

## **Statement of the Science and Technology RCEM on the Asia-Pacific Regional Forum on Sustainable Development 2015**

We, the members of the Asia-Pacific RCEM science and technology (S&T) constituency, welcome the mention of developing the S&T sector in Asia-Pacific in the draft in the form of increasing the share of S&T development in their national budgets.

Yet in order to make the products of the S&T sector's research and development be of meaningful use in our home countries and our people, we would like to raise on some concerns which could cut across the SDGs that touch on the Technology Facilitating Mechanisms in the Means of Implementation.

Firstly, we want to highlight PEOPLE-CENTERED, PEOPLE-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT.

This would mean putting more budget/financing on technology development which should meet the needs of our people to enhance the backward production and distribution in the many of the rural areas in the Asia-Pacific. These developments should be adapted to local communities and should also be able to address gender as well as the situation of those differently-abled and other marginalized sectors in the rural and urban communities.

Technology development should be able to harness and employing local scientists and technologists and bring about national development. Bringing in technology should not be done merely to create markets for TNC owned and controlled technologies, even those so-called "green", but should also be a genuine transfer of technology suited for the nation's needs.

Secondly, on ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES, we also want to highlight the need to provide SDGs to hold TNCs and corporations to be more accountable on their operation when they blatantly violate environmental laws. There should be mechanisms of ensuring/underscoring people's access to information (such as Environmental Impact Statements), of ensuring that these are adequately explained to stakeholders whether literate or not. The affected communities should be justly compensated for the environmental impacts of these corporations' activities.

Thirdly, the drafts should highlighting citizen science or the mobilization of and capacity building of communities to participate in scientific activities. We also want technology that will build and promote scientific and people-oriented culture among our people.