

Country Statement by India at the seventh Policy Implementation Committee (PIC) meeting of the Asia Pacific Partnership (APP)

Mr. Chairman, Chair and Co-Chair of the Task Forces, dear colleagues

My delegation is very pleased to be here in Gold Coast at the seventh Policy Implementation Committee (PIC) meeting of the Asia Pacific Partnership (APP). I would like to express my sincere thanks to our Australian colleagues for the warm hospitality and excellent arrangements made for our meeting here. I would also like to thank the Administrative Support Group for their hard work and continuous support.

Mr Chairman

We are meeting after a gap of nearly seven months, and there is little change in the financial and economic crisis the world is facing. Our resolve to work together indicates our commitment to clean development and climate.

Mr Chairman,

APP is an excellent mechanism and we should strengthen it by plugging the gaps. In the last seven months few projects have been endorsed but I understand that there are many further in the pipeline. Indian representatives have been regularly participating in various task force meetings and would like to appreciate the work done by all the task forces. We, on our part, have been successfully co-chairing the Coal and Steel task forces.

As far as Cement and Steel Task Forces are concerned we have a very positive feedback on our Japanese colleagues visiting few projects in each sector doing the performance diagnostics for improving energy efficiency. However we are stuck at that point and we would like to find a way forward on necessary technology intervention as well as funding mechanism for the same. We are also happy to note that CSIRO, Australia will also be participating in the

flagship project in the aluminium sector on Management of Bauxite Residue (Red Mud). After considerable effort financing of this project has been tied up though internally.

Mr Chairman,

With regard to performance benchmarking and target setting, we oppose any universal top down target setting mechanism. On our part we are doing such exercises voluntarily as well as through our energy efficiency improvement mission under NAPCC.

I would like to inform that we are firming up the eight missions under our National Action Plan on Climate Change. The specific projects under each mission, with targets wherever possible, represent what India believes it needs to do in terms of ecologically sustainable development. These missions address both mitigation and adaptation needs, while primarily focusing on sustainable development. The missions prioritise “development and climate change” actions and seek to influence actions today, as well as decisions in the future. I may inform that five of our missions relate to Adaptation, two to Mitigation and one is on Knowledge sharing.

Some issues with regard to this Partnership need resolution. These pertain to the technology development and transfer mechanism as well as the funding mechanism to enable this. We know that these issues are not so simple, however developed country partners under this forum need to take a lead for the desired success of this partnership.

To facilitate technological cooperation as well as adaptation of existing technologies to meet performance and price goals of applicability in developing countries, we have proposed the creation of a Network of Climate Innovation Centres, which could focus on the accelerated adoption of key technologies. The centres would bring together the dynamics of product marketing with the technology development effort and the policy and regulatory decision making to create and expand markets for the products. We are circulating a brief outline of this proposal and look forward to your comments and suggestions so that we may develop a global consensus on this concept.

Mr Chairman,

I would also like to inform that India alongwith UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs is hosting Delhi Conference on Climate Change: Technology Development and Transfer on 22-23 October 2009. This Conference would be a step forward in the process of the international policy dialogue on technologies needed to address climate change. The meet will seek to achieve a broad consensus on international mechanisms for technology cooperation, development and transfer. As this Conference fits well within our scheme of things, all APP partners are invited to this Conference cum Exhibition.

Thank You