

Statement by the  
Scientific and Technologic Community  
April 21, 2005

The Scientific & Technological Community wants to emphasize to the Ministers our commitment to strongly support the CSD-13 process.

Science and Technology, data, knowledge and scientific information are essential to improve water, sanitation and human settlements connected sustainable development and for meeting relevant Millennium Development Goals.

Policy outcomes by CSD-13 must include recommendations aimed at insuring a better use and strengthening of Science and Technology to accelerate implementation of the relevant plans of the JOIP.

The latest draft of the Chair's Elements for Decision , being negotiated, recommends policy measures and actions concerning some aspects of Science and Technology. Certain areas are still inadequately addressed specially the following ones:

(1) On Technology: The missing term is Infrastructure, both physical as well as social. Although referred to within the text, it should be specifically addressed from the national level to the individual level. Human settlements, as well as water and sanitation call for works for access and transport such as aqueducts, conveyance systems and the supporting works required. History shows *Infrastructure Development* is the common element propelling developed countries to their current state. It has been the backbone for interrelation of complex parts in an organized environment.

(2) On Scientific and Technologic information and data collection: we deem important that open access to both data and information is provided to all. This will also give credibility to the results and the monitoring of policy implementation.

(3) For integrated planning in the CSD-13 Themes: More interdisciplinary knowledge combining natural, social, and health sciences is required. To this end, new applied research undertakings are needed.

(4) Finally, we wish to restate that as part of Capacity Building efforts, specific attention is given to human and institutional capacity building in Science and Technology, particularly in the majority of developing countries that still lack those capacities. Certain Capacity Building needs is not limited to developing countries, but applicable to all groups of countries. .We also note that there needs to be a transfer of readily applicable practical techniques, technologies and scientific information, as well as best management practices, that are judged to conform to the principles of sustainable development

We thank the Chair for this opportunity to make our statement.