



African Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production

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Report

Sixth Roundtable Meeting

of

African Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production

Cairo, Egypt

14-16th June 2010

Theme:

“SCP as a vehicle for Green Economic Development in Africa “

Prepared by ARSCP Secretariat, June, 2010

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1.0 Introduction

Background

The Sixth African Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production (ARSCP - 6) was held from 14th - 16th June 2010 in Cairo, Egypt. This meeting is one of the organization's biannual meetings aimed at exchanging knowledge among ARSCP members and SCP practitioners at local and international levels. Realizing the challenges facing the region, the sixth roundtable meeting was intended to explore and recommend SCP as a vehicle for greening economic development in Africa.

Objectives of the Roundtable

The main objective of ARSCP - 6 was to support cleaner production activities and promote sustainable consumption and production in the economic development of Africa through the application of SCP as a vehicle for greening the regional development initiatives.

Organizers

The ARSCP-6 was organized by the African Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production (ARSCP) and hosted by the Egypt National Cleaner Production Centre (ENCPC) with full support from the Egyptian Ministry of Trade and Industry the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), United Nations Environment Programme and the Marrakech Taskforce on Cooperation with Africa.

Conference Theme and Sub-themes

Theme: SCP as a vehicle for greening the African economy

Sub themes:

- i. Role of Businesses, Governments and Civil Society in promoting SCP (including Educational outreach programmes)
- ii. SCP and Food Security and Sustainable Agriculture
- iii. Eco labeling of African natural products
- iv. SCP and Energy (Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency, Sustainable Transport and Sustainable Buildings and construction)
- v. SCP and industry development
- vi. Integrated Solid Waste Management Programs

Participants

The 6th African Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production enjoyed a diversity of participants. Participants came from various global environmental focal points, including the United Nations organizations as well as the Marrakech Taskforces lead countries. Representatives from the following global organizations attended; UNIDO, UNEP, UNECA, MTF on Sustainable

(Lifestyle, Buildings and Constructions, Public Procurement and Tourism). Also other environmental institutions and SCP consultants were represented; these include Wuppertal Institute from Germany, Engcotec GmbH, and several Egyptian experts and consultants. The local participation from the Egyptian side was very evident both from the private and public sectors, environment consultants in addition to the representation from the Egyptian Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs and the Ministry of Trade and Industry. There was good participation of Cleaner Production Centers from all Arab and African countries during the event. NCPCs from Tunisia, Morocco, Lebanon, Syria and Egypt itself in addition to NCPC from the African Countries comprising, Ghana, Ethiopia, Kenya, Morocco, Mozambique, South Africa and Zimbabwe. In total over 150 people attended and over 20 African countries were represented (see Annex A).

The event was also attended by development agencies in Egypt working on sustainable development focal point, among which were the SECO (State Secretariat for Economic cooperation) also the GTZ (German Technical Cooperation Fund) in addition to representative from the French Ministry of Ecology, Energy and Sustainable Development.

The Egypt National Cleaner Production Centre organized an Exhibition for Egyptian companies which have success stories in the field of implementing sound environmental management and sustainable development approaches. This exhibition was a great opportunity to reflect on the efforts done by the Centre and the participating companies.

The event was well covered by the Egyptian Television and various media channels in Egypt which helped to disseminate information on the event and its activities.

Agenda & Sessions

This event which took place at the Semiramis Intercontinental Hotel in Cairo was preceded by a two days training on UNEP toolkit of Responsible Production and UNEP/UNIDO toolkit on Resource Efficiency and Cleaner Production from 17-18TH June 2010

The 6th ARSCP was a 3 day event and encompassed 8 plenary sessions and three parallel sessions. In total 29 scientific papers were presented and discussed. Through discussions in the parallel sessions members came up with conclusions and recommendations of the meeting

A publication containing summaries of the papers presented during the meeting is under preparation and will be available soon. The main topics discussed were the following:

Day one: Monday 14th June 2010

2.0 Plenary Sessions

SESSION ONE

Building a Green Economy is possible

The Session was the first deliverable of the ARSCP; it included a multiplicity of papers from different United Nations Organizations engaged in sustainable development in Africa; the session

discussed the possible options and the potential opportunities for greening the economy with a clear definition of what the concept of green economic development is about.

