

**First African Expert Meeting on Sustainable Consumption and Production
Casablanca, 19-20 May 2004**

Casablanca Statement on Sustainable Consumption and Production

To be submitted to the 10th Regular Session of AMCEN

The First African Expert Meeting on Sustainable Consumption and Production, meeting in Casablanca in the context of the Third African Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production (ARSCP-3), 17-20 May 2004:

Recognizing that sustainable consumption and production can make an important contribution to sustainable development and poverty reduction in Africa;

Noting the work that has been accomplished in Africa in promoting sustainable consumption and production, including the work of the National Cleaner Production Centers, governments and NGOs;

Emphasizing the benefits of regional and international cooperation and information exchange, education, training and technology transfer for supporting national efforts to promote sustainable consumption and production;

Acknowledging the international support that has been provided to regional sub-regional and national efforts towards sustainable consumption and production from the United Nations system, including UNEP, UNIDO and UN-DESA, and development partners;

Noting the call of the World Summit on Sustainable Development in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation for the development of a 10-year framework of programmes in support of regional and national initiatives for sustainable consumption and production;

Noting also the results of the First International Expert Meeting on Sustainable Consumption and Production, held in Marrakech, 16-19 June 2003, and work on the Marrakech Process, which includes strengthening regional processes for promoting sustainable consumption and production;

Welcoming the endorsement by the African Union Summit of the Action Plan for the NEPAD Environment Initiative, including the proposed projects for sustainable consumption and production (Annex II of the Action Plan of NEPAD Environment Initiative);

Appreciating the work of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) on promoting regional cooperation on environmental issues, including implementation of the Action Plan for the NEPAD Environment Initiative;

Welcoming the establishment of the African Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production (ARSCP) as a non-governmental, not-for-profit regional coordinating institution during the Third African Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production held in Casablanca, Morocco;

1. **Calls upon** the United Nations systems, including UNEP, UNIDO and UN-DESA, other international and regional organizations as well as development partners to strengthen their support to national, sub-regional and regional efforts in Africa to promote sustainable consumption and production, as part of the 10-year framework of programmes;
2. **Urges** the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) to include initiatives that promote sustainable consumption and production in its work programme, including in the implementation of the Action Plans of the NEPAD Environment Initiative and the science and technology programme;

3. **Requests** AMCEN to provide political support and overall policy guidance to the African Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production and regional expert meetings on sustainable consumption and production and to take into account the results of those meetings;
4. **Further requests** AMCEN to encourage governments in Africa to develop and strengthen national policies and programmes for sustainable consumption and production, and to participate in regional sub-regional and international cooperative processes, including NEPAD initiatives and the Marrakech Process/10-year framework.
5. **Also requests** AMCEN to consider holding a special session on sustainable consumption and production to elaborate a regional strategy on sustainable consumption and production and an action plan for capacity building;
6. **Calls on** AMCEN to recommend that governments in Africa mainstream sustainable consumption and production into existing national poverty reduction strategies.