

Manila Declaration on Green Industry in Asia

9 September 2009

Manila, Republic of the Philippines

We, the Ministers, Vice-Ministers and representatives of Governments of Asian countries, on the occasion of the International Conference on Green Industry in Asia, held from 9 to 11 September 2009 in Manila, Philippines;

Reaffirming our commitment to the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development and the provisions of Agenda 21, the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, in particular the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, which incorporates the priority initiatives of the Phnom Penh Regional Platform on Sustainable Development for Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations Millennium Declaration (2000), the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (1994), the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of SIDS (2005) and the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building, as well as progress of the Ministerial Declaration on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific (2005), the Regional Implementation Plan for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific, 2006-2010 and the Seoul Initiative on Environmentally Sustainable Economic Growth (Green Growth , 2005), the Cebu Declaration on East Asian Energy Security (2007), the Joint Ministerial Statement of the First East Asian Energy Ministers Meeting (2007) and reaffirming our support for the initiative of the Asia-Pacific Water Forum to improve water security in Asia-Pacific;

Recognizing the adverse impact of climate change and the need to address this issue through adaptation and mitigation measures, including greening of industries;

Recognizing that the Asian and Pacific region contains two thirds of the world's over one billion poor, nearly 1.5 billion people without access to basic sanitation, 700 million people without access to safe drinking water, 800 million without access to electricity and 1.7 billion people relying on traditional biomass;

Acknowledging that the need to tackle the complexity of the lack of adequate finances and the necessary technologies and capacities is still the major obstacle preventing the developing countries from achieving sustainable development and internationally agreed development goals in the Asian and Pacific region, and that there is still an urgent need for the international community, especially donor countries, to honor their commitments and to provide financial support, technical assistance and capacity-building to developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, the small island developing States and economies in transition in this region;

Aware of the geographically uneven regional distribution of industry, production facilities, and natural resources, especially energy and water;

Recognizing the need to increase efficiency of production in order to advance the economic and trade competitiveness of industries in the region by effective utilization of materials, energy and water through continuous application of cleaner production, fostering innovation and development and transfer of environmentally sound technologies (EST);

Recognizing the need to promote existing cooperation and to encourage market expansion for a clear vision of eco-friendly production and of the environmental service industry;

Noting that economic gains may be partly attributed to collective actions based on consensus in implementing regional cooperation program with due respect to national policies and priorities;

Recognizing the opportunity presented by the global financial and economic crisis for a shift to a more sustainable pattern of development in the countries in the region through the application of 'Green Growth ' policy tools;

Recognizing that innovation and cleaner production, and the research and development that leads to them, as well as training and education at all levels, will be key to nurturing and developing suitable, environmentally sound technologies that will support greening of the economies of the countries in the Asian and Pacific region;

Recognizing the need to address Green Industry in the context of sustainable development, which contributes to poverty reduction, decent work, social development and a better environment for all;

Recognizing the opportunities created by the development of Green Industry to achieve the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), including those related to environment sustainability;

Recognizing the importance of synergy of greening industry with the activities of the Asia-Pacific Water Forum in the preparation of the Second Asia-Pacific Water Summit, scheduled to take place in June 2010 in Singapore, on the theme of Water Security;

HEREBY DECLARE:

That we are determined, based on regional and national priorities and circumstances, to establish policies, regulatory and institutional frameworks, where appropriate, which are conducive to shifting towards resource-efficient and low-carbon industries, consistent with the sustainability business principle, and to will intensify our efforts towards the achievement of the following actions and measures:

1. Intensify regional and international cooperation in the adoption of the "Green Growth " strategy exemplified in the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and

- the Pacific's (ESCAP) Green Growth Initiative to promote long-term and an ecologically sustainable pattern of development;
2. Intensify bilateral, regional and international cooperation in the development and transfer of cleaner production technologies and practices;
 3. Reiterate the call for the contribution of agricultural and industrial development to poverty eradication and sustainable natural resource and environmental management;
 4. Incorporate cleaner production policies in national development plans and set goals and formulate action plans, as appropriate, for promoting low-carbon and resource-efficient manufacturing industries;
 5. Build up through appropriate policies and measures the research and development capacities to design eco-friendly products and manufacturing processes and to promote other green innovations;
 6. Strengthen the economic and trade competitiveness of green industries in Asia as producers and suppliers of goods and services in new global and regional value and supply chains;
 7. Actively engage in partnerships, between and among governments, the private sectors, research institutes and civil society, including strengthening capabilities for Green Industry by small and medium enterprises;
 8. Provide the legal framework, as necessary, to create new and profitable business opportunities to convert the production models for sustainable development when using resource-efficient and low-carbon industries, in line with national priorities;
 9. Foster a viable business environment conducive to investments in, and financing of, clean energy systems, cleaner production, resource-efficient and low-carbon industries, and other appropriate services in the region, with governments providing practical strategies thereof. In this regard, measures should also be carried out for the accelerated use of renewable energy sources and the extensive application of appropriate technologies, and the transfer of ESTs or clean technologies;
 10. Encourage the adoption of strategies and plans for the greening of economic growth by integrating sustainable consumption and production into national development policies, and by de-linking economic growth from environmental degradation through increased efficiency in energy, material and water use in production processes, as called for in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;
 11. Foster a greater market penetration of eco-friendly products and services from Asia, while enabling potential industries to have more favorable access to relevant international assistance;