<p>UNEP Green Economy Initiative</p> <p>Dr. Mostafa Kamal Gueye, Economic Affairs Officer and Acting Head Green Economy Advisor Services Unit at UNEP, Geneva (Representative)</p>
<p>UNIDO Green Industry initiative</p> <p>Dr. Rene Van Berkel, Chief, Cleaner & Sustainable Production Unit, UNIDO, Austria</p>
<p>ENCPC : Success stories, achievements and lessons learned</p> <p>Eng. Hanan El Hadary, Director, NCPC-Egypt</p>
<p>UNIDO/UNEP RECP Program</p> <p>Dr. Rene Van Berkel, Chief, Cleaner & Sustainable Production Unit, UNIDO, Austria</p>
<p>RECP Regional Cooperation and Knowledge Management</p> <p>Mr Smail, Industrial Development Officer, UNIDO</p>
<p>Resource Efficiency and Responsible Production in SMEs -(PRE-SMEs)</p> <p>Mr. Tomas Marques , Business and Industry Unit, UNEP-DTIE</p>

SESSION TWO

SCP and Food Security and Sustainable Agriculture

Food security is on the top of the African Development agenda, the session highlighted various topics related to the security and sustainability of agriculture, and among those topics are the activities of the Water Working Group of the UNEP –IPSRM, indigenous trees incubators and a presentation on the sustainable use of pesticides in the Egyptian Agriculture.

<p>Indigenous Trees Incubators in Agro-Ecologically Zoned Areas for the Conservation, Protection, Domestication, and Marketing of Indigenous Food and Medicinal Trees</p> <p>Ms. Anja Oussoren, Director, Ivory Consult Ltd, Kenya</p>
<p>Activities of the Water Working Group of the UNEP –IPSRM.</p> <p>Dr Nicholas Ozor, Post Doctoral Research Officer, African Technology Policy Studies Network</p>
<p>Sustainable Pesticides Uses in Agriculture in Egypt.</p> <p>Dr. Salah Soliman, Vice President, National Committee of Pesticides, Min. of Agriculture, Egypt</p>

SESSION THREE

SCP on Energy, Transport and Buildings

The session reflected on the importance of SCP with relevance to energy, transport and buildings. The papers highlighted about bio-fuels production In Africa and the opportunities available from sustainable construction and infrastructure in Africa.

Assessment of functional transport infrastructure and buildings for greening urban areas of Africa -case study Kampala, Uganda Dr. Charles Koojo, Environmental Planner, Uganda
Sustainable biofuels production and use in Africa Dr. Bamikole Amigun, Senior Researcher Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) Stellenbosch, Western Cape, South Africa
Opportunities for Sustainable Construction and Infrastructure Development in Africa Dr. Hazem Elzarka, Professor, University of Cincinnati, OH, USA
Photovoltaic as a future sustainable energy option for Africa Dr. Ibrahim Samak, General Manager, Engcotec GmbH, Stuttgart, Germany

Day two: Tuesday 15th June 2010

SESSION FOUR

SCP & Industrial Development

The session highlighted the activities of the African eco labeling programme and how it could be cascaded to the rest of the African countries, case studies from countries like Tunisia that has introduced this initiative and finally a presentation on how the concept of carbon foot prints as service to industries is helping in the neutralization of the activities of industrial sector. The session included the following presentations:

An Overview of the African Eco-labeling Program Dr. Kioko Mang'eli, President, African Organization for Standardization, ARSO
Enabling Developing Countries to Seize Eco-label Opportunities: The Case of Kenya and Ethiopia Mr. Kelvin Khisa, Deputy Director, NCPC, Kenya
Tunisian Ecolabel: Ecolabelling of Packaged Dates

Mr. Riadh Lounissi
Ecological Carbon Footprint Lama Elhatow, Project Manager and R&D, Soil & More International
Integrating CP in Industry within the East African Community Countries Ms. Jane Nyakang'o, Director, Kenya National Cleaner Production Centre
Case study: Applying of integrated Chemicals management in MAC Carpet Eng. Adel Abd El Fattah, Quality Assurance Manager, MAC Carpet

SESSION FIVE

SCP in Business, Governments and Civil Societies

This session discussed several study cases among the African nations on the role of various stakeholders on sustainability. The session emphasized the importance of the businesses community in implementation process for sustainable development initiatives and its importance on the economic development of the region

