

**STATEMENT by INDIA**  
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Mr. Chairman,

As a part of the G77+China, India sees the Rio+20 as a global opportunity to reinforce the agenda of Sustainable Development, as enunciated in the Rio Declaration, the Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Action.

In our understanding, the concept of Green Economy pathway, the new buzz word for global development model, is an integral part of the Sustainable Development strategy as defined by the RIO principles with equal focus on its three fundamental pillars – economic, social and environment.

Developing countries such as India would welcome Green Economy as it has the potential to meet the primary development goal of poverty eradication. And for this to happen, there must a strong and effective enabling mechanism consisting of finance, technology and capacity building for developing countries to transition from brown to green economy.

Further, sustainable development paradigm must continue to focus on the principles of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities. We would expect the Rio+20 outcome to bear a strong imprint of this essential understanding.

Mr. Chairman,

We are well aware that a development paradigm based on green economy offers challenges as well as opportunities for developing countries. Our suggestion for a renewed sustainable development approach based on green economy at the RIO+20 would be stress on the following issues:

- Enhance food, energy and water security ;
- Promote regeneration of natural capital including land, forests, water resources and fish stocks ;
- Develop solutions for population living in urban areas especially in developing countries;

- Facilitate flow of technology to respond to the structural shift from brown to green economy;
- Develop international financial mechanisms for aid and concessional lending to attract public and private investment; and
- Establish guidelines to implement new technology, trade and financial arrangements using existing National and Global Governance structures.

Focus on food, energy and water security and regeneration natural capital will help build a sustainable development agenda that addresses poverty eradication as its primary concern.

New global urban demography with 70% of the population in developing countries living in cities in not so distant future would impose severe strain on natural resources, public utilities, infrastructure and healthy lifestyles. RIO must attempt to look for innovative solutions and policy recommendations for such emerging challenges.

The discourse in RIO should avoid the risk of focusing disproportionately on low carbon growth; it ought to have a multi-pronged approach and dwell on the challenges of energy access, unsustainable patterns of production and consumption, affordability of renewable energy options, innovation and research, subsidy as a policy option and impact of a green economy on global trade.

Green products and standards may distort free flow of global trade with new barriers and conditionalities. It is likely that use of environmental standards, subsidies, market incentives and other technical standards could also limit the policy space that developing countries have to promote their own sustainable or green economies. RIO would be expected to answer these concerns in a transparent and holistic manner. Instead of stressing on instruments like bans and non-tariff barriers, greening of trade can be attempted through existing trade regulators.

Mr. Chairman,

Making available effective means of implementation is the key to the success of a renewed push to sustainable development paradigm that we envisage to give at RIO. This, in fact, has been the biggest lacunae so far in the global sustainable development paradigm. We expect RIO to come up with a strong response in this regard.

The development challenges of our times are truly global in nature and, therefore, associated technology response has to be global in nature as well, with specific international institutions playing a fundamental role in making technology flow around the world. This would necessarily require expanding the space for technologies in the public domain and to stimulate the transfer to developing countries of such technologies.

**Similarly on the finance side, a global mechanism to monitor and implement international financial obligation would have to be put in place to see that there are adequate, new and additional and predictable financial flows to developing countries.**

**Finally, Mr Chairman, RIO must not attempt to bring a target based approach on growth and development. Adequate national policy space to carry out national priorities is an essential pre-condition to strengthen the agenda of global sustainability.**

**Thank You.**