BUSINESS & INDUSTRY: Statement on SCP for discussion in COW
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Business & Industry supports the objective of the SCP "10 Year Framework of Programmes" and welcomes the opportunity to work collaboratively with UNEP, with the new High Level Political Forum that will ultimately inherit this program, and with the national and local governments that will be the ultimate beneficiaries of this program.

Initiatives to advance sustainable production, energy and resource use efficiency, and initiatives that enhance sustainability of consumption by reducing waste and promoting education on more sustainable practices are all integral to SCP. Many industries already have very active programs for delivering more sustainable practices in these areas not only within their specific industries, but increasingly along their value chains.

Resource efficiency, in particular, has long been a driver in many globally competitive industries, and through partnering programs such as the UNEP/UNIDO Resource Efficiency and Cleaner Production Program. Many intra-industry initiatives exist that are already promoting sustainability objectives. Programs such as Responsible Care and the Global Product Strategy of the International Council of Chemical Associations with which I am affiliated, illustrate these, and are mirrored in many industries around the globe. They represent a huge contribution that is advancing SCP. That should be acknowledged and integrated into the thinking of governments as a potential partnering resource that can be encouraged and built-upon to great advantage

Governments have a critical role to play in creating enabling policy frameworks to help promote SCP. Governments should enhance the market's ability to embrace sustainable outcomes rather than restricting the choices of consumers and producers – the objective should be to foster innovation, not try to mandate it.

Finally, SCP concerns and involves many elements of business planning and management. Corporate reporting is one important aspect of this that can help to advance SCP. Businesses of all sectors and sizes are already reporting in response to regulatory requirements and voluntarily. In that regard, we urge avoidance of any mandatory, one-size-fits-all programs that risk missing the complexities of the bigger picture, and distracts both funding and attention from more central and cost effective efforts, whether at the enterprise or government level.