

# Fundamental changes needed

*A statement by the Hon. Dr. Newton Kulundu, Kenyan Minister for Environment, Natural Resources & Wildlife, at the ICSPAC panel discussion on "Changing Production and Consumption Patterns: National Strategies, CSD, and the Ten-Year Framework", 1st May 2003*

The current consumption patterns of natural resources at the global and national levels are placing unprecedented pressure on the environment. The richest 20% of the world's population accounts for 86% of resource consumption at the expense of the rest, in particular, the developing countries.

Fundamental changes in the way societies produce and consume goods and services ought to be made in an effort to achieve global sustainable development.

All countries should encourage and promote the development of a 10-year framework of programmes agreed upon the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg to accelerate the shift towards sustainable consumption and production.

Governments, relevant international organisations, the private sector and all major groups should play an active role in changing unsustainable consumption and production patterns.

There is need to:

- Develop awareness raising programmes in collaboration with consumer organisations for all members of our societies on the importance of sustainable production and consumption patterns;
- Establish and support cleaner production programmes and centres in addition to promoting more efficient production methods;
- Integrate the issues of sustainable production and consumption patterns into national sustainable development policies and programmes, and where applicable, into poverty reduction strategies;
- Continue to encourage industry to improve social and environmental performance through voluntary initiatives, including

environmental management systems, codes of conduct, certification and public reporting on environmental and social issues;

We should all promote social and economic development within the carrying capacities of ecosystem by addressing and where appropriate, de-linking economic growth and environmental degradation through improving efficiency and sustainability in the use of resources;

More specifically, we should continue to:

- Promote internalisation of environmental costs and use of economic instruments, taking into account the approach that polluter should, in principle, bear the cost of pollution, with the due regard to the public interest, and without distorting international trade and investment;
- Promote procurement policies that encourage development and diffusion of environmentally sound goods and services;
- Provide capacity building and training to assist authorities, institutions, private sector and the civil society to undertake programmes that enhance best practices as related to production and consumption patterns;
- Promote and encourage application of environmental impact assessment (E L.A.) on all new projects;
- Integrate energy considerations including energy efficiency, affordability and accessibility, into socio-economic programmes;
- Promote and encourage waste prevention, minimise waste and maximize reuse, recycling and use of "environmentally friendly" alternative materials. Encourage production of reusable consumer

goods and biodegradable products;

- Promote development of waste management systems, with the highest priorities placed on waste prevention and minimisation, reuse and recycling and environmentally sound disposal facilities;
- Strengthen the contributions of industrial development to poverty eradication and sustainable natural resource management. Facilitate and; mobilise resources to enhance industrial productivity and competitiveness as well as industrial productivity and environmentally sound technologies; and
- Implement the outcomes of the Doha Ministerial Conference and further strengthen trade-related technical assistance and capacity building to developing countries in multilateral trade negotiations by placing their needs and interests at the heart of the WTO work programmes. The United Nations System and consumer organizations, among others, should assist developing countries towards this end.

Kenya has, in collaboration with the relevant international organizations, established the following institutions to contribute to the realization of sustainable production and consumption at the national level;

- Kenya National Cleaner Production Centre;
- Kenya Productivity Centre;
- GEF – KAM Industrial Energy Efficiency Project;
- A Standards and Enforcements Review Committee under the Environment Management and Coordination Act, 1999.

Thank You.