

PART II:

A SELECTION OF PRESS RELEASES
ISSUED BY NGOs

FROM 1–11 DECEMBER 1997

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**A SELECTION OF PRESS RELEASES FROM THE FOLLOWING NGO
CONSTITUENCIES:**

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY

Alliance Internationale de Tourisme (AIT)
Business Council For Sustainable Energy (BSCE) & Alliance to Save Energy
Edison Electric Institute
European Insulation Manufacturers' Association (EURIMA)
European Business Council For a Sustainable Energy Future – e 5
European Wind Energy Association
Federation of German Industries (BDI)
Global Climate Coalition
Insurance Industry Initiative, in association with UNEP
International Association of Public Transport
International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)
International Cogeneration Alliance (Cogen)
World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD)

ENVIRONMENTAL GROUPS

Birdlife International
Canadian Climate Action Network
Climate Action Network
Environmental Defence Fund (EDF)
European Environment Bureau (EEB)
Forum Umwelt & Entwicklung
Friends of the Earth

Gakkos – Global Network Class
Germanwatch
Global Commons Institute
Greenpeace
Kiko Forum
Klimabündnis Österreich
Natural Resources Defence Council
Ozone Action
Réseau Action Climate France
Scientists for Global Responsibility
Sierra Club
Solar Century
Tata Energy Research Institute (TERI)
The David Suzuki Foundation
Union of Concerned Scientists
WorldWatch Institute
World Resources Institute (WRI)
World Wide Fund For Nature Umweltstiftung WWF Deutschland
World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)

LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT

International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI)
National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC)

PARLIAMENTARIANS

Global Legislators Organization for a Balanced Environment (GLOBE)

CONFSSIONAL GROUPS

World Council of Churches

Franciscans International

TRADE UNIONS

International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU)

Union of Industrial and Employers' Confederations of Europe (UNICE)

OTHERS

European Atomic Forum (FORATOM)

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY

*AIT – ALLIANCE INTERNATIONALE DE TOURISME
AND
FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DE L'AUTOMOBILE*

**WORLD MOTORING ORGANIZATIONS TO BE REPRESENTED
AT THE GLOBAL WARMING CONFERENCE IN KYOTO**

25 November 1997

The world motoring organizations, through their international organizations, the Alliance Internationale de Tourisme (AIT) and the Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA), will be represented at the Global Warming Conference in Kyoto as official observers to the United Nations.

A policy statement agreed by the AIT and the FIA looks in depth at the problem of global warming (the "greenhouse" effect) and possible solutions to ensure the environmental sustainability of our planet.

The international community, through the United Nations' Climate Change Convention, is trying to negotiate new agreements to curb global warming.

In 1992, the industrialized nations accepted the commitment to reduce carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions to 1990 levels by the year 2000.

Given that many countries are failing to reach this target, and the mounting evidence that human activity is provoking climate change, it is clear that greater efforts are needed to achieve realistic and equitable targets.

The policy statement will be presented at the Conference by the Chairman of the joint Public Policy Commission of the organizations, Mr. Lauchlan McIntosh, who is also Executive Director of the Australian Automobile Association.

Mr. McIntosh said that the statement had been prepared over the past two years by representatives of the 130 motoring clubs worldwide, who collectively have over 100 million members.

"Governments are increasingly taking steps which affect the motorist, in particular by imposing higher fuel taxes. We remain sceptical that such fiscal charges will significantly reduce car use or lower CO₂ emissions. The AIT and the FIA, however, want to encourage a constructive debate about the impact of the car on global warming", he said.

"If the international community really wants to tackle the problem of reducing CO₂ emissions, it needs to develop a fully comprehensive strategy which promotes fuel efficiency on the one hand with measures to reduce car

dependency on the other. Our statement explores a package of complementary steps – new vehicle technologies and fuels; fuel economy targets; improved transport infrastructure and choice; intelligent transport systems; driver education and information; fiscal incentives; and carbon sequestration.

The programme is achievable and realistic and will help to secure a lasting reduction in greenhouse gas emissions. It will be far more effective than relying on any blunt and unfair instrument such as higher fuel taxes.

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THE BUSINESS COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE ENERGY IN COLLABORATION WITH THE ALLIANCE TO SAVE ENERGY

IT DOESN'T HAVE TO HURT

Efficient, Clean, Low-Cost Approaches to Carbon Reduction

Kyoto, 8 December 1997

The Alliance to Save Energy and the U.S. Business Council for Sustainable Energy join forces today to release a new report that recommends policies the United States' government should pursue ...and Vice President Gore cannot ignore.

"The Vice President, and all the delegates in Kyoto, can be confident that combating climate change doesn't have to hurt the U.S. or global economies if we invest now in energy-efficient and renewable energy technologies," said David M. Nemptow, President of the Alliance to Save Energy.

Efficient and renewable technologies are overlooked and underutilized. Energy efficiency and renewable energy have supplied more than 80 per cent of the growth in U.S. energy needs since 1973 – proving to be vital energy resources for growing economies. While clean energy has supported great increases in the GDP and created millions of new jobs, this resource remains largely untapped due to policy and market barriers.

It Doesn't Have to Hurt offers specifics on immediate solutions to greenhouse gas emissions reductions, overlooked too long by U.S. policymakers including:

- Reforming federal and state energy subsidies
- Enhancing building performance standards
- Investing in research to accelerate the development of advanced technologies.

"Reducing emissions is just not as hard as we're led to believe," said Michael Marvin, Executive Director of the Business Council for Sustainable Energy. "These policies are 'no brainers.'"

THE BUSINESS COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

11 December 1997

Following is a statement by the U.S. Business Council for Sustainable Energy in response to the conclusion of the Kyoto summit. The U.S. BCSE has been directly involved in the climate negotiations since its creation in 1992, and represents business and industry trade associations in the energy industry.

Michael Marvin, Executive Director, BCSE, Washington, DC

The developed world has taken a step forward on climate change that will result in using energy smarter and saving consumers money.

The protocol leaves unanswered many questions regarding the role of developing countries such as China and India. These questions must be addressed either through the treaty process or through bilateral agreements with these countries. Even with this flaw, the protocol represents an historic first step that should be applauded around the world.

Americans will hear some exorbitant claims about the alleged economic consequences of implementing protocol. One thing we know: the cost of inaction on climate is much higher than the cost of action. Most reductions in carbon will come from increased economic efficiency, which saves money in the long term for consumers and the general economy.

This proposal is being criticized by both ends of the spectrum, which usually portends good things.

If anyone tells you we can't do it, don't believe them. In the U.S., we can do it with cost-effective, existing technologies in ways that will ultimately benefit the consumer.

The first step of any journey is always the hardest, and we have taken that first step. We have put in place a process that will lead to a more efficient economy and a cleaner environment. The next challenge comes in ensuring business is given maximum flexibility to innovate and to move toward cleaner low- and non-carbon emitting technologies such as energy efficiency, renewable energy and natural gas.

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THE BUSINESS COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

POSITION STATEMENT – GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE

PREMISE

EFFECTIVE CLIMATE POLICY SHOULD PROMOTE ECONOMIC EFFICIENCY AND TECHNOLOGY INNOVATIONS

Climate change policy should be developed based on principles of economic efficiency and promoting “climate friendly” product and process acceptance. Policies should be designed to achieve a series of clearly articulated targets designed to first stabilize, and then reduce, global greenhouse gas emissions.

Position 1 – Economic Efficiency and market receptiveness for efficient and clean technologies and services require that the climate Protocol contain a **NEAR-TERM TARGET**.

The marketplace requires a near-term signal to foster the investment in efficient and clean technologies. A target for measuring progress in controlling global greenhouse gas emissions should be set for as early as 2005. KEY CONCEPT: the short-term target could first be stabilization of emissions. Once the near-term target is met, Parties to the Convention should begin making progress towards a series of incremental emissions control goals. To allow clear measurements of progress, a series of goals should be set that ultimately will achieve an agreed upon long-term emissions concentration objective (e.g., a series of five per cent reductions every five years – five per cent reduction by 2010; 10 per cent reduction by 2015; 15 per cent reduction by 2020, etc., leading to an acceptable long-term emissions concentration goal).

Position 2 – Developing countries should accept emissions control responsibilities once the developed countries have demonstrated progress on controlling their emissions...

Developed countries should demonstrate leadership by taking serious action to combat global warming and then the developing countries should accept further commitments to limit their emissions growth. A year 2005 emissions stabilization goal achieved by Annex I parties could serve as a trigger for expanding existing commitments of the developing countries. They would then assume obligations to limit emissions growth.

Position 3 – A credible, verifiable emissions credit trading system will ensure an efficient reduction in emissions utilizing climate-friendly technologies...

Emissions credit trading should be allowed between Parties with emissions reduction obligations under the Protocol or other legal instrument. Other market-based tools such as joint implementation should be allowed between Parties with obligations under the protocol, but only for clearly verifiable and quantifiable emissions REDUCTION projects.

Position 4 – Long-term emissions averaging will make tracking progress on reducing emissions difficult and will dampen climate-friendly investments and technological innovation...

Using averages to track emissions over long time periods (e.g. ten years) will not be as effective as clear year-specific signals for spurring action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Instead, a series of targets could be used: for instance, Annex I stabilization by 2005, preliminary Annex I cuts by 2010, deeper Annex I cuts and developing country stabilization by 2015, and still deeper cuts on the part of both Annex I and developing countries by the year 2020 and in later years. If emissions averages are to be used to track progress towards meeting these goals, they should be based on a short time-period (e.g. two to five years).