Role of Stakeholders in promoting SCP-The Mauritian Experience Prof. Toolseeram Ramjeawon, University of Mauritius, Mauritius
How the business community could be involved in implementing 10YFP on SCP Ms. Evelyn Muthoni, ast African Breweries
The Role of Business, Government and Civil Society in promoting Sustainable Consumption and Production Ms. Getrude Ng'enda: Regional Programme and Policy Coordinator, Regional Office for Africa UNEP
Sustainable Consumption and Production of intangible African Cultural Products in Tourism Dr. Hazel M. Kwaramba – Researcher Centre for Clean Technology and Environmental Policy, Faculty of Governance and Management, University of Twente

SESSION SIX

Integrated Solid Waste Management Programs

The session was based on highlighting experiences in the field of solid waste management from both municipalities and agricultural activities. The session also outlined the possibilities and opportunities of waste recycling and recovery. The session had a focus on experiences in Senegal and Uganda regarding the problems resulted from plastics

Sustainable integrated municipal and agricultural wastes management processes Dr. Kenny Adewumi, Department of Civil Engineering, Faculty of Technology, Obafemi

Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria
Towards chains of waste recovery in Africa: The example of plastic in Senegal Mr. Cheikh Fofana, Assistant au Secrétaire Exécutif du SINEPAD, Senegal
The Politics of Greening of Economy: Uganda versus the Plastics bags Uganda Mr. Edgar Mugisha, Managing Partner Atacama Consulting , Kampala, Uganda

SESSION SEVEN

The Marrakech Process

The session aimed at reporting on the Marrakech Process in general and the work of the SBC Marrakech Task Force in particular before ‘wrapping it up’, and to collect input into the final report of the Task Force. Furthermore, discuss the priorities and elaborate the input of the Task Force to the 10YFP. The session also suggested what kind of programs should be supported and included in the 10YFP and delivered to the Advisory Committee of the Marrakech Process and the IPM and CSD-19.

Presentation on the Marrakech Process, CSD 18 and the Africa 10YFP on SCP: Prof. Cleo Migiro, President ARSCP
MTF on Cooperation with Africa: Dr. Patrick Mwesigye, Regional Industry Officer, UNEP-ROA
Brief Presentations by: Sustainable Public Procurement: Dr. Farid Yaker, UNEP DTIE Sustainable Lifestyle: Ms. Gunilla Blomquist, Deputy Director, Swedish Ministry of Environment Sustainable Buildings and Construction: Ms. Kaarin Taipale, Chairperson, MTF on Sustainable Building & Construction, Finland Sustainable Tourism: Ms. Gerard Ruiz, Interim Chair of the Future Global Partnerships for Sustainable Tourism, UNEP

SESSION EIGHT

Presentation of the World Bank Dr. Maged Hamad, Senior Environmental Specialist, Sustainable Development Department
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3.0 Parallel sessions: Workshops

Parallel Session One

Workshop on Sustainable Public Procurement: Dr. Farid Yaker, UNEP DTIE
Workshop on Sustainable Lifestyle: Ms. Gunilla Blomquist, Deputy Director, Swedish Ministry of Environment
Workshop on Sustainable Buildings and Construction: Ms. Kaarin Taipale, Chairperson, MTF on Sustainable Building & Construction, Finland
Workshop on Sustainable Tourism: Ms. Gerard Ruiz, Interim Chair of the Future Global Partnerships for Sustainable Tourism, UNEP

Day Three: Wednesday 16th June 2010

Parallel Session Two

Discussions on Presentations on SCP and Food Security & Agriculture Chairperson: Dr. Nicholas Ozor
Discussions on Presentations on : SCP on Energy, Transport and Buildings Chairperson: Dr. Charles Koojo
Discussions on Presentations on SCP & Industrial Development Chairperson: Mr. Kelvin Khisa
Discussions on Presentations on Integrated Solid Waste Management Chairperson: Mr. Clive Wafukho
Discussions on Presentations on SCP in Business, Governments and Civil Societies Chairperson: Ms Getrude Ng'enda

4.0 Conclusions and Recommendations of the ARSCP-6

The strategic focus of the African 10-YFP is linking SCP with the challenges of meeting basic needs of the people in more sustainable way. The identified four thematic areas of focus addressed under the framework of programmes are energy, water and sanitation, habitat and sustainable urban development, and industrial development. The meeting noted that SCP as a vehicle for greener economic development is a broad agenda, encompassing almost all economic activities including agriculture, industry, energy generation and utilization, water and waste management. It also touches on government policies, financial sector policies, business activities and the operations of other players like INGOs, CBOs and NGOs.

