

STATEMENT FROM CANADIAN, U.S. AND NORTH AMERICAN NGO NETWORKS

4th Regional Implementation Meeting on Sustainable Development
Geneva, December 1-2, 2009

North Americans have a responsibility to acknowledge and address the negative impacts of our growth and development activities on human and ecosystem health -- locally and globally. The next ten years are critical, and North America, as the world's wealthiest region as well as its biggest consumer and producer of waste, has an opportunity to play a key role in changing its production and consumption patterns in ways that meet present and future needs without causing harm to others. The scale of this change calls for leadership throughout our society.

We, North American civil society networks—the Canadian Environmental Network (RCEN), the Citizens Network for Sustainable Development (CitNet), the North American Sustainable Consumption and Production Alliance (NASCA) and the Sustainable Consumption Research and Action Initiative (SCORAI)—have been working on these issues for many years and have contributed to the progress made so far. We commit to working together to engage in constructive dialogues with NGO and non-NGO stakeholders, including business groups, different levels of government, and the various communities of practice concerning sustainability.