Position 5 – Emissions banking could be allowed but emissions borrowing should be REJECTED WHOLESALE...

Emissions borrowing reduces the incentive to take action TODAY to combat global greenhouse gas emissions.

* * *

The Business Council for Sustainable Energy is comprised of business leaders from the energy efficiency, renewable energy, natural gas and utilities industries. Members of the Council work with senior officials from major environmental organizations to support energy-related policies and programs which will enable the United States to achieve a sustainable pattern of energy production and use that simultaneously contributes to global economic, environmental and security goals.

The Business Council for Sustainable Energy
Environmental Advisory Committee Members
The Business Council for Sustainable Energy
Environmental Advisory Committee Members
American Council for An Energy Efficient Economy
Environmental and Energy Study Institute
Environmental Defense Fund
Natural Resources Defense Council
Union of Concerned Scientists
World Resources Institute
World Watch Institute

EDISON ELECTRIC INSTITUTE

THE ASSOCIATION OF INVESTOR-OWNED ELECTRIC COMPANIES

**GLOBAL WARMING TREATY THREATENS UNITED STATES
ECONOMY, CONSUMERS**

11 December 1997

Washington (11 December) – The Kyoto Protocol on global climate change threatens the U.S. economy and consumers, according to the top official of the nation’s largest electric trade association.

“This treaty takes a ready, fire, aim approach that will throw the recovering U.S. economy into free-fall as jobs and dollars exit for the 136 nations that do not have to do anything,” said Thomas R. Kuhn, president of the Edison Electric Institute, whose members produce about three-quarters of the electricity in the nation. “It amounts to a blank check on the U.S. economy that the Senate must refuse to endorse.”

“Electricity powers economic prosperity. The Kyoto treaty – if ratified – would mean sky-rocketing costs for consumers and businesses that rely on electricity,” Kuhn said. “The treaty isn’t global and it isn’t fair that 160 countries voted on painful measures that only 24 countries have to take,” Kuhn said, pointing to President Clinton’s fall promise that the Administration would hold out for a treaty that is flexible, cost effective and involves meaningful participation by all nations.

The U.N. Conference on Climate Change concluded with an agreement that the U.S. would cut greenhouse gas emissions by 7 per cent below 1990 levels between 2008 and 2012. But the target goes drastically farther than President Clinton’s climate proposal in October. “There is no cost effective way to change dramatically the nation’s electricity generating fuel mix within this timetable,” said Kuhn. “And no scientific imperative to do so.”

Furthermore, the U.S. demand for meaningful participation by key developing countries - such as China, India, Brazil, South Korea, Mexico and Indonesia – was refused. Emission reductions by only a handful of developed countries will not be effective.

“The treaty trades American economic growth for nothing more than paper promises from our international competitors,” Kuhn said. “It is economic suicide masquerading as an environmental agreement. Without developing country participation, worldwide emissions of greenhouse gases will continue to rise. But the only thing going up in the United States will be energy prices.”

Other elements of President Clinton's proposal that are not covered – or incompletely included – in the Kyoto Agreement include an emissions trading system, joint implementation projects and forestry projects or “sinks.”

Credit for early action to control greenhouse gases – an Article of tremendous importance to the more than 600 electric utilities that already are voluntarily reducing their greenhouse gas emissions is addressed by the Kyoto Agreement. But credit to electric utilities for their early, voluntary gas-reducing measures does not take effect until the year 2000, rendering moot recognition for the industry's substantial voluntary reductions.

* * *

Edison Electric Institute is the trade association of the nation's shareholder-owned electric utilities whose members generate and distribute more than 75 per cent of the nation's electricity.

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EUROPEAN INSULATION MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION

Submission of the Insulation Industry to COP 3

Kyoto, December 1997

Since the Second Assessment Report of the International Panel on Climate Change (IPPC) there can no longer be any real doubt about the impact of greenhouse gas emissions on the global environment. The greenhouse effect, in particular from CO₂ emissions, requires urgent action. Space heating and cooling of buildings in both Western Europe and North America are major contributors to CO₂ emissions.

One of the most efficient and quickly achievable means of cutting CO₂ emissions is to reduce energy use. In the residential and commercial building sector, the most effective energy saving can be accomplished through the use of a readily available energy efficiency technology – thermal insulation. Thermal insulation simply reduces the transfer of heat (and cold) through building structures or envelopes. Thermal insulation not only reduces energy use and therefore CO₂ emissions (see tables hereafter) but in addition the right insulation products also provide thermal comfort, acoustic insulation and fire protection. The same benefits hold true for the industrial/manufacturing sector.

The following tables give an indication of the massive use of energy for space heating and of its corollary, i.e. the massive potential for savings.

Table 1 summarizes the energy savings already realized in the United States.

		ENERGY USE (Million GJ ¹) & Quadrillion Btu)			
		No insulation	Baseline (existing)	Savings	% Savings
Residential	GJ	21,532	10,550	10,982	51 %
	Btu	20.41	10.00	10.41	51 %
Commercial	GJ	8,662	7,069	1,593	18 %
	Btu	8.21	6.70	1.51	18 %
Residential & Commercial	GJ	30,194	17,619	12,575	42 %
	Btu	28.62	16.70	11.91	42 %

¹) Million of Giga Joules, 1015J.

(Source: "Green and Competitive: Energy, Environmental, and Economic Benefits of Fibreglass and Mineral Wool Insulation Products" by Energy Conservation Management, Inc., et al, June 1996.)

Table 2 illustrates the potential for reducing carbon dioxide emissions (CO₂) if all American homes were to be insulated to the Council of American Building Official's 1992 Model Energy Code, a recognized minimum energy efficiency code in the United States.

		CARBON DIOXIDE Million Tonnes & Billion Pounds	
		Existing	Additional Potential
Residential	Million Tonnes	612	113
	Billion Pounds	1,347	249.2
Commercial	Million Tonnes	96	16.4
	Billion Pounds	211	36.1
Industrial	Million Tonnes	Not calculated	3.7
	Billion Pounds	Not calculated	8.2
TOTAL	Million Tonnes	708	133
	Billion Pounds	1,558	293.5

(Source: "Green and Competitive: Energy, Environmental, and Economic Benefits of Fibreglass and Mineral Wool Institution Products" by Energy Conservation Management, Inc., et al, June 1996.)

Similarly for Europe, households account for a quarter of the CO₂ emissions; with space heating accounting for 60–80 per cent of these emissions. As illustrated in Table 3, there is an annual saving potential of approximately 310 million tonnes of heating-related CO₂ emissions in Europe which could be realized by the application of state-of-the-art thermal insulation.

Table 3

Possible reduction of CO ₂ emissions caused by heating by means of better building insulation					
EURIMA Countries	Actual emissions million t		Possible reduction		
	Total	Heating	Million t	% Total	% Heating
Austria	–	21	10	–	48
Belgium	112	33	22	20	67
Denmark	64	12	3	5	25
Finland	65	12	1	2	8
France	280	55	36	13	65
Germany	743	150	100	13	67
Ireland	27	7	5	18	71
Italy	360	36	18	5	50
Netherlands	167	40	27	16	68
Norway	35	3	1	3	33
Spain	186	27	13	7	50
Sweden	93	20	2	2	10
Switzerland	42	17	11	26	65
Turkey	186	69	17	9	25
UK	542	75	37	7	49
TOTAL	(~3,000)	(~600)	(~310)	(~10)	(~50)

(Source: “Thermal Insulation Means Environmental Protection”, Study by the European Insulation Manufacturers Association (EURIMA), 1990.)

If one calculates the potential for improved insulation in the buildings sector alone in Europe and the United States, a reduction of 450 million tonnes of CO₂ is attainable on an annual basis.

Justification for Use of Thermal Insulation

One main advantage of thermal insulation is that it represents proven technology combined with a well established manufacturing base and sound installation techniques. The use of thermal insulation represents good business practice; and is a prime example of a “no regrets” policy which employs a technology that pays for itself in terms of reduced energy costs and increased environmental benefits. In addition, the benefits from insulation far outweigh the cost of production with a ratio of energy savings to energy investment of 12 to 1 per year. This means that for every Joule or Btu invested in the manufacture of thermal insulation, 12 Joules or Btu in energy saving is realized in every year of service.

Despite the many and considerable benefits that accrue, there are a number of challenges in providing adequate levels of thermal insulation – none of them however are of a technical nature. First, many decision-makers are poorly informed about the benefits of improved insulation and are thus often short of immediately available funds for capital investment. Second, in many countries, building energy codes or regulations are not efficient and often only apply to new constructions or, in some cases, there are no energy codes at all. Third, building codes are frequently poorly enforced. Finally, most homes represent existing house stock, and insufficient attention is paid to thermal insulation needs when renovating the dwellings.

All these challenges can be remedied by the application of available insulation technology, the implementation of good standards, economic analyses and incentives. The Kyoto Conference can agree binding commitments by industrialized countries in the following areas:

- quantitative CO₂ reductions for the next decade in respect of space heating and cooling;
- the establishment of ongoing education campaigns for purchasers of new and existing homes, as well as for the financial community;
- the implementation of appropriate building energy codes which recognize the environmental benefits of energy reduction for both new construction and renovation work;
- the enforcement of building energy codes;
- the provision of tax incentives for energy efficiency capital investment directed towards first-time home buyers.

Feasibility

The manufacturing and installation processes of insulation are well known, and at once require no expensive research. More intensive use of thermal insulation can begin today, giving immediate and long-lasting results for the entire lifetime of a building. The use of thermal insulation has no negative impact on the competitiveness of national industry. In fact, insulation has a positive effect on the balance of payment.