The ARSCP-6 which was attended by over 150 participants from all over the world discussed the role of SCP in the greening of economic development of Africa. Discussions were structured according to the sub themes of the meeting as follows:

- SCP and Food Security and Sustainable Agriculture
- SCP and Energy (Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency), Sustainable Transport and Sustainable Buildings and Construction)
- SCP and industry development
- Role of Businesses, Governments and Civil Society in promoting SCP (including Educational outreach programmes)
- Integrated Solid Waste Management Programs

The meeting came up with recommendations in relation to the implementation of the African 10-YFP on SCP. These should be implemented at regional, national and local levels thereby speeding up the greening of the African economy. However, this requires that the necessary tools, mechanisms, institutional arrangements and programs to support the implementation must be put in-place within the region.

The sixth ARSCP meeting group discussion are summarized according to the sub themes and the following main conclusions, observations and recommendations were drawn from the group presentations during the plenary session.

A: Food Security & Agriculture

Participants concluded that the region is faced with the challenges of fast population growth, lack of good governance policies and public awareness, resources misuse (water, renewable energy), inadequate technology leading to loss of biodiversity and poor agricultural practices. It was also noted that there are abundant natural resources (land, minerals, and energy sources), manpower, biodiversity, strategic geographic positioning globally and good linkages for integration and trade liberalization among African nations.

Recommendations from the group on SCP and Food Security & Agriculture were as follows:

- i. There is a need for extending education and training on sustainable agricultural practices through demonstration projects;
- ii. It is necessary to review existing policy frameworks so as to support and encourage sustainable agriculture which is driven by Africa (including funding);
- iii. In order to maximize benefits from the agricultural sector and reduce poverty, Africa needs to instill value-added chains for its agricultural products and by-products; and
- iv. There is a need for Africa to utilize its natural resources efficiently such as water so as to reduce national water footprints and maximize use of solar energy.

B: Energy (Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency), Sustainable Transport and Sustainable Buildings and Construction)

The group on sustainable energy, transport, buildings and construction concluded among other things, that the region is faced with the challenges of top down policy making approach, lack of awareness about the advantages of SCP in energy, transport and building sectors and political will to implement sustainable land use planning. However, the region has the opportunities to leapfrog technologically, receive support from the MTF and enjoys availability of plenty of untapped resources which if used well, could bring better economic and living conditions for the people. As a way forward the group made the following recommendations:

- i. Review and formulate policy and legislation on the built environment;
- ii. Intensify continuous public awareness raising on SCP application in energy, transport and building sectors;
- iii. Promote mass transport in cities. These have proved to have less impact to the environment especially through vehicle emissions and reduction of congestion;
- iv. Give priority to provision of education on SCP through demonstration projects. Thus conceive demonstration projects in sustainable energy, transport and buildings without more delays;
- v. Establish new and strengthen existing national platforms to promote sustainable buildings and construction;
- vi. Increase capacity building in integrated national land use planning; and
- vii. Devolve Roundtable Meetings to strengthen national level for greater impact.

C: Industrial Development

The group on SCP and industrial development identified the key challenges of mainstreaming SCP in the industrial sector which the region is facing. The challenges include unfavourable investment climate, weak technology transfer infrastructure, inadequate R&D, low levels of education and limited institutional capacities and unfavourable global markets in terms of tariffs and subsidies. The opportunities identified include vast and unexploited rich natural resources (oil, gas, coal, solar, wind, oil), opportunities to leapfrog, low technological development, existence of proven best practices and environmentally sound technologies (ESTs), and the emerging corporate environmental and social responsibility (CESR) culture. In order to mainstream SCP in the industrial development of Africa, the group recommended as follows:

- i. Enhance training and re-training;
- ii. Embrace good governance practices;
- iii. Strengthen the South-South Co-operation;
- iv. Adopt voluntary codes of Practice and Standards;
- v. Develop enabling regional and national SCP Policies;
- vi. Engage civil society in SCP promotion and research;
- vii. Strengthen the technological infrastructure in the region;
- viii. Sustain stakeholders' awareness and involvement in SCP in the region;

- ix. Create and Sustain SCP Awareness of policy makers, politicians and business community, etc; and
- x. Involve all relevant stakeholders including industrial partners, international organisations to ensure the practical feasibility of sustainability standards and instruments.