12. Promote the increased use of renewable energy and energy-efficient processes in the industrial sector;
13. Promote the necessary research and development programs that will lead to green innovation, as well as the required changes in educational and training curricula that will give the workforce, the researchers and the decision makers of the future the appropriate intellectual tools to support a Green Growth strategy;
14. Take necessary actions to incorporate concepts, tools and methodologies of Green Growth, where appropriate, in educational and training curricula for the trainees and students, at all levels;
15. Provide support to institutions to encourage training in methods and in the evaluation of cleaner products for a more resource-efficient economy;
16. Support and advance the development of national supply capacities for environmental goods and services, including the recycling and waste management industries, through other appropriate services;
17. Promote investments and financing in low-carbon and resource-efficient manufacturing industries and the development of the other appropriate services sector;
18. Encourage regional cooperation to share best practices, innovations and environment-friendly and sound technologies, as well as to effect the transfer of relevant technologies;
19. Encourage all relevant United Nations organizations, specialized agencies, funds and programmes, to promote and raise awareness of cleaner production, energy efficiency, and renewable energy concepts throughout the manufacturing/production-based industry in the region, in support of related efforts of countries in the region consistent with their mandates.

We intend to take these measures through the implementation of possible actions as outlined in the annexed illustrative framework. In this regard, the assistance and support of UNIDO and other concerned United Nations agencies are sought.

Done in the City of Manila, this Ninth Day of September in the Year Two Thousand and Nine.

ANNEX – Framework for Action

This Framework can consist of the following elements:

1. Take concrete actions toward improving the efficiency of energy, raw material and water use in the production process and request the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to support national cleaner production programmes by providing technical and financial support, as appropriate, through their global network of National Cleaner Production Centers (NCPCs), as well as to encourage regional cooperation to share best practices and innovation on resource and energy efficient and environmentally sound technologies (ESTs);
2. Undertake periodically to review and assess progress of countries in the regions towards more resource-efficient and low-carbon industrial production, and for this purpose, to request UNESCAP, UNIDO, UNEP and ILO, in consultation with participating Governments, to conduct the necessary studies to assist in this review and assessment process.
3. Set up a working group from universities, research centers, and industry associations to incorporate educational and training curricula, with the end in view of introducing concepts, tools and methodologies of Green Growth , with private sector support, to institutions to encourage research, training and evaluation of a more resource-efficient environment;
4. Establish a consultative mechanism among government, business, industry, academic and research institutes and civil society;
5. Establish a network of green industries through, *inter alia*, establishment of an energy management standard among Asian countries that can be adopted/adapted to complement existing national energy management activities;
6. Establish a portal for best practices, tools and methodologies, including the development of a database for energy and environmental services providers, for greater exchange of information;
7. Establish a network of universities and research centers for technological innovation towards Green Industry and to foster collaborative research between and among the countries of the region;
8. Establish a communications strategy to enhance awareness and knowledge towards the attainment of green industries performance measurement tools;
9. Organize national and regional forums and capacity building events to facilitate exchange of information on the legal and regulatory framework to promote Green Growth and Green Industry;

10. Establish and/or strengthen a network of centers of excellence for green technology which would promote research and training, and which would act as a repository of information on green technology to be shared between and among the countries of the region.
11. Establish an expert group in the Asia-Pacific region to help promote the sharing of knowledge, expertise and know-how on Green Industry, through meetings, networking and other appropriate activities.
12. To use the elements of the Declaration as inputs to related and connected activities and initiatives such as, in the discussion at the United Nations Summit on Climate Change in New York in September 2009, UNIDO General Conference on the theme "Green Industry" in December 2009 and United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Copenhagen in December 2009.