

STATEMENT
BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY MAJOR GROUP
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Business and Industry welcomes the zero draft's practical and integrated approach, building on past progress and focusing on implementation. We fully support the notion in paragraph 19 that the private sector has a key role to play in helping to achieve the goals of sustainable development, in particular through poverty eradication. We highlight that Business and Industry is an important contributor to sustainable development through science and technology that lead to innovations and investments for Green Growth. We stress that business is a diverse set of actors ranging from multinational companies to small and medium enterprises.

A key enabler for business to contribute to Green Growth is the establishment of and support to clear and flexible regulatory and voluntary policy frameworks by governments. In addition, we welcome partnerships with governments and stakeholders to invest in technologies that will lead to the next generation of products and services in the evolution of the Green Economy. We look forward to working with you to enhance alignment in the adoption of sustainability approaches by businesses of all sizes and corresponding action on the part of governments and other stakeholders.

We offer the following comments on the zero draft:

First, we welcome the focus on poverty alleviation and support that it should be strengthened as discussions progress. Our contribution to this effort will be through inclusive and green growth. We recommend greater emphasis to accelerate efforts to fundamental issues such as water and sanitation, resource and energy efficiency, access to sustainable energy for all, food security, and the nexus that links them.

Second, we signal caution on the proposal for "green economy roadmaps" **by sectors** as mentioned in paragraph 40. As business is organized in value-chains, **a cross-sectorial economy-wide focus** is therefore **more appropriate** to foster progress. It will be crucial to "green" all sectors in all countries and to advance resource efficiency and life cycle approaches. We consider improvements of existing processes to be as important as launching new products, services and technologies. There is no one size fits all.

Third, we appreciate the effort to address core economic issues through the Zero Draft. Greening economic growth and activity offers an opportunity to address key trans-boundary challenges. This will require enabling frameworks that are conceptionally aligned from Global, regional, national and ultimately the local levels. Open trade and investment, protection of Intellectual Property Rights, rule of law as indicated in paragraph 42 and 119 are key to success. Strengthening sound governance, combating corruption and ensuring peace and security will be critical to the deployment of sustainable products, services and practices.

Fourth, collaboration and collective action on innovation and technology development and their appropriate deployment via sustainable consumption and production (SCP) are at the heart of greening economies. The current draft should place a greater emphasis on more supportive frameworks for science, technology, innovation and investments. We welcome and support paragraph 53 on the strengthening of a scientific basis for policymaking in support of sustainable development. We are encouraged by the calls to strengthen SAICM, which

provides an example of an innovative model of how multi-stakeholder frameworks can help advance sustainable development objectives. We also welcome the inclusion of education and training as the cornerstones of strong and sustainable economies, with an emphasis on the role of women (paragraph 73 and 76).

Last, there are many kinds of information referred to in the zero draft, such as in paragraph 58 and 23. In addition to GDP, measures and indicators still need to be developed in support of the concept of Green Economy. Governments should clearly and explicitly recognize that proprietary information, including certain regulatory data and other confidential business information, must be shielded from disclosure—as should information that would undermine the incentive of companies to continue to innovate.

In conclusion, the transition towards a green economy is a shared responsibility by all actors in society. Progressive companies lead the way to raise the performance within the entire value chain of business and the broader economy. In partnership with others, business seeks to enhance capacity building through sharing best practices that can be multiplied via its conveners, partner associations and member companies. Business stands ready to support and accelerate collaborative initiatives for Rio+20, and beyond, to achieve the objectives of sustainable development.