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United States Statement at IPCC [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change] Working Group II

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United States Department of State

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2/9/93

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NUMBER OF PAGES, INCLUDING THIS PAGE: 3

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Message:

Attached is a copy of the statement The
US. made at the IPCC Working Group II
meeting now underway in Geneva.

Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Before commenting specifically on the issue of our workplan and the organization of the Working Group II contribution to the Second Assessment Report, I would like to make a brief statement of the U.S. view on the importance of the IPCC's work.

of submitted to the new administration

The United States is strongly committed to continued support of the IPCC and its activities. We believe this work will improve the effectiveness and precision of international actions taken to combat the threat of global climate change. In this regard, the report of this working group can assist all nations in identifying appropriate response strategies.

Our work in the IPCC, and in other fora, is most timely. We are at a turning point in history -- in terms of our relationship to the planet and its natural systems, and in terms of the important relationships building between the nations of the South and those of the North. Together, we can seize this historic opportunity to integrate the twin imperatives of environmental protection and economic well-being. This strategy is good for the global commons and good for the global environment. To achieve our objectives, we must bring the best science and the best technology to bear in developing adaptation and mitigation response strategies for sustainable development.

We want to be sure that all options are identified so that this science and these technologies are shared on a global basis. Our meetings here in Geneva will contribute greatly to that process.

The United States views the possibility of global climate change as an urgent challenge to which we must respond. My country will be examining the full range of options available to us to meet this challenge, and we will be working closely with others, here in the IPCC and in other fora, to build a true partnership for a global response. We view the IPCC's scientific and technical work as a vital component of our partnership. The new Administration of the United States looks forward to this exciting opportunity for international cooperation -- and we intend to do our best to help lead these efforts.

Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman, for allowing me to make this statement.