

**Intervention by the International Council on Mining and Metals at the CSD  
18 High Level Round Table on Mining for Sustainable Development.**

Thank you, Madam Chair. As a representative of the mining industry and a Director in the International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM), I am grateful for the opportunity to contribute to this important discussion.

In addition to the views expressed by my colleague Kathryn McPhail I would like to highlight three points essential to our collective realisation of a positive contribution of mining to sustainable development.

Firstly it is perhaps no coincidence that the mining sector has an interface with all five themes of CSD-18. We are both creators and major users of transport infrastructure; our business is focused on the production of inorganic chemicals; we are both generators and users of waste and we are a key component in the realisation of sustainable consumption and production. It is therefore important to take **an integrated approach** to effective management of mining's contribution to sustainable development.

Secondly **a life cycle approach** is important to ensure we are maximizing the value of mining to society. A life cycle approach to responsible production and responsible use of minerals and metals is required. Mineral wealth should not be seen as merely a cradle to gate economic vector but a cradle to cradle value chain. The production of minerals and metals requires significant investment of human, environmental and economic capital and so the efficient use, reuse and recycling of metals is critical to the realisation of a net positive return on this investment.

Thirdly **capacity building** for sustainable production and sustainable use is required, particularly in developing countries. Global efforts should be aimed not only at capacity building to enable countries to put in place good governance of mineral endowments but to identify and prioritize the environmental, social and economic challenges they face with respect to sustainable use of minerals and metals.