

Annex 1: The Charter of the ARSCP

Preamble

Recognizing the important contribution that the development of the industrial sector makes to the fulfilment of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and NEPAD's objectives on poverty reduction and sustainable development;

Underlining the WSSD statement that fundamental changes in the way societies produce and consume are indispensable for achieving global sustainable development and that all countries should promote Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) patterns;

Appreciating the support provided through the UNEP/UNIDO International Programme on Cleaner Production for the establishment of National Cleaner Production Centers (NCPCs) in African countries;

Saluting the encouraging results that have been registered by NCPCs and other SCP promoting institutions and individuals in promoting the adoption of cleaner production principles by industries, government agencies and academic institutions in the region;

Taking note of the need to create a regional institution that would provide support to activities at the national level and facilitate regional cooperation on sustainable consumption and production activities in the Region;

We, representatives of NCPCs, SCP promoting institutions and individual SCP experts have resolved to establish a regional coordination mechanism on sustainable consumption and production.

I. Establishment

The 'African Roundtable for Sustainable Consumption and Production' (herein after ARSCP) is hereby established by this Charter as a Regional non-governmental and not-for-profit organization.

II. The vision

The vision of ARSCP is to achieve sustainable development of African countries with an effective contribution to the reduction of poverty, improvement of well being as well as the protection and conservation of the environment.

III. The Mission

The mission of ARSCP is to promote the development of national and regional capacities for the effective promotion and implementation of sustainable consumption and production principles and serve as the regional clearinghouse for sustainable consumption and production activities in the region.

IV. The objectives

The overall objective of the ARSCP is to facilitate the development of national and regional capacities for sustainable consumption and production and promote the effective implementations of the concepts and tools of sustainable consumption and production in African countries. The following are the specific objectives of ARSCP under the overall objective.

- 4.1 To promote the establishment of national cleaner production centres in countries where there are no NCPCs or SCP promoting institutions and facilitate support to strengthen existing NCPCs and SCP promoting institutions in African countries.
- 4.2 To facilitate the further integration of the concepts and principles of sustainable consumption and production in national policy frameworks in the region.
- 4.3 To provide the necessary support for the development, effective transfer and assimilation of Environmentally Sound Technologies (ESTs) that are of particular relevance to African economies.
- 4.4 To encourage specialization, facilitate information exchange and experience sharing between SCP promoting institutions and individual experts working within the region and at the international level.
- 4.5 To strengthen cooperation between NCPCs and SCP promoting institutions in African countries with UNEP/UNIDO and other international organizations and NCPCs in other regions.
- 4.6 To promote the development and integration of Sustainable Cleaner Production curriculum in educational institutions in the region.

