

## **Scientific and Technological Community**

### **Statement on Green Economy**

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Mr. Co-Chair,

Let me first address an overarching question. Yes, we urgently need the transition to a Green Economy and to sustainable patterns of consumption and production, as business-as-usual has not eradicated poverty and bears unacceptable risks for the future.

We can agree with those who said we should not spend more time on definitions as long as everybody agrees with the fundamentals: the Green Economy should “emphasize environmentally sustainable economic progress to foster low-carbon, socially inclusive development” (ESCAP) and investment in green jobs, clean technologies and green sectors.

We, in the scientific committee, believe as other speakers have also said, that there is no such thing like a “one-size-fits-all” green economy“. It needs to be country or sub-region specific. However, experience sharing at regional and global levels will be crucial.

Mr. Chair, there will be no Green Economy without it being based on sound science, including research and access to knowledge in the social and economic sciences, nor without green technologies and technological innovation. Consequently, in reply to the question “What specific investments should a government prioritize?” we urge to include among the priority areas investments in targeted scientific and technological capacity building, financing green R& D, as well as developing and strengthening national and international innovation systems. While technological innovations are important, we actually need a more effective “global innovation system” for innovation policy responses, policies which truly integrate the three pillars and promote societal transformations.

No doubt, the private sector should also contribute to investments in science and technology and R&D, and public private partnerships should be established. Moreover, for the benefit of developing countries, North-South and South-South targeted scientific and technological cooperation should be significantly enhanced, as well as technical and financial support for national scientific and technological capacity building.

Green economy policies need to be introduced in all relevant sectors of economy, be it the agricultural sector, the chemical industry, or the IT sector. This will require much enhanced policy coherence across sectors. And the issue of policy coherence will have to be taken into account in reforming and strengthening the institutional framework for sustainable development.

Finally, the green economy will not become implemented without the full involvement of all relevant stakeholders, and Major Groups such as educators, farmers, local authorities, workers and trade unions, indigenous people, in addition to scientists and engineers.

Thank you.