**Committee: UNEA**

**Country: Pakistan**

**Topic: Ensuring sustainable consumption and production**

Sustainable consumption and production (SCP) is about promoting resource and energy efficiency, sustainable infrastructure and providing access to basic services, green and decent jobs and a better quality of life for all . SCP pattern is not just an environmental issue. It is about maintaining the natural capital and hence productivity and capacity of our planet to meet human needs and sustain economic activities. In the recent SDG Index and Dashboard Report, Pakistan ranked 149th in performance towards areas including health, economic growth and climate action.

Stress on resource consumption has tremendously increased across the world in recent decades. A similar trend is also reflected in Pakistan with increased demand for energy, food, water and other resources, resulting in resource depletion, pollution, and climate change. We are currently the fifth populous country in the world with approximately 212million and expected to reach 300 million by 2050. This unprecedented and uncontrolled trend would come at the cost of a plethora of negative implications for the socio-economic development at large, hence also pushing the demand of the populace for energy, food, water and other resources to increase.

We had implemented the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production, adopted at Rio+20 in 2012, is the first target set under SDG12. Recognizing this need , the government has launched “Green Pakistan” programme to maintain and increase the natural resource capita. A shift to SCP pattern leads to creation of new opportunities for poverty eradication, and enhancing prosperity for all. The SCP is a powerful decision making tool that plays a key role in climate change, as almost everything we consume and produce affects our water, food and energy security, as it impacts the ecosystems and communities worldwide.

Sustainable consumption and production is crucially relevant for Pakistan given the massive degradation and depletion of natural resources due to the population explosion and agricultural and industrial development pursued without regard for environmental sustainability. Food system, fresh water and energy availability has declined. In order to meet the requirements of the country in both water and hydropower sectors with an ultimate object to put Pakistan on the track of development, we have planned to construct five multi-dimensional water storage dams during the next 3-12 years. The building of these dams will not only help address acute water challenge but also produce cheap and clean hydroelectricity. To ensure sustainable food system we are focusing on efficient agriculture sector, reducing food waste, preservation of agricultural land, and ensuring food security by adopting climate resilient techniques. Also Energy Sector is aiming at institutional reforms and strengthening regulatory framework, promoting clean energy technologies and tapping potential resources and reducing carbon footprint

The negative impacts and adversities of our unsustainable consumption and production patterns have left little hope for a sustained and safe environment for our future generations. In order to achieve sustainable development and ensure long term viability of resources, it is imperative for the society to transition towards sustainable production and consumption as a whole as well as account for viable activities at an individual level. There is a dire need to devise innovative policies and specific activities to enhance resource efficiency in the value chain sectors such as energy. It is the need of the time that all efforts be directed towards ensuring efficient use of the resources in order to transition towards a more equitable society and minimalize the regional disparities across the country.

The comprehensive Pakistan Environmental Protection Act (PEPA) enacted in 1997 was followed by the Environment Policy, which includes policies and action plans on a range of issues that, implicitly or explicitly, aim at promoting sustainable consumption and production — such as cleaner production, protecting biodiversity, desertification, clean drinking water, etc.

Sources:

https://tribune.com.pk/story/1433020/making-pakistans-consumption-production-sustainable