

## PRESS RELEASE

### **ICS Workshop on Next Generation Biofuels Manila (Philippines), 10 September 2009**

Within the framework of the International Conference on Green Industry in Asia, held in Manila, Philippines, on 9-11 September 2009 and organised by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and by the Government of Philippines, the International centre for Science and High Technology of UNIDO has organised a side event on next generation biofuels and biorefineries. The event was finalized to update industrial experts and high level officials coming from most countries of Asia, on the state-of-the-art of research and technology and perspectives of this new generation of sustainable biofuels produced from waste biomass.

The presenters and panelists, from India, Germany, Malaysia and ICS, have reported on the relevant experience and case studies in selected countries in Asia, including emerging industrial experiences in the field, as well as on the technical and resource potential of countries in the field. It was underlined that developing countries and countries in economic transition may take the lead in this promising sector, which is the chance and the real opportunity to improve their economies

ICS-UNIDO has also presented its core programme on next generation biofuels and biorefinery and related activities of research, capacity building, training, networking and e-learning, addressed to developing countries and Asia. Altogether, nearly 80 participants/trainees attended the event. The issues presented raised high interest of experts representing industries, academia, governmental and international entities from the region, which enabled a forum for a fruitful discussion also on the opportunities related to bio-based production for Asian countries. Specifically, the possibilities of valorisation of the waste and by-products of palm oil, pulp and paper, sugar and other bio-based production, have been addressed by many participants, also as the potential topics of further co-operation with ICS and UNIDO in research and in other fields. A true interest was expressed by representatives of the business community, who also attended the meeting, so as to enhance the efficiency and economics of the commercial processes moving to the sustainable and green future at the same time.

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