Financial implications

The proper use of thermal insulation for new buildings as well as the retrofitting of existing buildings increases their value. As such, thermal insulation represents a capital gain for the home or building owner. As for public costs, little is required from the public purse other than tax incentives, which will obviously be limited.

Joint implementation

High on the agenda for the Kyoto negotiations is the joint implementation of the Treaty. In this respect, the Kyoto Conference presents a valuable opportunity for thermal insulation. The quality of building stock in Central and Eastern Europe is poor, much of which is in need of improvement and considerable renovation. Joint implementation by the EU together with Central and Eastern Europe can be targeted towards thermal insulation with relative ease. Similarly, the opportunity exists for joint implementation by the United States and other nations.

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EUROPEAN BUSINESS COUNCIL FOR A SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FUTURE – e 5

Companies with sustainable energy solutions are uniting and support the European Union’s policy proposals for the Climate Summit in Kyoto, as

1. Scientific knowledge is sufficient to take at least all “no-regret measures” – which means these are profitable – to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases.
2. Many such technologies and services are available now, not only from our members.
3. Governments must give correct market incentives and remove institutional barriers for these highly desirable and profitable investments.

Therefore the European Business Council for a Sustainable Energy Future calls for the following outcome in Kyoto in order to create market demand and accelerate the market penetration of renewable sources and energy efficiency in all economic sectors:

1. Legally binding greenhouse gas reduction targets of 7 per cent in 2005 and 15 per cent in 2010 for all Annex 1 countries.
2. National implementation of adequate packages of policies and measures before 2000, with the aim to realise the savings of the “no-regret” potential.
3. Harmonized policies and measures for international transportation.
4. Elimination of market-distorting subsidies and tax exemptions for all uses of energy.
5. Promote all other market-improving policies and measures, like:
 - “renewable portfolio obligations” for energy suppliers;
 - carbon-emission trade, including Joint Implementation;
 - revenue neutral reform of energy taxation;
 - technology forcing energy efficiency standards for appliances, cars, houses;
 - transparent energy price structures and demand-side-management;
 - energy efficiency agreements with specific industries.

This approach will bring many benefits for our global society, including Europe:

1. Limit the risk and costs of climate change and improve the environmental quality.
2. Strengthen global stability and reduce dependency of fuel supply.
3. Stimulate business to innovate and find more carbon-efficient solutions.
4. Create many new and secure many existing jobs all over the world.
5. Motivate energy awareness and reduce the energy bills of citizens.

* * *

Members are more than 70 companies, including many SMEs, the corporations: AEC Domestic Appliances, Danfoss, Deutsche Bahn, Enron Europe, Rockwool and the associations: Cogen Europe, European Installation Bus Association, Eurosolar, European Small Hydropower Association, German Geothermal Society, German Society of Energy Managers, Stybenex-Insulation Materials and World Fuel Cell Council.

* * *

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**EUROPEAN BUSINESS COUNCIL
FOR A SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FUTURE – e 5**

**BUSINESS SUPPORT FOR LEGALLY BINDING TARGETS STARTING
IN 2005**

Kyoto, 5–12 December 1997

On Friday, 5 December during the UN-Climate Negotiations in Kyoto the European Business Council for a Sustainable Energy Future – e 5 and Cogen Europe reiterated their support for:

- a legally binding greenhouse gas emission reduction target in 2005;
- further greenhouse gas reduction targets in 2010, 2015 and 2020;
- harmonization of energy and fuel efficiency standards.

Only this will give the – since Rio in 1992 – so much discussed immediate signal to the market that climate protection is a real business interest that should be turned into a business opportunity to have an impact on our free markets.

The European Business Council – e 5 and Cogen Europe expressed their support for the European Union’s position during the first week of the Climate Negotiations in Kyoto. The EU has engaged itself for a real climate protection policy and we are happy that it maintained its position on sensitive topics. This includes early reduction targets and some policies and measures needed for their implementation.

The European Business Council for a Sustainable Energy Future – e 5 and Cogen Europe encourage the European Union to keep on fighting for these targets during the ministerial part of the negotiations beginning next week. To avoid “loopholes” in the Protocol it is important to exclude exceptions, especially the non-inclusion of carbon sinks.

The business associations call for the setting of a first legally binding quantitative greenhouse gas emission reduction target in 2005 for Annex-I. This will give an immediate signal to the market that climate protection is a real business interest. An early target will activate investors and consumers to direct their investments and consumption to the many existing clean energy solutions.

They remind that the European proposal is shared by the wide majority of mankind: the proposals of the group of 77 countries and China are similar to the EU proposal in main targets and time schedules and they represent about 85 per cent of the world population. The business community cannot ignore this opinion of their bosses – the consumers. It is emphasized that

any group defending fossil fuel interests or any country, like the US should not dominate the climate negotiations.

The European Business Council for a Sustainable Energy Future – e 5 represents companies and business associations, like Cogen Europe, that offer products and services with renewable energy sources, cogeneration and energy efficient buildings, appliances, transport and communication. Both have and are expanding worldwide alliances on all continents, including in Japan, where today the constitution of a Japanese Business Council for Sustainable Energy is discussed with a number of interested companies.

**EUROPEAN BUSINESS COUNCIL
FOR A SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FUTURE – e 5
IN COLLABORATION WITH THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE
FOR ENERGY CONSERVATION**

**OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS POST-KYOTO:
UNLEASHING THE SUSTAINABLE ENERGY BUSINESS**

10 December 1997

e 5 – a coalition of sustainable energy businesses, and IIEC, an NGO working globally on sustainable energy development, today cautiously welcomed the Kyoto Protocol as a “first step towards unleashing the sustainable energy market in Europe and the rest of the world”, Paul Metz, Executive-Director of e 5 – representing European businesses that provide products and services such as renewable energy, natural gas with cogeneration and energy efficiency in end-uses like buildings and transport – said:

“While the net Kyoto target is quite modest, it gives our industries, investors and our customers a first clear signal that investments will be profitable. The message to our members is that Opportunity knocks and we are ready to answer”. Our members will continue to aggressively pursue profitable solutions to climate change.

The potential for profitable sustainable energy investments is enormous. A study by the Global Energy Efficiency Initiative found that 1.3 billion tonnes of carbon could be saved by 2030 in OECD countries, not at a high cost, but at a net saving of \$950 billion compared to spending on new energy supplies.¹⁾

The Kyoto Protocol allows for Joint Implementation projects in Eastern Europe and subsequently also in Developing Countries. The potential in these regions for cost effective carbon-saving options is extremely large. Stewart Boyle, Executive Director of the International Institute for Energy Conservation (IIEC), said:

“Our experience with real projects in Eastern Europe, Asia, Latin America and Africa confirms that huge low-cost carbon saving options are available. We estimate that more than 3 billion tonnes of carbon emissions can be saved at a net saving of \$2.3 trillion over the next 30 years.²⁾ Kyoto will provide a measurable stimulus to greater investment in Joint Implementation projects and other forms of technology transfer with great benefits for the global climate and economies.”

¹⁾ Global Energy Efficiency Initiative is a coalition of research, business and NGOs working on energy efficiency.

²⁾ Current global emissions are 6.3 billion tonnes of carbon per year.

Both organizations acknowledge that the Kyoto targets will not be enough to stabilize the global climate and that higher targets in the near future will be needed. They urge the European Union to maintain its original 15 per cent reduction target by 2010.

Paul Metz

European Business Council for a Sustainable Energy Future

Stewart Boyle

IIEC-Europe

EUROPEAN WIND ENERGY ASSOCIATION – EWEA
EWEA TO LOBBY LEADERS IN KYOTO

25 November 1997

World leaders, meeting at the forthcoming 3rd Conference of the Parties to the UN Convention of Climate Change in Kyoto, Japan (1–10 December), will be urged to provide greater incentives to companies and countries adopting technology to produce sustainable energy from renewable resources.

In an effort to inform and educate decision-makers about renewable energy production, representatives of the European Wind Energy Association will lobby delegates to the UN negotiations.

Recent statements by President Clinton, extending the time-scale for reductions in US emissions of greenhouse gases, caused consternation among environmental groups and countries of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS). These states are most likely to be immediately affected by any rises in sea level. The failure of the pre-Kyoto talks in Bonn, which were intended to lay the foundations for an agreement in Japan, and the surrounding publicity have made the Kyoto conference an even greater draw for the world's media. The spotlight will be focused on what remedial measures will be adopted by the industrialized countries.

Christophe Bourillon, EWEA Chief Executive, said: "The EWEA is the only international renewable energy association being officially accredited as a participant in the negotiations. We are in a unique position and we intend to push for greater recognition of wind power as a viable force in the battle against climate change.

"Worldwide, there has been an increase in the amount of energy generated by wind turbines. The situation in Europe is so good that it has outstripped the predictions we made back in 1991 and we have revised our installation target for the year 2000. Every year we see a 40 per cent increase in installed capacity.

We have proof that wind energy can contribute to a reduction in the level of greenhouse gases produced across the world. Now we have to carry this message to those who take decisions which affect us all."

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**GERMAN FEDERAL MINISTRY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT (BMU)
FEDERATION OF GERMAN INDUSTRIES (BDI)**

**GERMAN TECHNOLOGIES FOR THE ENVIRONMENT ARE TOP –
WORLDWIDE**

Kyoto, 9 December 1997

Tuesday is the last day of Eco Japan 97, the five-day environmental fair held in Kyoto in conjunction with COP 3. The objective of this fair was a demonstration and presentation of future-oriented technologies to the Japanese and international public. Participation of German industry and institutes ranked second behind the dominant Japanese attendance. This shows Germany's interests and readiness to increase cooperation with Japan and other countries in all fields of environmental activities, in particular in those for climate protection as the theme of COP 3.

