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"JAPAN"*

Statement by Takashi Kosugi, Member of the House of
Representatives, Japanese Diet, Vice-President, GLOBE
International.

Geneva, August 12, 1991, Working Group I.

Thank you

Mr. Chairman,

I would like to express my opinion as a representative of GLOBE International and as head of GLOBE Japan. GLOBE stands for Global Legislators Organisation for a Balanced Environment. I am a member of the Japanese Parliament and Vice President of GLOBE INTERNATIONAL.

I will speak on the subject of climate change.

As has been agreed by the leaders of industrialised nations at the recent summit negotiations, there is a need to conclude a global convention on climate change and to take concrete action in that direction in time for the "Earth Summit" to be held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992.

Each region and each nation is in a different situation and it is not easy to reach an agreement that all countries can equally respect.

However, to avoid the perils of global climate change, the whole world must take action. In particular it is absolutely necessary that industrialized countries take a lead in curbing CO2 emissions. *

In order to reach an agreement for all countries, many ideas have been tried already but I want to express my opinion concerning the "pledge and review" form of convention that has been proposed by Japan and UK at the last negotiations for a framework climate convention.

We legislators from the European Community, Japan, the United States and the Soviet Union have formed an organisation with the purpose of protecting the environment. We held our fourth general assembly in Tokyo, last month and we debated the climate change issue.

We came to the conclusion that statements supporting a "pledge and review" mechanism will frustrate attempts to achieve meaningful commitments to reduce emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases. We sent a letter to the Chairman of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee, Mr. Jean Ripert, demanding that he will "lead the negotiators toward the development of a strong and effective convention".

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I will briefly explain the contents of our discussions.

The convention must be a global one but since the industrialized countries are putting the largest burden on the earth's environment, we also have a larger responsibility than the developing countries. Therefore we are the ones to take the lead in the making of a convention. All industrialized countries should state clearly, in the convention, concrete goals for the reduction of CO2 emissions within their own countries and immediately take measures to reach the goals that have been set.

There will be some differences in target levels and time limits, but at last years IPPC negotiations, all OECD countries except Turkey and the United States showed a willingness to set specific targets.

At this point, as a member of the Japanese Parliament, I would like to explain a little bit more. Japan has set a goal to "stabilize per capita CO2 emissions at 1990 years" level, by the year 2000" and has for that purpose made an action program. Japan is, in the field of energy conservation, among the most advanced countries in the world already. To decrease energy consumption further, is likely to slow down the economy. Even so, we Japanese politicians and in particular those of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, of which I am a member, have under difficult conditions made this hard decision. This is something I wanted to make clear at this point.

We, members of GLOBE, think that the United States, being the World's largest source of CO2 emissions should take a leadership role in the climate convention negotiations, but, at present, the United States is in every aspect showing an extremely negative attitude to the convention negotiations.

I want to stress the following two points:

First, concrete targets for the reduction of carbon dioxide should be included for all industrialized countries, and the targets should be the same for all industrialized countries.

Secondly, the United States must set concrete targets and take on a positive leadership role to bring the climate convention to a successful conclusion.

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Accordingly, we do not reject "the pledge and review" form of convention that has been proposed, but in order to realize the two points I just mentioned, we, as legislators, will continually put pressure on our respective governments.

Finally there are two things I would like you to note:

First of all, concrete commitments for reductions of CO2 emissions for industrialized countries including the US should be included in the convention.

Secondly, countries that have already set specific targets and those that are about to do so, should, in resemblance to Japan, urgently work out detailed and concrete action programs for reaching the targets that have been set. Preferably, that should be done this year.

After this third prepcom meeting, the 3rd negotiations for a framework climate convention are scheduled for September 9 to 20. At those negotiations I expect all developed countries to make efforts to define concrete commitment targets.

Thank you for your attention.

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September 12, 1991

Climate Action Network Discussion Paper:
Financial Mechanisms for Technology Transfer
under a Climate Convention

Navroz K. Dubash
Environmental Defense Fund

This paper is endorsed by the following members of the Climate Action Network as a basis for discussion: Environmental Defense Fund, Natural Resources Defense Council, Friends of the Earth - US, Centre for International Environmental Law - US, Climate Action Network - Europe, Indonesian Environmental Forum - WALHI, Environmental Protection Society - Malaysia, Environment and Development Action - Senegal, ZERO - Zimbabwe, Kenya Energy and Environment Organizations, Kenya Consumers' Organization, Energy Efficiency Centre - Czechoslovakia, Brazilian NGO Forum for UNCED.

