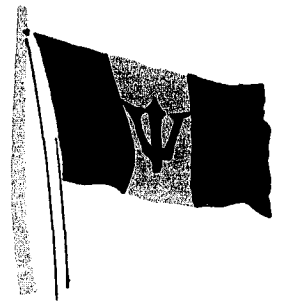




*Permanent Mission
of Barbados to
the United Nations*



STATEMENT BY

HON. H. ELIZABETH THOMPSON
MINISTER OF ENERGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT
OF BARBADOS

TO THE
14th SESSION OF THE COMMISSION
ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

ON

MAY 11, 2006

UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS
NEW YORK

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Mr. Chairman, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen.

The issue facing this Commission is to find mechanisms to achieve the goals of this forum, bearing in mind, that there has only been negligible improvement in the global situation as it relates to past thematic clusters, Agenda 21 and the JPOI.

Partnerships are a major vehicle for implementation of policy recommendations. The promotion of multi-stakeholder dialogue by the CSD via its registered partnerships programme should therefore be lauded. In this thematic cluster, however, we must move beyond knowledge networks and two-year pilot projects to mutually agreed targets, indicators, and specific medium and long-term investment programmes.

Mr. Chairman, for meaningful policy outcomes at CSD-15, Barbados proposes the establishment of three partnership platforms over the next 12 months:

1. A technology development partnership platform aimed at deepening North-South and South-South Cooperation in education and training;

2. A technology export partnership platform with the objective of strengthening South-South Cooperation in the transfer of intellectual, technical and investment resources;
3. A cross-cutting platform for the integration of Trade, Investment and Labor protocols, involving donors and International Financial Institutions in order to enhance the capacities of the people of the developing world, particularly SIDS. The UNEP Finance Initiative may be instructive in this respect.

The Government of Barbados stands willing to contribute to any partnership platform, which seeks to further ensure sustainable development. The success of Barbados' indigenous solar water heater industry shows that SIDS can and are contributing to further regional and global technology development and transfer.

We attach importance to the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development and believe that the public-private sector model for leadership and support given to technical educational development in developed countries should be adopted and adapted to developing societies.

The Decade is an opportunity to prove to young people that beyond policy development, “perceived titles” and “annual rhetoric”, governments remain committed to pursuing a development framework that meets their basic needs and helps them realise their future aspirations. We have six years remaining.

Mr. Chairman, I thank you.