Following his visit to Eco Japan 97, Hans-Olaf Henkel, President of the Federation of German Industries stated:

"Improvement of energy efficiency on a global scale is what we need to really protect the earth's climate. Emotions against the use of technologies do not help, but their effective and sustainable application is required.

German industry is world champion in the efficient use of energy. It strongly intends to keep this role as impressively demonstrated by the participants to this fair. Each year, 3 billion tons of CO₂ could be spared if the German level of industrial energy productivity could be realized everywhere. This is about 15 per cent of present CO₂ emissions."

In March of 1996, German industry voluntarily pledged to cut specific CO₂ emissions before the end of 2005 by 20 per cent as compared to 1990. When this commitment became effective a monitoring scheme for CO₂ emissions was established, i.e. a neutral institution will verify the realization of emission reductions. Today, the first monitoring reported is being presented by Federal Minister for the Environment, Dr. Angela Merkel, and by the President of the Federation of German Industries, Mr. Hans-Olaf Henkel, at a workshop in the Kyoto International Conference Hall. The report shows that German Industry already achieved substantial reductions in CO₂ emissions which are in detail:

General Industry	minus 42.3 million tons	-20.6%
Electricity	minus 28.0 million tons	- 9.7%
Gas Industry	minus 21.4 million tons	-21.4%
Oil Industry	minus 12.9 million tons	-20.3%

Based on these experiences BDI, the Federation of German Industries, approached 43 other top industrial associations in industrialized countries to support and follow the idea. KEIDANREN, the Association of Japanese Industries, signed a joint statement with BDI on voluntary commitments, based on its own pledges. Both industrial associations agree that this instrument is the most effective measure for the protection of climate and the environment.

Timely and steady German policies and regulations for the protection of environment and climate strongly contributed to a worldwide demand for German technologies in this field. This pull is augmented by the on-going push of research, technical development and innovation in German industry and science.

While attending COP 3 in Kyoto, Dr. Angela Merkel, Germany's Federal Minister for the Environment, stated:

"ECO Japan 97 shows that Germany developed technical know-how due to nationwide precautionary measures on a massive scale for protecting environment and climate. This know-how in technologies and energy efficiency is now available in other countries. In turn, it creates new jobs at home and supports economic growth. Global challenges and national experiences ideally complement one another."

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**Durchbruch in Kyoto doch noch gelungen – BDI-Präsident
Hans-Olaf Henkel: Ein wichtiger erster Schritt, um mögliche
Klimaänderungen realistisch anzugehen!**

Köln, den 11. 12. 1997

In einer ersten Reaktion hat der Bundesverband der Deutschen Industrie (BDI) das Abkommen zur Reduzierung der Treibhausgasemissionen, das nach einem Verhandlungsmarathon auf der Weltklimakonferenz im japanischen Kyoto verabschiedet worden ist, begrüßt. Angesichts der äußerst verfahrenen Situation, wie sie sich noch am Dienstag dargestellt hatte, sei es, so Henkel, als Durchbruch zu bewerten, daß sich alle Verhandlungspartner bewegt und doch noch einen Kompromiß gefunden hätten. Es werde sich zeigen, ob beispielsweise die Einbeziehung des Handels mit Emissionszertifikaten – wie viele Kritiker behaupten – Schlupflöcher oder der Schlüssel zu einer nicht zuletzt auch kosteneffizienten Reduktion der Emissionen seien.

Henkel hatte bei seinem Besuch in Kyoto wiederholt betont, daß der BDI ein Abkommen mit festen Zielen und Zeithorizonten unterstütze, sofern diese beiden realistisch und erreichbar seien. Besonders wichtig sei dabei ein globaler Ansatz, d.h. ein international abgestimmtes Vorgehen.

Die deutsche Industrie ist nach wie vor bereit, ihren Anteil an der Verantwortung zu übernehmen und trägt mit ihrer aktualisierten Erklärung zur Klimavorsorge ihren Teil zur Zielerreichung bei. Sie hat sich verpflichtet, auf freiwilliger Basis besondere Anstrengungen zu unternehmen, um ihre spezifischen CO₂-Emissionen bzw. den spezifischen Energieverbrauch bis zum Jahr 2005 (Basisjahr 1990) um 20 Prozent zu verringern. Das heißt, die deutsche Industrie wird sich weiter am Vorsorgeprinzip orientieren.

Henkel „Wir sind allerdings skeptisch, was das ‚Burden Sharing‘ betrifft. Deutschland trägt, falls es unverändert bei der Beibehaltung des nationalen Einsparzieles von minus 25 Prozent bleibt, entschieden die Hauptlast. Dies, obwohl es wissenschaftliche Gutachten gibt, die belegen, daß es uns sehr schwer fallen wird – wenn wir dieses Ziel überhaupt erreichen. Das wird uns keinesfalls in den Schoß fallen, wie oft suggeriert wird.“

Vor dem Hintergrund der EU-Verpflichtung von minus 8 Prozent wäre es vollkommen unverständlich, wenn Deutschland weiter auf seiner Position von minus 25 Prozent beharre. Der BDI erwarte, daß die Bundesregierung jetzt bei ihren europäischen Partnern darauf dränge, ebenfalls größere Anstrengungen zu unternehmen als bisher, um so zu einer gerechten Lastenverteilung zu kommen.

GLOBAL CLIMATE COALITION

VICE PRESIDENT GORE ABANDONS U.S. WORKERS AND IGNORES CALLS FOR ACHIEVABLE CLIMATE POLICY FROM U.S. BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY AT KYOTO CLIMATE CONFERENCE

8 December 1997

The following is a statement by Gail McDonald, President of the Global Climate Coalition, in reaction to Vice President Gore's speech before the Framework Convention on Climate Change in Kyoto, Japan on Monday, December 8, 1997.

KYOTO, JAPAN – "Vice President Gore caved in to political pressure from developing countries and anti-growth special interest groups in his remarks today at the Kyoto Climate Conference. Ignoring calls from U.S. labor, agriculture and business sectors to craft a climate agreement that would achieve sustainable progress without trashing U.S. jobs, farmers and families.

Mr. Gore said in his statement that "we must now pay careful attention to the consequences of what we are doing on Earth." No where is that more important than paying careful attention to the economic consequences of misguided political events like this climate conference.

The Vice President's litany of supposed global calamities may play well to anti-growth special interest groups and other U.S.-bashers, but his doom and gloom prophesies do not paint an accurate picture of climate realities. Some of the most accomplished climate scientists say we have the time to get it right. There is no crisis at hand that would force us to take rash and hasty actions that could turn out to have devastating economic and social consequences.

The Vice President is apparently under the mistaken impression that the only way to unleash the boundless creativity and ingenuity of the business sector is by government mandate, in this case, by UN mandate. The only new markets that will be created by additional government regulation will be markets of inefficiency; companies straining under ill-conceived political targets that have no connection to real need or sustainable environmental progress. This will not bring about the most cost-effective policies, and it certainly will not help American workers whose jobs are at stake in Kyoto.

Mr. Gore referred to the fact that the current White House position will result in a 30 per cent reduction in energy use nationwide. There is no available technology to accomplish that goal. This will result in forced-march reduction that will torpedo U.S. jobs and sky-rocket U.S. energy prices. All of this

with no meaningful environmental progress on climate since the largest future emitters of greenhouse gases get off scott-free.

The Vice President repeated the U.S. insistence that the largest emitters of future greenhouse gases, developing countries, take on meaningful commitments. Exactly what those commitments are – and when they must begin – are crucial points for the success on any climate agreement. If the White House walks away from this firm commitment it will also walk away from American workers, families and farmers.

GLOBAL CLIMATE COALITION

CLIMATE AGREEMENT CALLED 'ECONOMIC DISARMAMENT'

U.S. Labor, Agriculture and Business Organizations Pledge
Fight to Block Approval of Kyoto Pact

11 December 1998

KYOTO – The global climate agreement approved by U.S. negotiators today will send 2 million Americans to the unemployment line in the first 10 years, drive up energy costs and consumer prices, and drain at least \$150 billion a year from the U.S. economy, according to business, labor union and agriculture leaders who vowed to fight vigorously to block its ratification by the U.S. Senate.

“This agreement represents unilateral economic disarmament. It is a terrible deal and the President should not sign it. If he does, we will campaign hard and we will defeat it,” said William F. O’Keefe, chairman of the Global Climate Coalition, the principal business and industry group dealing with the politically charged global warming issue.

“For the first time in history, the United States would allow a foreign body dominated by developing countries to restrict and control the rate of future economic growth in the United States. UN bureaucrats would decide where business will invest, where jobs will be developed That is an error of staggering dimensions,” O’Keefe said.

“If this were truly an environmental agreement, the countries that in the next 20 years will be emitting the majority of greenhouse gas emissions would have to be on board,” O’Keefe explained. “They aren’t and it is easy to see why. Our folly will bestow long lasting economic advantages on our major international competitors at the expense of American business, workers, farmers, and consumers.”

The 13 million members of unions all across America have reason to fear for their economic futures and that of their children, according to Eugene Trisko, counsel to the United Mine Workers of America.

“The proposed Kyoto agreement fails to meet two of the three tests President Clinton established for U.S. participation,” Trisko explained, referring to the lack meaningful participation by developing countries and Joint Implementation of greenhouse gas emissions management.

