

18<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development  
Roundtable 4: Strategies for Sustainable Chemicals and Waste Management  
Intervention by Republic of Korea, 13 May 2010

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Thank you, Mr. Chair!

As the world economy expands, circulation of chemicals and generation of wastes are increasing every year, and as awareness of environmental conservation and health is growing across the world, the importance of sustainable chemicals and waste management is being more highlighted.

Accordingly, the Korean government is working hard to reduce toxic chemicals and hazardous wastes to protect public health and environment, by introducing a green chemistry policy in early 2009.

Furthermore, Korea has been actively engaged in international dialogues for sustainable chemicals and waste management such as GHS, SAICM, Basel Convention, etc. and is carrying out domestic implementation measures.

In particular, the Korean government has enacted POPs law in 2007 and plans to eliminate PCBs even earlier than 2025. Also, we plan to increase energy self-sufficiency from 32% in 2009 to 50% by 2020 by converting waste resources and biomass to renewable energy and to create related green jobs.

Mr. Chair,

Globally, sustainable management and reduction of chemicals and wastes are discussed in many international fora, such as Stockholm Convention, Basel Convention, Rotterdam Convention, SAICM, and so forth. In order for these international instruments to achieve a concrete and substantial outcome, it is highly necessary that more countries join and participate in these processes.

As you have heard, for the effective implementation of the various conventions regarding chemicals and wastes management, Korea has enacted its national legislation and adopted a national implementation strategy. In particular, through green chemistry policy and resource recycling society, Korea is making every effort to improve our chemicals and wastes management.

We wish to provide more opportunities to share our experiences and knowledge with all the Parties and especially with the developing countries. In this way, the Korean government will be able to contribute to the international community's efforts for sustainable management of chemicals and waste.

Thank you.