

## **Business and Industry (B&I) Intervention to the Meeting with the Bureau 19<sup>th</sup> Commission on Sustainable Development NYC**

**Green Economy Section, Jan 10/11 2011**

**Intervention delivered on Jan 11, 2011**

Business has been engaged in Sustainable Development since Agenda 21 and is a substantive participant to shape and implement the concept of Green Economy at both, the policy and the market level through a combination of regulatory and voluntary measures.

Business delivers a great deal of the jobs, investments, technologies, products and services that drive the changes and innovations needed to move towards a Green Economy – or rather Green Economies. (thank Canada for its support to the private sector – incl. the support for science based decision making). Many of the technologies have already been invented (side remark to intervention from Local Authority on Cities: products and technologies to retrofit existing buildings/cities for better insulation and heat loss, products to reinforce aging infrastructures like bridges, products to seal leaking sewer pipes, etc....it's a question of Affordability.)

BUT Green Economy is about more than technological change, there is a need for structural change in the institutions that govern the global economies. Improving these institutions and their ability to enable the right frameworks are critical so all actors can deliver on their shared responsibility and ensure better coordination and policy implementation.

Business operates in supply chains and global value chains. Many of our value chains are global so a global level playing field is therefore important. Part of the challenge and opportunity for business and industry is to understand the concrete possibilities of a “Green Economy” with its opportunities and risks for its many sectors in both developed and developing countries.

There is no one size fits all approach and the Green Economy seeks to green ALL elements of the economy in their own ways. Therefore we support the notion of Achim Steiner, rather than word-smithing around one single definition, GE needs to define the direction of the innovation into the direction of SD and create the respective alignment needed. **It is thus a unifying theme that defines the ‘direction’ in which the global economies needs to move.**

### **It must deliver commercially viable products and services.**

B&I views Green Economy through the lense of companies and industrial sectors that operate in supply and value chains. The actions needed to transition towards “Green Economy” vary from sector to sector and from a developed and developing country perspective.

B&I work their respective stakeholder constituencies in the value chain across the life cycle of its products. B&I also works with national contexts where we can offer specific technology expertise, product solutions and best practices to work with governments and others to make this transition on this systemic challenge of Green Economy.

We support a roadmap development proposed yesterday as it would enhance the shared understanding of the direction and improve coordination, alignment and sharing of best practices – We are interested to hear more on its next iteration. Thank you.