“This is a bad deal for American workers and consumers, and a complete cave-in to China, India, and other rapidly growing economies which remain exempt from any greenhouse gas commitments. The President should walk away from this deal,” Trisko said.

Dennis Stolte, representing the American Farm Bureau Federation, said major U.S. farm, agriculture and business groups are united in opposition to the agreement. "The Administration is giving away the farm and selling out the American family farmer," he said. "Our future is being handed over to our international competitors. We have no choice but to wage war against it."

Last minute give-aways by the Administration go back on President Clinton's earlier promise that developing countries had to agree to meaningful participation. The U.S. negotiators have snubbed Senate calls for developing country commitments.

"This agreement has far worse implications than the framework proposed by President Clinton in October, which was supposed to represent the U.S. bottom line. Not only did the United States not 'walk away from a bad deal,' it knowingly made a bad deal worse," O'Keefe explained.

"The Kyoto agreement will force U.S. energy consumption to be reduced by at about 30 per cent in little more than one decade. There is no practical way to achieve that objective without damaging the economic record that is the envy of nations around the world," O'Keefe added.

"The message we're sending to the American public is that any politician who supports such an agreement is voting for self-imposed term limits," O'Keefe emphasized. "The one thing we agree with the President on is that this is only the beginning."

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INSURANCE INDUSTRY INITIATIVE, IN ASSOCIATION WITH UNEP

INSURERS CALL FOR CUTS IN GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

Kyoto, 5 December 1997

Insurance executives speaking on behalf of more than 70 insurers from around the world will address climate change negotiators here in Kyoto, Japan, by urging for an agreement on measures that will prevent a business-as-usual scenario. With annual revenues of over \$US 2 trillion, the concerns of the insurance industry will be hard to ignore.

The executives will present a position paper to the Third Conference of Parties to the United Nations Convention on Climate Change highlighting the industry's worry about humankind's contribution to global warming and climate change.

The paper will note that, while the effect of climate change on the frequency or severity of extreme weather events remains unknown, it is clear that even small changes in regional storm patterns or in the hydrological cycle could lead to increased property damage.

The insurers will also point out that climate change has potentially large implications for investment activities. As governments, investors, and consumers anticipate and try to adapt to a new climate regime, some products and services will become less attractive, while others become more so.

"In discussions on limiting emissions, the most prominent industry voices are often those that highlight the possible negative impacts of emissions-reduction policies on the economy and on employment," said Ms. Elizabeth Dowdeswell, Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). "The insurance industry is telling us about the other side of the coin – about the economic costs of not reducing emissions. Insurers know from experience how expensive it can be when people fail to protect themselves adequately from risks. We must listen to them," she said.

The insurance industry position paper highlights the importance of the precautionary principle. The insurers are urging governments to promote scientific research that will establish what threshold level of atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases should be considered dangerous. They also support the use of market-based instruments and the transfer of cleaner technology to manage climatic risk.

The companies involved are members of the UNEP Insurance Initiative on Sustainable Development and the Environment. The Initiative was launched when insurers signed a Statement of Environment Commitment by the Insu-

rance Industry in 1995. The Statement commits its signatories to incorporate environmental considerations into their operations and to adopt best practices.

The insurance industry has suffered from a series of “billion dollar” storms since 1987. This has led to a strong increase in claims, reduced availability of insurance coverage and higher premiums. Property insurance is particularly affected.

The implications of climate change for financial services other than property insurance are less clear. Changes in human health may affect the life insurance and pension industries. Banking may be vulnerable to repercussions from property damage, particularly if the insurance industry reduces its involvement in vulnerable areas. The economies of certain regions, such as coastal areas and small islands, may be affected.

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INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT – UITP

USE PUBLIC TRANSPORT TO COMBAT GLOBAL WARMING SAYS INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Brussels, 5 December 1997

“Society must reduce its dependence on car use and encourage the use of public transport as a key tool to combat global warming” – that’s the message from the International Association of Public Transport (UITP) to the UN Conference on Climate Change in Kyoto, Japan this week.

UITP believes that moves to reduce CO₂ emissions through fuel efficiency will be outweighed by the worldwide growth in car traffic. The additional damage from road building, traffic accidents and congestion cannot be dealt with through fuel efficiency alone.

“Transport currently contributes about 20 per cent of global CO₂ emissions through the use of fossil fuels, and it is the fastest growing cause mainly due to the increased use of private cars.” said Pierre Laconte, General Secretary of UITP, representing Jean-Paul Bailly, President of UITP.

In addition, there are emissions through the manufacture of vehicles, construction of roads and the processing of fuel. Through there has been considerable effort to develop alternative low emission fuels, they cannot provide sustainable solutions without the reduction worldwide in the total number of cars.

“The developed world must set an example to developing countries before they too become dependent on the car.”

UITP calls for governments to develop integrated transport policies which:

- Support and promote public transport initiatives and other sustainable forms of transport.
- Improve urban planning and land use to reduce the need for car travel.
- Encourage walking and cycling.
- Reduce the growth in private motor journeys.

These measures will have further advantages, including:

- A better and safer environment in our towns, cities and countryside.
- Reduced accidents and deaths on the roads.
- Lower spending on road construction and maintenance. Reduced congestion.
- Improved health for citizens, particularly the elderly and children.
- Improved economic and business efficiency by creating a sustainable infrastructure.

UITP represents 1,800 members worldwide including major public transport operators, authorities and suppliers in 60 countries. The Association studies urban and regional public transport questions and brings together examples of best practice throughout the world.

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INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE – ICC

THE BUSINESS RECIPE FOR COMBATING CLIMATE CHANGE

Kyoto, 4 December 1997

World business leaders attending the international climate change conference urged governments to accept that the voluntary actions by industry are the most effective way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

At a separate symposium on business initiatives for mitigating climate change, a group of ten national and international business associations spelled out what governments should do to maximise industry's contributions.

In a statement distributed to government delegations, the business leaders said that the right government framework would include market mechanisms and avoid excessive regulation. Industry would thus be able to use its technological, managerial and entrepreneurial expertise to the full.

The business conference was convened by the Japan Federation of Economic Organizations, Keidanren; the International Chamber of Commerce, ICC, and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development, WBCSD.

Other industry bodies endorsing the statement were: the Business and Industry Advisory Committee to the OECD, BIAC; the Business Council of Australia; the Centre of Business and the Environment; the International Federation of Industrial Energy Consumers, IFIEC; the International Federation of Consulting Engineers, FIDIC; the Union of Industrial and Employers Confederation of Europe, UNICE; and the World Coal Institute.

Opening the session, Shoichiro Toyoda, Chairman of Keidanren, said: "Industry, with its knowhow, talent and financing power has a vital role in the common endeavour of solving global warming."

As the business leaders met, government negotiators at the other end of town continued negotiations on setting a legally binding numerical target for cutting greenhouse gas emissions after the year 2000.

The business and industry appeal came at the end of a symposium at which company executives provided evidence that business on every continent is already making significant progress in curbing emissions.

They listed a whole range of business contributions including a commitment by Kansai of Japan to reduce CO₂ emission by 6 per cent in five years despite an increase of 13 per cent in electricity generation during the same period. TEPCO of Japan has already reduced emissions to 86 grams per kilo watt hour, 70 per cent of the average level in Europe and the United States, the conference was told.

The Aluminium industry in the United States intends to eliminate 40 per cent of CO₂ emissions, equivalent to over five million tons by the year 2000. Johnson and Johnson are committed to an energy reduction of 25 per cent over the same period, despite increased product output.

Björn Stigson, President of the WBCSD, said: "Many of these voluntary business initiatives have been good for the corporate bottom line as well as for the global atmosphere."

Other speakers demonstrated how their companies had managed to cut costs by economizing in energy, recycling waste, overhauling production methods and instilling strict environmental principles on the shop floor.

Klaus Kohlhase of UNICE said business wanted the Third Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change to succeed. "We need a political framework within which we can invest. Business is part of the solution because it is a major promoter of technology development which will make the reduction of emissions possible."

Winding up the conference on behalf of ICC Reijiro Hattori, Chairman of Seiko Corporation said industry would be a major actor in finding solutions to the global warming problem. They would involve substantial financial investment, a reexamination of production processes for goods and services and intensified research.

"This will not be an easy task, we will all be confronted by difficult decisions of risk management for decades to come," Mr Hattori said. "Such a complex effort will require thousands of small measures in the functioning of business of society, having an impact on the daily life of every individual."

A constant theme running through the conference was the importance of an agreement in Kyoto that provided long-term certainty about the legal framework for the operations of industrial companies. Experts pointed out that new plant and production methods were always more energy efficient than the ones they displaced. Investment in updating plants requires a stable legal background. In order to innovate, business needs to know where it stands.

Joint implementation as a solution for technology transfer was welcomed by speakers at the business conference. It allows developed countries to offset their own emissions of greenhouse gasses by investing in lower-cost emission-reduction in other countries. Both countries then share the credits for the result.

Business speakers pointed out that joint implementation would be valuable because countries with advanced technology were finding that further reductions in greenhouse gas emissions achieve less at greater costs – the

law of diminishing returns. Such an arrangement would enable companies in industrialized countries to effect emissions reductions in developing countries, where factories and installations are outdated and waste energy.

Michael Kohn, a European authority on energy issues, who is Honorary Chairman of the ICC Energy Commission, described some of the drawbacks of government direct regulation in achieving environmental objectives, including lack of flexibility and escalating costs. "In many countries, environmental regulations became so technically detailed, strict and bureaucratic that they began to be counter-productive."