Introduction

The need for an effective funding mechanism to foster technology transfer has figured prominently in all recent international declarations on climate change, including UN General Assembly Resolutions, the Ministerial Declaration of the Second World Climate Conference, the Beijing Declaration, the Toronto Conference Statement, the Noordwijk Declaration, the Bergen Declaration and the Tlatelolco Platform on Environment and Development. The issue is one of fundamental importance to the successful conclusion on the current negotiating rounds, and to effective global cooperation to halt climate change.

This paper attempts to lay out the specific issues involved, with particular reference to the Global Environment Facility (GEF) in a manner that ties them closely to the current discussions of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC). This is accomplished by examining country statements on the subject, and sifting through these to compile a set of criteria for a funding mechanism. The paper then explores the potential of the Global Environment Facility to meet these criteria, and concludes by drawing on the early experience of the Multilateral Fund of the Montreal Protocol as a precedent for a climate mechanism.

Country Positions: Main Points

The second negotiating session of the INC witnessed a flurry of papers from many countries, developing and developed. Many of these had significant points to make on the issues of technology cooperation and a funding mechanism with which to implement requisite transfers of technology. It is useful to cull the main points of interest and contention from these papers and from country interventions in order to set the terms of the debate on this issue.¹

- Developing countries — in individual non-papers and in a collective G-77 statement — uniformly called for new, additional and adequate funds with which to help developing countries meet their obligations under a climate convention. The G-77 paper clearly spelt out what these meant: 'new' carries the implication that such funds not be considered aid, but rather compensation according to the 'polluter pays' principle; 'additional' refers to the need for such funds to be over and above the U.N. target for development as a percentage of GNP, which as yet has not been met by industrialized countries²; and 'adequate' funds, according to the 77, would be a sum that meets full incremental costs of mitigation and adaptation measures. The G-77 also stated strongly that voluntary contributions by industrialized countries were unlikely to meet the needs of developing countries. On the subject of additionality, Norway agreed that funds for climate related purposes should be additional to current allocations for development assistance while the UK felt that a strong case could be made for funds to be

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3rd Round - Sinks.

•DRAFT•

CLIMATE ACTION NETWORK DISCUSSION PAPER*
FORESTS AS BIOMASS COMPONENT
Third Session, INC, Nairobi, September 9-21, 1991

This paper is endorsed by the following members of the Climate Action Network as a basis for discussion: National Audubon Society, Environmental Defense Fund, Lega per l' Ambiente, Natural Resources Defense Council, World Wide Fund for Nature, Climate Network - Europe, Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies, Indonesian Environmental Forum - WALHI, Brazilian NGO Forum for UNCED, Kenya Energy and Environment Organization, ENDA - Senegal.

Both UNCED and the INC have stated that the UNCED "provides the most appropriate forum to address comprehensively forest issues". While there is no quarrel with that assertion, it is now clear that UNCED will not produce any firm commitments that will result in halting the further loss of primary forests and affording real protection of biological diversity and indigenous peoples nor address the underlying causes of such deforestation such as the debt problem and the existing international trade system. All that is under discussion are a set of "non-legally" binding principles. The present draft is highly bracketed and marked by significant divergences of position which call into question how substantive a final set of principles will be. Even the section on environmental impact assessments remains bracketed. Climate change is barely mentioned and the only clear references are bracketed. In addition, it is interesting to note that in an information note to the INC on decisions made at the third UNCED Prepcom relating to climate change (INC/FCCC/NOTE No 24) only atmosphere and energy decisions were included. It is agreed by governments that UNCED will not develop a convention by 1992 and it is not clear when and how negotiations on a free-standing forest agreement following the UNCED will be undertaken.

The incorporation of forest issues into climate and other initiatives on biodiversity, sustainable agriculture and indigenous peoples may be the best path to choose in addressing the multiple and interconnected issues around forests. This will not preempt discussion of forests in other international and national forums which may be necessary to address the more complex social and political components of forest protection. It is critical that INC take up forest issues in a more deliberate way than it has so far in its discussion of sinks. At present the climate convention provides one effective opportunity for countries to assume clear legal commitments to contribute to halting deforestation and to all the multiple benefits that flow therefrom.