D: Business, Governments and Civil Societies

The session on SCP in business, governments and civil society identified the main challenges and opportunities for promoting and mainstreaming SCP to include the lack of awareness amongst government, civil society and other crucial stakeholders as a major cause of concern. It was noted that generally the legal and policy framework conditions in most African countries is weak and exacerbated by lack of adequate enforcement as well as poor implementation of these mechanisms. Poor education, lack of consumer culture and consumer education and lack of adequate research were noted as key challenges that need to be addressed effectively. Identified opportunities for promoting and mainstreaming SCP in business, government and civil society include proven financial benefits, improved productivity, enhanced health and safety in work areas. The prospects of new products and services clearly stood out as an opportunity which could assist Africa in leapfrogging as well as reducing poverty in a way that could create space for the poor to develop. The group recommended the following measures:

- i. Provide incentives to foster SCP;
- ii. Training on SCP at all levels of governments;
- iii. Initiate Local Community SCP programmes;
- iv. Sensitize NGOs/CBOs on SCP so as to bring them on board;
- v. Introduce formal Education in SCP from Primary Schools to Universities;
- vi. Establish linkages, integrate and liberalize trade between African nations;
- vii. Encourage SME business sectors to take up SCP initiatives to improve their productivity;
- viii. Develop Clear Vision and Action Plan in all countries e.g. Sustainable development vision, strategy;
- ix. Initiate Public Private Partnerships for the development of SCP and Sustainable Entrepreneurship;
- x. Strengthen capacity of the African Roundtable on sustainable consumption and production (ARSCP); and
- xi. Encourage civil society to play an active role in the promulgation of SCP through advocacy and information dissemination hence the urgent need to involve civil society players

E: Integrated Solid Waste Management

The Group on solid waste management concluded that solid waste management is a regional problem affecting both the urban and rural areas of all nations at different magnitudes due to population growth and economic activities. It was further noted that as long as human beings and other living organisms are active, there will always be waste in the environment; thus there is need for managing it sustainably by reducing its generation, recycling and reusing it. We should henceforth see erstwhile waste as valuable raw resource needing processing into useful products

through appropriate waste management process or system. Waste is a veritable source of wealth waiting to be tapped. The Group also recognized several challenges and constraints hindering widespread of ISWM approach including leadership crisis in governments, the need for strong political will to address the issue of pollution and environment, lack of classification for wastes and lack of information of who is doing what. It was further noted that there is lack of awareness on core social and cultural values that distinguishes each African nation and that generally there is erosion of African cultures. The group recommended the following measures:

- i. The ARSCP should encourage good practice in the region, possibly by identifying cities and even rural areas of excellence involved in Green Environment;
- ii. Initiate an annual Award by ARSCP and sponsors such as UNEP, HABITAT. It is not just the Award, but ARSCP should recommend and promote the adoption of such laudable practice in other communities;
- iii. Publicize notable improvement on the environment when noted in any major City. Such efforts may also be publicized on ARSCP/UNEP websites. Interviews of the forces behind such improvements will give insight to other communities or businesses to consider for adoption or adaptation;
- iv. Disseminate helpful information towards Greening the environment to solve major pollution problems in the Region. Since there are sub-regional ARSCP representatives in the Executive Board, it may be useful to encourage them to use effective media outlets such as e-mails, newspaper publications, radio/television programmes to inform the public in their areas;
- v. ARSCP should create a data bank of consultants, experts, manufacturers of waste processing plants/equipment, tested technologies, then use this resource to assist any nation requiring such services or facilities;
- vi. Encourage African experts to genuinely solve their own peculiar problems. A case in support of this is our Egyptian brother, Dr Ibrahim Samak based in Germany who is producing solar panels for energy generation. He told the forum that the solar radiation in every part of Africa is all we need to generate green electricity for each country, a revelation which must now be further exploited by our region; and
- vii. Develop and/or encourage networking of key players in ISWM in academia, research centres, private sector, and businesses.

5.0 Way Forward

Successful implementation of the African 10-YFP on SCP will ensure that green economic development is achieved in Africa. Numerous activities and mechanisms need be employed through the backing of our global partners. The participants have repeatedly shown that we must ensure that knowledge is developed and disseminated. Governments, stakeholders and people need to be reached repeatedly, in different ways, but with essentially the same message: "practice SCP".