In contrast, voluntary agreements were increasingly widespread and experience show how effective they could be in meeting government objectives. They also enabled industry to ensure that its views were taken into account. "Voluntary approaches are market-friendly and a viable and attractive policy to address climate change."

Dr. Kohn added a warning that failure by industry to carry out its voluntary initiatives might prompt governments to resort to other instruments, among them regulation and taxes. Mr. Hattori agreed: "Voluntary initiatives have to produce concrete results if they are to be deemed by governments and the public alike to be viable alternatives," the Seiko Chairman said.

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INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE – ICC

Kyoto, 11 December 1997

Governments have made a start in responding to climate change. As they build on the goals set at Kyoto, they must bear in mind the consequences of their decisions for economic growth, investment and jobs. It is a question of finding the right balance. If governments fail in this, they will find that economic decline is the enemy of the environment.

What happens next will decide whether Kyoto is an empty promise or an initial step in addressing the long-term challenges of climate change. It would be counter-productive to strangle business enterprise by imposing rigid regulations in the mistaken belief that this would be the best way to get results.

Having established a framework for action, governments must leave business free to introduce the process, product and technological changes that will make reality out of the targets and timetables. Business is central to the solution. Tried and tested new technologies are already producing spectacular energy savings in manufacturing, transport, domestic and commercial heating, agriculture and other industries. More technologies are coming on-stream and performance is improving all the time.

Business must be given support to develop environmentally friendly and energy efficient technologies. The best hope for involving developing countries in measures to mitigate climate change is to make investment and technologies available to them. Developing countries' ability to replace outdated industrial infrastructures will be crucial to achieving meaningful global results.

Predictability of government process is another business requirement. Investment cycles in many areas, like the provision of new power generation plants, are over several decades. Car fleets are not replaced overnight, but over ten years or more. New technology is almost invariably more energy efficient than the technology it replaces. Government measures to implement the Kyoto agreement must take account of such realities. Improved energy performance is not something that can be turned on like a light switch.

Much of the developing world is entering a phase of rapid economic expansion, in particular India and China. Since developing countries' energy demand – and reliance on fossil fuels – will outstrip that of the developed countries in the next century, it is essential that these nations be involved in measures to limit growth in greenhouse gas emissions as quickly as possible.

To make the disciplines of today's agreement less burdensome to national economies, the promises of emissions trading and joint implementation must be developed in the fourth Conference of the Parties. Competition on open markets will stimulate industrial activities that are part of the solution to climate change. There will be new job-creating business opportunities in such areas as waste management and energy efficiency.

ICC AND WBCSD

FROM HOT BATHS TO JET FUEL, INDUSTRY IS SAVING ENERGY

Kyoto, 5 December 1997 – Business already has an impressive track record in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. A report by the International Chamber of Commerce, ICC and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development, WBCSD, provides chapter and verse.

The report, “Business and Climate Change”, was released at the global climate conference here as governments sought to negotiate a binding agreement to reduce carbon dioxide and other emissions held responsible for global warming.

A foreword said the efforts of member companies of the two organizations “have often been good both for the corporate bottom line and the global atmosphere.” The 34 case studies in the report deal with energy efficiency – generating more electricity with less waste, reducing demand for energy, finding new uses for waste heat and switching to less carbon intensive fuels.

The studies also show how business has developed new products and production processes that use less raw material and energy. A key message is that voluntary initiatives and negotiated agreements between governments and various business sectors are the most effective means of promoting energy efficiency and reducing emissions.

Among its case studies, the report includes these items:

- Tokyo Electric Power Company is re-using waste heat from incinerator plants, sewerage plants and sub-stations.
- Texaco Global Gas and Power outlines an integrated gasification combined cycle project that provides a commercially attractive way to generate electricity from coal with very low emission levels of nitrogen oxides and sulphur oxides.
- IVO Power Engineering Ltd. of Finland demonstrates the advantages of combined heat and power for smaller and energy efficient units located directly at industrial facilities.
- ABB sets out the advantages of high voltage direct current (HVDC) systems to reduce losses from long distance electricity transmission in India.
- By relying more on nuclear power, Kansai Electric Power Company developed an action plan that reduced CO₂ emissions by 6 per cent over five years despite a 13 per cent increase in electricity generation.

- Forte plc describes how a hotel can generate its own electricity on-site and use the waste heat for hot water and space heating.
- Mitsubishi Motors Corporation announces that gas direct injection (GDI), the gasoline engine of the future, is available now.
- Opel has built a concept car, the Corsa Eco 3, which travels the standard 100 km using fewer than 3.5 litres of fuel – that means 62 miles using less than a gallon.
- Volkswagen reports on new TDI diesel engines that cut fuel consumption and generate significantly smaller amounts of greenhouse gases.
- DHL describes how driver training and attention to organization detail paid off in reducing vehicle journeys to combine improved productivity with energy savings.
- Over 20 years up to 1994, British Airways managed to reduce fuel consumption by 57 per cent per passenger mile flown. Lufthansa has cut its fuel per passenger by 50 per cent since 1970 and expects to halve it again in the next 10 to 15 years.

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INTERNATIONAL COGENERATION ALLIANCE

COGEN EUROPE WELCOMES KYOTO AGREEMENT – BUT URGES EU TO MAKE ITS 15 PER CENT REDUCTION POSITION UNILATERAL TO PUT EUROPEAN BUSINESS AHEAD OF THE WORLD

11 December 1997

COGEN Europe strongly welcomes the new international agreement at Kyoto to cut greenhouse gas emissions. It anticipates that implementation of the target will secure major growth in the European and international cogeneration markets.

However, COGEN Europe urges EU Environment Ministers to unilaterally implement the 15 per cent greenhouse gas reduction by 2010 to allow Europe to gain significant economic and competitive advantage over the rest of the industrialized world.

Europe already leads the world in cogeneration and other clean energy and transport technologies. By adopting, and achieving, a unilateral commitment, COGEN Europe believes that European economies and businesses will lead the world into a more efficient industrial age – and so get ahead of international competition. This is why:

- By improving energy efficiency in production, supply and use – and so increasing industrial competitiveness and cutting energy bills.
- By accelerating the development and application of high efficiency cogeneration and other clean energy and transport systems. A head start for Europe will open worldwide markets for these technologies as the rest of the world finally gets round to making its own substantial climate commitments – which it inevitably must.
- By bringing forward the removal of distorting subsidies to polluting energy industries and, hand-in-hand with this, accelerating tax reform – switching taxation from good things, jobs, to bad things, pollution – while maintaining tax revenue neutrality.
- By reinforcing the trend to energy market liberalization which can both cut carbon emissions and make energy prices more competitive;
- By cutting the significant economic costs associated with traffic congestion and the lack of integrated transport policies.

COGEN Europe urges EU Ministers to have the courage, vision and economic good sense to set ambitious objectives – and introduce the market instruments (such as strictly applied and monitored negotiated agreements,

an emissions trading regime, revenue neutral energy taxes) which can achieve them.

COGEN Europe Director, Michael Brown, said following the Kyoto agreement: "We share the views of research groups, the WorldWatch Institute, economists and others who all say that there are policies and technologies which can dramatically reduce carbon emissions while strengthening the global economy and creating millions of jobs. This is the prize within Europe's reach."

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ENVIRONMENTAL GROUPS

BIRDLIFE INTERNATIONAL

CLIMATE CHANGE AND WILDLIFE

3 December 1997

Wildlife worldwide is being affected by climate change and without immediate action the impacts will increase, claim BirdLife International and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds.

The world's leading wildlife conservation groups, BirdLife International and the World Wide Fund For Nature, are launching today Wednesday, 3 December, at the Kyoto Climate Change Conference, a report based on the findings of international experts who met in Colorado to discuss the impacts of climate change on wildlife.

"Climate Change and Wildlife" assembles and evaluates the increasing amount of scientific evidence for what is actually happening to wildlife as a result of a warmer world. It details both observed and predicted changes, focusing in particular on: the timing of life cycles; the distribution and population of species; migration strategies; important wildlife sites. At the launch a panel of experts, chaired by former UK environment minister John Gummer, will discuss the report's findings.

Evidence from the UK includes signs that many bird species are breeding earlier, including redshank, wren, chaffinch and chiffchaff. Frogs, toads and newts are also arriving at ponds earlier to spawn.

Effects seen elsewhere are likely to occur in the UK. Changes to sea temperatures will affect food supplies for seabirds like Arctic terns and puffins – these affects are already being noticed in the Pacific Ocean. Northern species which depend on specialized upland habitat like dotterel and snow buntings could decline or even disappear as breeding species – Alpine flora has already changed in distribution as temperatures have been increasing.

Migrating birds often rely upon traditional stopping off places at which they feed and replenish their energy supplies. In the UK millions of migrant waders and wildfowl rely on estuaries to provide food on their way south to Africa. Sea level rise as a result of global warming could lead to many vital coastal areas disappearing resulting in a change to migration routes with fewer birds surviving the long journeys.

Among many recommendations, the report emphasizes the need for:

- increased coordination between scientific disciplines, e.g. climatology and ecology;
- a greater understanding of the mechanisms by which climate change affects flora and fauna;
- long-term monitoring of flora and fauna, continuing into the future;
- a focus on changes in the timing of life cycles of interacting species, e.g. predators and their prey;
- collecting the evidence of the impact of climate more widely, especially in the tropics;
- to fully consider competing hypotheses that may explain any observed changes.