This paper, in essence, was prepared to be used both in the INC and UNCED as providing inputs to whatever legal agreements might be developed. It reflects the input of various individuals representing non-governmental organizations from developing and developed countries. In light of the fact that UNCED will not produce an agreement on forests, its relevance to the INC has become all that more important.

Three primary concerns shape the content of this statement:

- The inclusion of carbon sink components and potential sink/source tradeoffs into a climate agreement should under no circumstances distract from the pre-eminent need for industrialized countries to reduce their emission of greenhouse gases, particularly in the energy sector.

- A second concern, not confined to issues around forests, was that the poor and unrepresented people of the world, would most likely be the greatest victims of climate change and future policies and programs set up to address it. When discussions are focussed on targets and scientific data, it is often not clear how the interests of all people will be protected. The human dimension of forest conservation cannot be omitted.

- Finally, carbon sink strategies on forests must place priority on the conservation of primary forests, including native or mature natural forests, whether these are high latitude or boreal, temperate, or tropical; and provide safeguards for the protection of biodiversity, ecosystem services and cultural diversity. A carbon sink strategy must not translate into a massive planting initiative. This paper discusses the forest component of carbon-sink strategies. Forests are one component of biomass. Other sinks such as oceans and other forms of biomass should continue to be researched.

* Comments are welcome: Ken Snyder c/o ECO office Rm F211 or after INC
Fran Spivy-Weber; Audubon Society; 666 Pennsylvania Ave., SE; Washington DC 20003
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INTERVENTION BY THE PRESIDENCY ON BEHALF OF THE EUROPEAN
COMMUNITY AND MEMBER STATES

COMMITMENTS

Introduction

Mr Chairman,

As ~~has~~^{has} often been said in the INC, the European Community and its Member States, are of the opinion that countries have a common but differentiated responsibility in addressing climate change and that commitments by developing countries are strongly related to the outcome of our discussions on financial resources and technology transfer.

General Objective

We believe that the convention should set an ultimate global objective of stabilising greenhouse gas concentrations at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with climate. Such a level should be reached within a timeframe sufficient to allow ecosystems to adapt naturally to climate change, to ensure that food production is not threatened and permit economic activity to develop in a sustainable and environmentally sound manner.

General Commitments

In pursuit of this objective the convention should initiate a global strategy by committing Parties to -

- take appropriate measures to limit, reduce, modify and control human activities that result or are likely to result in adverse effects on the climate;
- prepare, report and update national and/or regional strategies which include, inter alia, inventories of greenhouse gas emissions using an agreed methodology, and which describe the measures being taken to limit emissions and preserve and enhance sinks for greenhouse gases;
- develop and adopt improved practices in all sectors responsible for greenhouse gas emissions, including the promotion of energy efficiency, low or non-carbon emitting energy sources, agriculture and transport;

- promote the protection and enhancement of sinks and reservoirs for greenhouse gas emissions, in particular through the adoption or reinforcement of appropriate national forest policies;

- encourage the promotion of public education and awareness of the environmental and socio-economic impacts of climate change.

We fully understand that all least developed countries will not be able to comply with all general obligations at this stage. We find it therefore necessary to pursue further distinctions on this issue.

discussions

Specific commitments for industrialised countries

We believe that a crucial part of the package to be agreed in the process towards Rio 1991 is the stabilization of Co2 emissions by the year 2000 in general at 1990 levels by industrialised countries individually or jointly.

The developed countries should also strengthen their cooperation with developing countries to enable them to fully address climate change without hindering their development goals through the provision of financial resources and the transfer of environmentally sound technologies.

Developed countries should also analyse the feasibility of and options for strategies and/or targets for a staged approach for achieving reductions of all greenhouse gas emissions not controlled by the Montreal Protocol. And should analyse and make best use of economic and fiscal instruments, such as taxes and charges, as they may play an important role in achieving limitations on greenhouse gas emissions.

Commitments for developing countries

We recognise that many countries will have to increase their greenhouse gas emissions as part of their development efforts. Developing countries should however adopt as appropriate measures on, inter alia, energy efficiency and land use practices; and could take as a guideline for their national strategies, that they will keep the future net growth in their greenhouse gas emissions to the lowest level possible compatible with their development aims and capabilities.