

BUSINESS ACTION FOR ENERGY

Working for Sustainable Solutions

11 May 2007

Business and Industry Statement

CLOSING STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY

Thank you Chairman, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentleman. I give this statement representing the Business and Industry Major Group on behalf of Business Action for Energy (BAE), an ad hoc coalition of business organizations assembled for coordinating input into CSD 14 and 15.

We have appreciated the opportunity to be part of the CSD process. Engaging business and its significant operational, technological and financial capacity in policy development and implementation is essential for progress in the four thematic areas under consideration at CSD 14 and 15 and we will continue to make our contributions to progress on sustainable development.

The issues addressed by CSD require a common understanding and prioritized, concerted and integrated action by all stakeholders in society going forward from CSD 15. We have heard about numerous governmental and non-governmental initiatives, and we hope their next steps will be guided by the priorities identified in CSD15.

For our part, we have underscored the cross-cutting importance of enabling policy and market frameworks, and the necessity of engaging business throughout, for successful implementation and to maximize what business and industry can offer.

Overall, we believe a strengthened CSD is necessary to convene, catalyze and support the kinds of inter-disciplinary, cross-cutting and multi-stakeholder approaches sustainable development requires. Partnerships and major groups as implementers and interlocutors make the CSD unique, and their role should be further mainstreamed.

We hope that in the future CSD will forge linkages and bring continuity with past issue-clusters. Certainly the next cycle has connections to water and energy issues. The



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challenges ahead are complex, and institutions, including CSD, should work together with other stakeholders to continue to achieve progress on these vital issues.

We look forward to working with governments, inter-governmental organizations and other stakeholders to implement the outcomes of CSD15 and to prepare for fruitful discussions in the future CSD cycles. Moreover, we will continue to promote and enhance substantive business participation amongst our members.

I thank you for the opportunity to make these closing remarks. The business and industry sector looks forward to continuing our active engagement in this process.