Barnaby Briggs, BirdLife International/RSPB climate change officer, said: "For the first time the very real and mounting evidence of climate change affecting wildlife has been collated, showing that problems already exist for many species. The emerging picture of effects on wildlife makes the need for a positive outcome from the Climate Change Conference in Kyoto even more urgent."

Barnaby Briggs
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Additional Notes

1. "Climate change and wildlife: a summary of an international workshop" is published by Birdlife International and WWF-UK and is available from RSPB, The Lodge, Shandy, Bedfordshire SG19 2DL price £3.00 including postage and packaging.
2. Evidence of change includes:
 - Over 25 years, between 1971 and 1995, the laying dates for 20 different UK bird species were observed to occur an average of 9 days earlier over the period. The species included waterbirds, such as redshank, resident insect eaters, such as dipper and wren, migrant insect eaters, such as redstart and chiffchaff, and seed eaters such as chaffinch and greenfinch.

- A study of UK frogs, toads and newts over 17 years showed that the time when the species arrived at ponds and spawned was earlier by 9–10 days for each 1 °C increase in temperature. The increase in temperature led to the reproduction cycles beginning earlier.
- Over 30 years, the distribution of the Edith's checkerspot butterfly in Canada, western USA and Mexico has changed. It has become extinct in some areas, most frequently in the south of the range and at low elevations. Climate change is the most likely cause for the observed changes and extinctions.
- Changes to alpine flora over 70 to 90 years show that even moderate warming causes plant communities to migrate. As the temperature has increased, alpine flora has migrated "up the hill" to higher elevations where it is relatively cooler. However, migration is occurring at a much slower rate than changes in temperature. New areas are being colonized more slowly than the rate at which the original areas are becoming unsuitable, because they are too warm. The area of suitable habitat is therefore diminishing.
- Up to 5 million non-breeding sooty shearwaters, the majority of the world population, used to spend the winter off the west coast of the USA. Between 1987 and 1994, the number of shearwaters declined by 90 per cent. This observed decline is attributed to changes in ocean surface temperature and changes in the ocean currents (reduced upwelling) as a result of climate change.
- Over the last two decades, breeding birds, toads, frogs and lizards in Costa Rica cloud forests have moved higher in response to the climate becoming drier with changes in rainfall and temperature.
- A 1°C increase in temperature may significantly alter the species composition in about half of the statutory protected areas in the UK. For example, montane habitats that support ptarmigan, snow bunting and dotterel have a very specific, and very cold climate. This climate will not, according to one model, be found in the UK by the end of the next century.
- A 20–20 cm increase in sea level which is predicted to occur as a result of climate change will adversely affect mudflats and some salt marshes, including UK nature reserves that are important for birds, such as migrating waterfowl.

CANADIAN CLIMATE ACTION NETWORK

Kyoto, 9 December 1997

Scientist and broadcaster Dr. David Suzuki today compared the climate negotiations at Kyoto with what he saw at Rio five years ago, and says that so far it looks like more of the same. He says Canadian negotiators have similar rhetoric, but are still ignoring their real task.

“What they seem to be forgetting is that their purpose is to create a treaty which will protect the climate. Instead, they are acting as if nature can be shoehorned into their economic and political priorities.” says Dr. Suzuki.

Dr. Suzuki pointed out that Canadians are among the very highest producers of greenhouse gases in the world, and have a responsibility to be leaders if the climate talks are to be successful.

“Because we use fossil fuel so wastefully, the average Canadian sends 96 pounds of carbon dioxide emissions into the atmosphere every day. This is four times the planetary average, an outrageous level that is far beyond what nature can absorb. Japanese people are nearly twice as efficient, emitting 55 pounds daily. At the other end of the spectrum people in India produce only five pounds daily, and those in many African countries a pound or less,” says Suzuki.

“In the Pacific Northwest of Canada and the US, cars are now reproducers faster than humans, while in countries like India and China, people are still getting their first fridge. How do Canadian and US negotiators have the gall to insist that developing countries should make commitments to cut their emissions before we will act?” Suzuki added.

Greenpeace Canada campaigner Steven Guilbeault says surveys show most Canadians want the Canadian government to take a leadership role at the negotiations. He offered suggestions for Canadian negotiators that would make their contribution to the talks meaningful.

First, Guilbeault says, Canada needs to match the European Union position of 15 per cent cuts by 2010, and he insists that an interim target for 2005 must be part of the deal.

Guilbeault says, “One of the problems with our response to the Rio agreement was that with an eight-year target, we waited too long before we recognized that our approach was completely inadequate. Now we are proposing a 12-year target. Have we learned nothing? Canada’s weak position is a clear example of the federal government caving in to excessive pressure from companies like Imperial Oil.”

Louise Comeau of the Sierra Club says the current Canadian negotiating position is filled with holes that will lead to emissions increases, rather than cuts.

“Canada says the treaty must include gaining credit for storing carbon in forests, yet scientists from the IPCC say there is not yet an accurate way that this can be measured. We need real emission reductions, not complicated excuses for deferring action, and leaving the problem for the next generation to solve,” Comeau says.

Comeau, Guilbeault and Suzuki all congratulated the Province of Quebec, which has announced its target of stabilization of emissions by 2005, with cuts of 12 per cent by the year 2015. They say Canada should at a minimum adopt the Quebec position.

Dr. Suzuki says, “Minister Stewart was right when she said our children will judge us by our courage. Over the next two days I urge her, and her colleague Minister Goodale, to think deeply about what those words really mean as they negotiate our path into the 21st century.”

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CLIMATE ACTION NETWORK

EU ENERGY COUNCIL: MINISTERS MUST SEND A CLEAR SIGNAL TO KYOTO

Brussels, 8 December 1997

Today's Energy Council must send a clear signal to the negotiators at the climate summit in Kyoto that the EU is able and willing to implement strong policies to combat climate change. Recently, the European Commission has presented proposals for a number of actions which could pave the way to a more sustainable European energy policy.

"The EU position in Kyoto would gain credibility through the adoption of the actions and programmes proposed by the Commission," says Delia Villagrasa, director of Climate Network Europe (CNE), which is the umbrella organization of 75 environmental organizations all over Europe fighting climate change. The agenda of today's Energy Council in Luxembourg reflects the important relationship between the energy sector and climate change.

Among others, Energy Ministers need to decide about ALTENER II, the Commission proposal for continuation of the only EU Programme devoted exclusively to renewable energies. "The 30 million ECU proposed by the Commission for the first two years of the programme is not as much as CNE would like to see to accelerate the market penetration of renewables in Europe. However, it would be an important instrument to support climate protection activities. If the Council waters down even this low budget, this could be extremely harmful for Kyoto," Delia Villagrasa notes.

Full support for ALTENER II is even more important after the Commission had presented its White Paper for Renewable Energies. CNE fully supports the Commission's goal of doubling the share of renewables to 12 per cent of total energy consumption by 2010 which is equal to 400 million tons of avoided CO₂ emissions. This would strongly contribute to the EU-target of reducing major greenhouse gas emissions by 15 per cent until 2010.

The Commission's Green Paper on Combined Heat and Power (CHP) is another important document on the Council table. Energy ministers need to give full support to the goal of doubling the share of CHP by 2010, from 9-18 per cent. Even though this target could be more ambitious – according to Cogen Europe, a share of 30 per cent could be realized by 2010 – it is a very important step in the right direction. However, the proposed Directive for an Internal Market for Natural Gas poses – as it stands – a big threat for CHP since it allows Member States to exclude cogeneration with a consumption threshold.

CNE stresses the importance of a strong protocol to be signed in Kyoto. The following elements are a must: Legally binding obligations for significant and early overall reductions of CO₂ and all other major greenhouse gas emissions for Annex 1 Parties (OECD countries), no later than by 2005 CNE supports the AOSIS (Alliance of Small Island States) position which calls for a 20 per cent emissions reduction for Annex I countries by 2005 (based on 1990 levels). As important as a strong legally binding target is a verifiable monitoring and compliance mechanism.

CLIMATE ACTION NETWORK

KYOTO PROTOCOL LOOKS LIKE A SWISS CHEESE – EU MUST TAKE THE LEAD

Kyoto, 11 December 1997

Climate Network Europe (CNE) regards the protocol agreed at the Kyoto Climate Summit as not sufficient at all to stop global warming. UN-Scientists say that much deeper cuts in emissions of greenhouse gases (GHG) are needed to avoid the disastrous consequences of global warming, such as floods, droughts, rising sea-levels, the spread of infectious diseases, all of this causing economic decline of whole countries and even continents.

Legally binding emission reductions – agreed upon in Kyoto for industrialized countries – could easily turn into an increase because of the many loopholes involved. These remained unresolved until the next Conference of the Parties (COP 4), taking place in November 1998 in Buenos Aires. Some developed countries – Australia, Island and Norway – are even allowed to increase their GHGs. This is totally unacceptable, such as the fact that Russia and the Ukraine – who have seen already a 30 per cent fall of emissions between 1990 and 1995 – would be allowed to heat up the atmosphere again with what they have already saved. The consequences would be hot air and super hot air trading, unless this blackhole is closed rapidly.

The Kyoto deal translates into an average emission reduction of 5.2 per cent (on paper!) for all industrialized countries, to be achieved during the next 15 years, based on 1990 levels.

“This is too late, too low and filled with too many loopholes to avoid any real reductions by the major polluting countries”, says Delia Villagrasa, director of CNE.

In reality, industrialized countries have seen already a decline of emissions by 4.6 per cent between 1990 and today. This means, that they have committed themselves to reduce emissions only by another meagre 0.6 per cent within the next 15 years. The real danger of trading (hot air, super hot air, tropical air) and sinks – issues which were postponed to COP 4 next November – makes possible even an increase of GHG-emissions in the industrialized world.

