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13^{eme} Session de la Commission
du Developpement Durable

La revue par les pairs de la strategie nationale de developpement durable

Intervention prononcee par S.E.M. Serge LEPELTIER,
Ministre de l'Ecologie et du developpement durable

New York, le 21 avril 2005

(Verifier an prononce)

Monsieur le President,

Lors du Sommet sur le developpement durable de Johannesburg, **la France a** defendu (l'importance des strategies nationales de developpement durable pour mettre en oeuvre les engagements pris lors des sommets du Millenaire et de Johannesburg. Elle a aussi souhaite que la Commission du Developpement Durable serve de point focal afin de partager les bonnes pratiques, de fournir un cadre pour l'analyse et d'organiser le partage d'experiences.

La plupart de nos pays cherchent, en effet, les voles concretes pour mettre en oeuvre le developpement durable et notamment le plan d'action de Johannesburg. Le chemin reste encore largement **a** tracer. C'est pour contribuer a la recherche des solutions que la France a elabore une strategie nationale de developpement durable et l'a, rapidement, soumise a une revue par des pairs.

Cette revue devrait permettre d'analyser les bonnes pratiques, d'identifier les obstacles **a** surmonter et en tenant compte des specificites propres a **notre pays, de determiner certaines experiences susceptibles d'etre transferees** a d'autres pays, voire d'etre generalisees.

Quatre pays volontaires nous ont apporte leur concours : la Belgique, le Ghana, l'ile Maurice et le Royaume-Uni. L'International Institute for Environment and Development nous a offert son aide pour conduire l'exercice, auquel ont ete aussi associes l'UNDESA, la Commission europeenne et l'Agence de la Francophonie. Je tiens ici a les remercier chaleureusement. Grace a leur regard bienveillant mais sans complaisance, nous avons pu prendre conscience des progres **a** faire.

Les resultats ont ete presentes en detail, ici meme, le 14 avril dernier. Nous reprendrons la quarantaine de propositions formulees. Les pairs nous ont notamment suggere de mieux hierarchiser les objectifs et d'articuler davantage notre Strategie nationale avec d'autres reformes en cours, comme celle de la comptabilite publique.

Je crois qu'aujourd'hui il faut elargir (l'experience. La France est prete **a faire beneficier de son experience, en participant activement** a la revue par les pairs d'autres pays, et en priorite, des pays qui ont ete volontaires pour cet exercice.

Monsieur le President, je crois fortement **a l'interet de ces revues par les pairs et je propose qu'elles soient generalisees.**

UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION

Mr. President,

During the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, France defended the important role of national sustainable development strategies to implement the commitments made during the Millennium and Johannesburg Summits. France also expressed the desire to see the Commission on Sustainable Development serve as a focal point to share good practices, provide a framework for analysis and organise the sharing of experiences.

Most of our countries are indeed looking for practical solutions for implementing sustainable development and in particular, the Johannesburg Action Plan. However, the way we are to go about doing this still remains largely to be defined. In order to contribute to the search for solutions, France has developed a national sustainable development strategy and quickly subjected it to a peer review.

This review should allow us to analyse good practices, identify obstacles to be overcome and, taking into account of the specific characteristics of our country, identify certain experiences which could be transferred to other countries, or even generalised.

Four volunteer countries have offered us their support: Belgium, Ghana, Mauritius and the United Kingdom. The International Institute for Environment and Development has offered its assistance in carrying out this work, which will also include contributions from UNDESA, the European Commission and the Agence de la Francophonie. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them most warmly. Thanks to their indulgent but objective support, we have acquired a clear understanding of what remains to be achieved.

The results were presented in detail here on April 14th. We will be reviewing the 40 or 50 proposals formulated at that time. The peers suggested in particular a more effective hierarchy of objectives and the notion of combining the national strategy with other reforms in progress such as that of public accountability.

I think that today we need to broaden the scope of this experiment. France is ready to share its own experience by taking an active role in the peer reviews of other countries and, as a priority, of countries having volunteered for such reviews.

President, I am quite convinced of the benefits of these peer reviews and would propose that they are applied more widely.