urbanization are growing rapidly, are facing a number of challenges dealing mainly with the lack of skilled human resources and institutions at national and local levels, financial problems of waste management services and facilities, the lack of technological capabilities to introduce and operate recycling schemes and systems and the insufficient communication and commitment of all stakeholders in the local municipalities.

Therefore, there is an urging need to assist developing countries in the development and implementation of policy instruments and mechanisms that encourage waste prevention and minimization, based on an inclusive approach and a strong partnership in building local capabilities to address the flows of different types of wastes within the context of sustainable development.

Within the same vein, it is obvious that the implementation of such policies depend essentially on the new and additional financial resources to dedicate for a sustainable waste management in developing countries. Such resources should be mobilized at international, regional and national levels.

On the other side, it is highly recommended to provide technological assistance in capacity building and to develop a wide approach of dissemination and exchange of information and good practices at all levels. Such strategy should be supported by strong campaigns in terms of education and public awareness aiming to changing behavioral attitudes and involving civil society strongly in such an endeavor.

Mr. Chairman,

Let me conclude by expressing the strong commitment of the delegation of Algeria along with other Bureau Members of CSD19, to engage constructively in the upcoming negotiations of the IPM and CSD19 session in order to get a balanced and good outcome that takes in consideration the concerns of all stakeholders.

Thank you.