The ARSCP-6 came up with following as the way forward:

- i. Operationalize technical sub-groups;
- ii. Collect and disseminate best practices;
- iii. Improved political will at national level;
- iv. Promote and give priority to local resources;

- v. Develop framework conditions that promote SCP;
- vi. Promote National Round Tables on SCP for greater impact;
- vii. SME sectors must be encouraged to take up SCP initiatives;
- viii. Implement appropriate policies and demonstration projects;
- ix. Conduct extensive stakeholder consultations to instil a sense of ownership;
- x. SME business sectors must be targeted to improve their efficiency and productivity;
- xi. Embrace south–south collaboration (learning from success stories in other countries);
- xii. Engage government to instil ownership and political will necessary to drive SCP initiatives;
- xiii. Put in place appropriate policies (criteria & indicators relevant to local situation) to address social, environmental and economic issues;
- xiv. Encourage governments to mainstream SCP in their national policies, programmes, strategy and plans, hence fostering it as a national agenda;
- xv. Inspire National system of innovation for the Private sector, Policy makers, CSO, Scientists and Farmers and establish Science parks;
- xvi. Involve all relevant stakeholders including industrial partners, international organisations to ensure practical feasibility of sustainability standards and instruments;
- xvii. Establish adequate national resources to ensure that SCP is mainstreamed in our societies and development plans through advocacy and information dissemination by involving civil society; and
- xviii. UNEP with MTF and ARSCP Secretariat to undertake consultations with Regional Economic Communities for political buy-in, awareness raising, lobbying and advocacy of the SCP concept and its potential in Africa. UNEP to give backstopping and capacity building.

6.0 Brief Report of the 4th ARSCP General Assembly

On the third day of the meeting, the ARSCP-6 provided an opportunity for the ARSCP to hold its 4th General Assembly for members. In this meeting the secretariat's report for the period 3008/10 was tabled, members received and considered requests for hosting the next roundtable and election of new executive board members for the organization was held

With respect to hosting the next Roundtable Meeting (ARSCP-7) in 2012, President announced that the constitution requires that a host country volunteers for each forthcoming round table. He further

said that it to time we gave the opportunity to West Africa because they had never had the opportunity to host this event.

Following this announcement, four countries namely Cape Verde, Ghana, Nigeria and Senegal announced to the GA that they volunteer to host this meeting. Through voting by members GHANA emerged the WINNER and the 4th General Assembly endorsed Ghana's proposal to host the ARSCP-7

Thereafter, the incumbent executive board members resigned so that the seven executive board seats became available for election. Dr. Patrick Mwesigye a former President of the ARSCP and outgoing board member was asked to supervise the election of the new executive board.

As a result of the election, Prof Cleophas Migiro, the outgoing President and the Director of the Cleaner Production Centre of Tanzania was nominated and elected unopposed to continue as the President of the ARSCP for a term of two years 2010/12.

The following members were elected taking into account the geographical, gender and private sector representation, with their nationality in brackets.

Eng. Hanan El Hadary	Egypt	Secretary and representing Northern Africa
Mr. Edgar Mugisha	Uganda	representing Eastern Africa
Mr. Tawalla Collins	Zimbabwe	representing Southern Africa
Dr. Ife Adewumi	Nigeria	representing Western Africa
Prof. Toolseeram Ramjaewon	Mauritius	representing individual members
Dr. John Afari Idan	Ghana	representing the Private sector
Ms Jane Nyakang'o	Kenya	Ex-officio

At the end of this event, the new President thanked the outgoing Executive Board for the hard work they did during the last two year to ensure the organization survives and on behalf of the new board expressed his thanks to the General Assembly for electing them to the ARSCP Executive Board for the term 2010/12. Furthermore, the President congratulated the members for the peaceful meeting and thanked Ms Hanan el hadary and the ENCPC for the excellent work in hosting the sixth meeting of the ARSCP and the fourth general assembly for members to such high success. He further thanked the ARSCP Secretariat for organizing this event so well.

7.0 Concluding remarks

The 6th African Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production under the theme “SCP as a vehicle for Green Economic Development in Africa”, came in at an opportune time when the green growth concept is becoming an imperative part of many African government’s mandates.

This event was a wonderful opportunity with all involved stakeholders from the UN organizations and others to meet and collaborate towards a more Sustainable Africa. The event gave a chance for all participants to share ideas and scientific contribution which provided a pool of ideas and experiences for their countries and establishments.

The participants generally agreed that the forum was beneficial. As one participant put it, “It was worth being part of the conference as many things were learnt and more are to be learnt!!!”.

A Publication which will contain a summary of each presentation is under compilation. It will be printed soon for distribution

xx Thank you all xx