

## BRAZIL

### EIGHTEENTH SESSION OF THE UN COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

STATEMENT AT THE INTERACTIVE THEMATIC DISCUSSION ON CHEMICALS

Madame Chair,

Distinguished delegates,

Brazil associates itself to the statements made by Tanzania on behalf of the G-77/China and the delegates of Argentina and Uruguay.

The Report of the UN Secretary General on Chemicals (E/CN.17/2010/5) acknowledges the **lack of resources for the integrated management of chemicals and hazardous wastes and the inadequacy of voluntary contributions to meet the demands for a proper management of these substances, particularly in developing countries**. The Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions have difficulties in their implementation on the ground due to funding mechanisms based on voluntary schemes, which have greatly hindered their specific goals.

**Additional and predictable resource flows and technology transfers under the aegis of the Rio Principles, especially the "common but differentiated responsibilities", are essential for the full implementation of these conventions.**

In Bali, during the simultaneous extraordinary meetings of the Conferences of the Parties to the Basel Convention, Rotterdam and Stockholm (**ExCOPs**), Parties have taken decisions in order to **improve cooperation and coordination among these Conventions at programmatic and administrative levels without neither jeopardizing their autonomy and individual integrity nor transferring to developing countries additional financial burdens**. Moreover, the concept of synergy became dependent on the objective of full and balanced implementation of each of these Conventions.

Madame Chair,

**SAICM also lacks adequate resources for its implementation** and problems persist with the "Quick Start Programme" (QSP) as the limit of projects by country, the limit of funds for each project and the range limit of action (training) as well as the short duration of that initiative (until 2013). Until 2009, the Quick Start Programme has raised only \$ 24 of the 50 million expected, due in part to the small donor base.

**SAICM could have more flexible rules in order to allow the presentation of new projects by the countries that have already successfully implemented one, to increase the rate of approval of projects submitted by civil society and to increase the total amount of funds for each project.**

**In SAICM, we would also emphasize the importance of deepening the efforts of integration in the area of Health, in particular with WHO, aiming to the sound management of chemicals and hazardous wastes.** In this context, during the Latin America and Caribbean regional meeting on SAICM, held in Kingston, Jamaica, the delegates expressed their interest in the designation of focal points of the health sector to promote this commitment.

In Kingston, regional delegates also decided to refer to members of the WHO Executive Board their concerns with the proposal to adopt, this May, during the 63rd session of the World Health Assembly, a paragraph in the proposed strategy for chemicals that seek economic benefits for the recovery, recycling and reuse of obsolete chemicals (document EB126.R13). They also expressed their interest in making reference to the historical reasons for the accumulation of stocks of obsolete pesticides found today in many developing countries.

**Regarding the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS), Brazil has made steady progress** in the targets set for the inventory model and the model for national implementation. Our experience is at the disposal of the Parties.

Madame Chair,

With regard to **mercury**, Brazil highlights **the importance of sharing a vision of cooperation in the intergovernmental negotiation of a legally binding instrument on mercury**, starting this June, in Stockholm. We will work with that spirit.

It is essential to build together **an efficient instrument with strong financial and implementation mechanisms**, especially taking into account the differentiated needs of developing countries. Therefore, it is necessary to **proceed by consensus**, which has already been widely recognized.

Thank you.