

**STATEMENT BY MRS. LAURENTIA MALLAM, HONOURABLE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, NIGERIA, DURING THE HIGH-LEVEL SEGMENT ON POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT GOALS AND SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION AT THE FIRST UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT ASSEMBLY, UNEP HEADQUARTERS, NAIROBI, KENYA**

**26-27 June 2014**

Madam President,

My delegation would like to join others in congratulating you on your election as the President of the first Session of this unique and historic United Nations Environment Assembly. We want to also congratulate the elected members of the Bureau. We want to commend UNEP for the excellent arrangement for this meeting. My delegation aligns with the statement made by the Head of Delegation of Thailand on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

Madam President,

We would like to urge that more countries, especially the developing countries, to be fully encouraged and supported to participate actively in the implementation of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on sustainable consumption and production so that the benefits of can be truly equitable and global. There is need for the international community to provide financial and technological support as well as capacity building required to achieve sustainable consumption and production patterns in developing countries

The use of developing countries as dumping ground for obsolete and polluting technologies is incompatible with the principles of sustainable development. The business and industry should focus on manufacturing and marketing environmentally sound products and services. They should develop and apply cleaner production processes. They should also implement effective corporate social responsibility programmes in their host countries and communities.

Madam President,

We are fully committed to sustainable consumption and production. We have developed appropriate institutional mechanisms in this regard through the establishment of key Ministries, Departments and Agencies, as well as appropriate legal framework, including the enactment of specific environmental laws and regulations for various sectors of our economy. We have also established the Alliance on Sustainable Consumption and Production (ASCP) to build strategic partnerships amongst relevant Agencies of the Government, and to create effective synergy in promoting sustainable consumption and production in all sectors of our economy.

Madam President,

Nigeria is also ensuring the full implementation of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) programme, a “Buy-back” scheme or “Cradle – to - Cradle” stewardship programme, based on the principle that manufacturers have a moral and legal responsibility for their products long after they have been sold to consumers.

Recently, a Parliamentary Forum on EPR was held in Nigeria to create a platform to discuss the ever-growing problems of waste management in the country. The meeting came up with far reaching recommendations that will help to facilitate the implementation of EPR in our country. We urge UNEP and other relevant international organisations to assist developing countries in the implementation of EPR programmes according to the peculiarities and special circumstances of the individual countries.

Madam President,

Finally, we welcome the regional and global efforts towards the development of the Post 2015 and the Sustainable Development Goals. We believe, however, that there is urgent need to harmonize the various outcomes so that at the end a realistic and implementable set of development goals and targets are produced for the benefit of the environment and humanity.

Thank you.