



**STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE GROUP OF 77 AND CHINA  
BY H.E. AMBASSADOR ABDULLAH M. ALSAIDI, PERMANENT  
REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC OF YEMEN TO THE UNITED NATIONS,  
CHAIRMAN OF THE GROUP OF 77, AT THE OPENING OF THE HIGH-LEVEL  
SEGMENT OF THE EIGHTEENTH SESSION OF THE UN COMMISSION ON  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT  
(New York, 12 May 2010)**

Mr. Chairman,  
Honourable Ministers,  
H.E. Ms. Asha-Rose Migiro, Deputy Secretary-General,  
Distinguished Delegates and representatives,

1. It is my pleasure to address the High-Level Segment of the 18th Session of UN Commission on Sustainable Development on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

Mr. Chairman,

2. Recent global crises have highlighted our shared vulnerabilities and underscored the need for greater international co-operation to eradicate poverty, achieve the MDGs, and reverse the mounting pressure on the earth's ecosystems. It is therefore important that we commit to sustainable development with this sense of urgency.

3.

Doha Round of trade negotiations, mobilizing development assistance to developing countries, and ensuring that investment and trade policies are fair and structured to promote and facilitate technology transfer to developing countries on affordable and cost-effective terms, especially environmentally- sound technologies.

Mr. Chairman,

7. The mining industry has been an important source of revenue for developing countries, in particular its role in eradicating poverty. To enable the revenues to serve sustainable development objectives for the long term requires effective management. In this connection, greater transparency and accountability is required by all actors at all levels, including the international financial system. It is also deemed important by the countries of the Group to guard and ensure the right of peoples and nations to permanent sovereignty over their natural wealth.

8. The Group wishes to emphasize that the primary objective of managing resources and revenue accrued from mining must be utilized for the purpose of national development priorities, and of the welm.-2(h)Tw -32.7870( c)-6(ount)-2(r)3(i)-2(e)4(s)-1( on )10(adu EMC d1G)2(r) rI6(s)-1( t)-

11. In this regard,

congestion and adverse health effects and limit urban sprawl, as called for in the JPOI. Very substantial investments in transport infrastructure are required both in rural and urban areas in developing countries. One particular concern relates to the acquisition of second-hand, used vehicles in many developing countries that suffer financial constraints. We believe that the best options for (ond)]TJd8 13.(e)y Wef4(f)ohf ohh-6(h)-4(e b)-4(es)-5(t)312 >>BDC 1 9 scn 70.56 65

Mr Chairman,

23. SIDS have largely made considerable progress in advancing their development agenda. However, even their best efforts have fallen short as the scale and magnitude of the myriad crises confronting SIDS which have originated outside of their borders, transcend their limited capacities to effectively address them, posing further threats to their fragile economies. Although the unique vulnerabilities of SIDS have long been recognized by the international community, this has not been matched by the actions necessary to effectively address them. Their special case for sustainable development seems to appear on the radar during a Review and disappear as soon as the spotlight shifts.

24. It is therefore our hope and expectation that as we undertake the MSI+5 Review of progress made in addressing the vulnerabilities of small island developing states (SIDS) through the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy (MSI), there will be a renewed commitment by our developed partners as well as the entire international community to fulfill existing commitments and even scale up support for SIDS.

Mr Chairman

25. The Group hopes that during the High-Level Segment, adequate attention will be paid to our concerns in the Chair's Summary, including constraints and obstacles faced by the international community, particularly developing countries, in implementing the outcomes of major international conferences concerning the agenda items under consideration in CSD-19. We also reiterate our commitments to conserve and efficiently manage our natural resources to promote sustainable development and the welfare of our future generations.

Mr Chairman

26. The Group reiterates the importance of taking further effective measure to remove obstacle for people living under foreign occupation, which continue to adversely affect their social development and are incompatible with the dignity and worth of human persons.

I thank you.