

**STATEMENT FOR VALLI MOOSA TO DELIVER ON BEHALF OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY AT THE MINISTERIAL DIALOGUE WITH MAJOR GROUPS – 11 MAY 2006**

Thank you Chairman, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentleman. I will be giving this statement on behalf of the Business and Industry Major Group, in my capacity as the Chair of Business Action for Energy.

We would like to thank the Commission for the proactive manner in which they have engaged business and industry in the debate over the last two weeks. We have appreciated the opportunities to demonstrate the concrete business projects, programmes and initiatives in support of sustainable development objectives, often in partnership with stakeholders. Business is actively committed to contributing to reliable access to energy at affordable prices with socially acceptable impacts. Engaging business and its significant operational, technological and financial capacity in energy policy development and implementation is essential for sustainable delivery and use of energy.

Such engagement has been illustrated by the variety and richness of the contributions displayed at the Business and Industry Day, an event co-hosted by the UNCSD and BAE on Tuesday 09<sup>th</sup> May 2006. Business will continue to play an important role in energy solutions, within its sphere of responsibility, in partnership with other stakeholders. Business operates well under sound, and predictable long term enabling frameworks and good governance. These conditions, when provided by governments, will attract and support business investments and innovations in the energy sector.

Business Action for Energy has developed 13 key energy messages, calling for enabling frameworks to allow business to make optimal contributions. This includes the need for open and innovative financing, integrated policies, R&D and technology innovation, market-based mechanisms and to consider all energy sources as options to meet rising demand. We also recognize that we need to manage and reduce impacts on the environment.

We will continue to promote substantive business participation in the inter-sessional preparatory meetings and CSD 15 amongst our members. We would however like to highlight a few focus areas which have been identified as a result of our discussions and interactions over the last two weeks and which we feel can be nodes for action between now and CSD 15. These include:

1. combining public/private funds to implement on the ground projects
2. the global uptake of energy efficiency technologies
3. identifying partnerships which can leverage strengths and prevent duplication and
4. finding solutions to barriers to large scale implementation of all energy technologies that can contribute to energy access, and provide environmental and social benefits through markets.

As the business and industry sector, we would like to see concerted efforts from all our partners over the next year to work together with us to develop proposals for concrete projects and programmes. These issues are too big for a single player to tackle alone, and we all need to work together for sustainable solutions.

To this end, business and industry expect governments to ensure that CSD15 results in an integrated policy direction that urgently provides a new context to further encourage business action and specifically investment. It is worthwhile reiterating the magnitude of this energy investment challenge that IEA estimates to be 17 trillion dollars over the next 25 years or an average of over 400 billion dollars per year.

I thank you for the opportunity to make this intervention and the business and industry sector looks forward to continuing our active participation with this process.