The Nordic Roundtable on Business Relations and Sustainable Consumption and Production in a North / South Perspective

9 -10 March 2005 | Oslo, Norway

ENB Summary
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The Nordic Roundtable was held in Oslo, Norway from 9-10 March 2005. The event was organized by the Nordic Ad Hoc Group on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP), in cooperation with the Norwegian Foundation for Sustainable Consumption and Production (GRIP) and the Nordic Partnership.

Key topics taken up during the Roundtable included international cooperation on SCP, the role of business, European Union (EU) activities in implementing SCP, the promotion of green suppliers, the role of government in developing countries, and the role of Nordic investments in the South in promoting SCP. Delegates also considered global consumption trends, and challenges, opportunities and recommendations for further work.

Based on the discussions at the Roundtable, the Nordic Ad Hoc Group on SCP will finalize a report that will be presented during the thirteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD-13) in April 2005. The report will also be considered at the second international meeting of the “Marrakech Process” on SCP, scheduled to take place in Costa Rica in September 2005.

Hu Tao, State Environmental Protection Administration (SEPA), China, predicted that in 20 years China’s consumption of energy and natural resources will be high, but stressed China’s efforts to change the business-as-usual scenario, improve energy efficiency and achieve sustainable development.

Sheri Liao, President, Global Village of Beijing (left), discusses her presentation with Tarcisio Alvarez-Rivero of UNDESA.

Martin Standley, Norwegian Foundation for Sustainable Consumption and Production (GRIP), in conversation with Hu Tao, SEPA (right).
Sheri Liao, President, Global Village of Beijing, said China should aim for a development pattern that is different from western countries. Highlighting the importance of public awareness, she said SCP cannot happen if the public wants to abandon the traditional Chinese lifestyle and adopt western consumption patterns.
Links to further information

Organizer's website
Background information
Nordic Council website
Report on SCP: A Nordic Presentation of SCP in a Global Perspective, 2004
UN Website on the Marrakech Process on the 10-year framework of programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production
Sustainable Developments report of the first international expert meeting on the 10-year framework of programmes on SCP, Marrakech, June 2003