In addition, the protocol does not contain any strong mechanism for the review of commitments. Even more importantly, no compliance mechanism is foreseen. “Who would enforce and sanction countries that do not fulfil their commitments?” Delia Villagrasa asks.

Numerous opinion polls in the US, Japan, Australia and Europe have shown that the public is ready and willing to cut emissions at home. The people are only waiting on their governments to take the lead. Therefore, CNE urges the EU Environment Council, meeting next Tuesday, 16 December, to stay firm to its initial negotiation position of a 15 per cent cut of major GHGs by 2010, and an early reduction of at least 7.5 per cent by 2005.

The European Union could send the world a signal what can be achieved without any economic losses by fulfilling its own premises made prior to Kyoto. The Communication on Climate Change – presented by the Commission in October – showed that compliance costs involved are negligible or even negative. This would send a clear signal to the world – especially to the US-government and industry – which were the major stumble blocks in Kyoto.

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ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE FUND – EDF

Kyoto, 11 December 1997

ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE FUND PRAISES FINAL KYOTO CLIMATE AGREEMENT

The Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) today praised the final agreement that emerged from the Kyoto Climate Conference in Japan as a critical first step toward stabilizing the Earth's climate.

"The Kyoto Protocol represents a watershed moment in the history of environmental protection and international diplomacy, but there's still much more work to be done to assure that the Protocol's targets are met," said Fred Krupp, EDF Executive Director. "The Protocol has the potential to redirect the Earth from the path of an overheating climate and to a safer world."

"In the end, the negotiators set aside many of their differences for the sake of the planet," said EDF chief scientist and atmospheric physicist Michael Oppenheimer. "The agreement represents a challenge to governments to turn the Protocol's good intentions into a political reality. The Protocol is a good start on protecting the Earth, but it must be looked at as part of a longer process. Efforts to strengthen the Protocol, including increasing participation by developing countries, will be needed from the international community in the years to come."

"The Protocol affirms the importance of emissions trading in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. However, details on the critical elements necessary for this Protocol to function, such as compliance and the rules for trading are yet to be determined. The Protocol's promise will only translate into real environmental gains for the planet if the commitments made in Kyoto are fully implemented, and early reductions of greenhouse gases are achieved," said Dan Dudek, EDF senior economist.

"Vice President Gore should be commended for coming to Japan and opening the doors to an agreement," said Krupp.

The Environmental Defence Fund, a leading, national, NY-based non-profit organization, represents 300,000 members. EDF links science, economics and law to create innovative, economically viable solutions to today's environmental problems.

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**KYOTO PROTOCOL:
HISTORIC DECISION BUT DISAPPOINTING
REDUCTION TARGETS**

Brussels, 11 December 1997 – Directly from Kyoto, EEB Secretary General John Hontelez reports on the outcome of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. We appreciate the role of the EU Environmental Ministers have played in Kyoto. The EU formed the most progressive block among the industrialized countries in these negotiations, and therewith pushed the US and Japan in particular towards positions they had no intention to take when they arrived at the conference.

The EEB realizes that the Kyoto Protocol is an historical decision. For the first time industrialized countries have made a legally binding commitment to reduce or limit greenhouse gases. We are looking forward to measures in the areas of transport, energy production, housing, etc. Many of these measures will have a double or triple dividend, reducing other forms of pollution and creating employment at the same time.

The Kyoto Protocol however is not an answer to the needs expressed by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change concerning scope and urgency of greenhouse gas reductions. The Protocol aims for 5.2 per cent reduction from 1990 levels in the industrialized world in the period 2008–2012, whereas a 20 per cent for 2005 would have been an appropriate target, as a contribution to eventually a 50 per cent reduction globally. In fact, the total emissions of greenhouse gases will grow in the coming years, taking into account that developing countries have [rightfully] no obligation yet to stabilize or reduce emissions, and considering that at this moment the industrialized world is at 4.6 per cent below the 1990 level., due to the reductions in Central and Eastern Europe and the N.I.S.

Moreover, the existing and potential loopholes provided for in the Protocol substantially reduce the need for decisive and radical action in the coming year. Ukraine and Russia will be providing the US and Japan, and maybe others, with so-called emission reduction units so that these western countries simply can buy their way out rather than transform their societies in a sustainable direction.

The Protocol obliges the Member States of the EU to an 8 per cent average reduction for the years 2008–2012. The EEB calls upon the EU to stick with its objective to reduce 15 per cent by the year 2015, include in this objective the other greenhouse gases not included so far in its strategy, and to achieve these reductions entirely within the EU territory, by energy policy measu-

res, and stay away from policies including sinks, joint implementation with non-EU countries, buying emission reduction units from other countries etc.

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FORUM UMWELT & ENTWICKLUNG

KIOTO-KLIMAGIPFEL DROHT AN US-BLOCKADE ZU SCHEITERN

5. Dezember 1997

Zum Ende der ersten Verhandlungsrunde warnt das Forum Umwelt & Entwicklung der deutschen NRO vor einer Blockade der Verhandlungen für ein Klimaschutzprotokoll durch die USA. Jürgen Maier, Leiter der Projekstelle Umwelt & Entwicklung: „Die Vertreter von 85 Prozent der Weltbevölkerung treten hier für deutliche CO₂-Reduktionen ein. Nur Amerika und seine Alliierten Australien und Kanada blockieren weiter.“

Die USA wollen im Protokoll eine Sonderklausel verankern, daß dieses erst dann in Kraft tritt, wenn auch sie als größter Emittent ratifiziert haben. Es ist ein unglaublicher Skandal, den internationalen Klimaschutz von der Willkür des US-Senats abhängig zu machen.

Bisher ist es den Verhandlungsdelegationen nicht gelungen, das Protokoll gegen mögliche Schlupflöcher wasserdicht zu machen. Im Gegenteil: Die Gefahr wächst, daß über die Anrechnung von Aufforstungsprogrammen (sogenannten „Senken“) CO₂-Reduktionen in Industrieländern sogar nach zunehmen können. Die Anrechnungsmethoden hierfür sind jedoch vollkommen willkürlich und unklar.

Dr. Manfred Treber, Koordinator der AG Klima des Forums Umwelt & Entwicklung: „Kein Wissenschaftler kann heute seriös angeben, wie die Kohlenstoffaufnahme in solchen ‚Senken‘ berechnet werden soll. Beispielsweise wird der Einfluß der Böden oft einfach vernachlässigt.“

Die Umweltverbände fordern auf dem Kioto-Klimagipfel eine 20%ige Reduktion der CO₂-Emissionen bis 2005 gegenüber 1990 ohne Schlupflöcher und Ausnahmetatbestände, Sascha Müller-Kraenner vom Deutschen Naturschutzring verlangt deshalb: „Wenn mit den USA der Einstieg in den CO₂-Ausstieg nicht zu machen ist, muß die Konferenz auch ohne die Amerikaner ein Protokoll beschließen.“

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FORUM UMWELT & ENTWICKLUNG

LIEBER EIN PROTOKOLL OHNE USA ALS EIN PROTOKOLL OHNE INHALT

8. Dezember 1997

Stellungnahme zu den Reden von Gore und Merkel

Die mit Spannung erwartete Rede von US-Vizepräsident Gore war eine große Enttäuschung. Nur um bekanntzugeben daß er die US-Verhandlungsdelegation in Absprache mit Präsident Clinton zu „größerer Flexibilität“ instruieren werde, hätte er genausogut ein Fax schicken können. Es reicht nicht aus, wortreich die Folgen des Klimawandels zu beschwören und denjenigen eine Absage zu erteilen, die den Treibhauseffekt leugnen. Man muß daraus auch Konsequenzen ziehen und handeln. „Die Klimakonferenz darf sich nicht zur Geißel des Energieverschwenders Nr. 1, der USA machen“ so Sascha Müller-Kraenner von Deutschen Naturschutzring.

Auch Bundesumweltministerin Merkel hat in ihrer Rede die amerikanische Position als unzureichend zuruckgewiesen. Bis jekt hat die EU der amerikanischen Blockade eine relativ konsequente Verhandlungsführung entgegengesetzt. Es besteht jedoch die Gefahr, daß ein Protokoll mit so großen Schlupflöchern verabschiedet wird, daß eine Reduktionszahl nicht mehr viel bedeutet. „Frau Merkel hätte diese Schlupflöcher viel klarer stopfen müssen“, so Jürgen Maier vom Forum Umwelt & Entwicklung deutscher NRO.

Dr. Manfred Treber von Germanwatch, Kocordinatar der AG Klima des Forums Umwelt & Entwicklung, kritisiert den wissenschaftlich nicht seriös haltbaren Einbezug von sogenannten „Senken“ (Aufforstung usw.) in die CO₂-Bilanz. „Wir wissen im Einzelfall nicht einmal, ob eine Aufforstung vielleicht nicht sogar die Klimabilanz verschlechtert“, so Treber.

Auch über den US-Vorschlag „handelbarer Emissionzertifikate“ kann das Protokoll, entwertet werden, Werden – aus ganz anderen Gründen als Klimaschutz – „vermiedene“ russische Emissionen mit US-Emissionszuwachsen verrechnet, können sehr leicht die globalen Emissionen sogar noch zunehmen, ohne das Protokoll zu verletzen.

Es steht zu befürchten, daß in Kioto ein Protokoll herauskommen wird, das für die Atmosphäre nichts bringt: wenn die „größere Flexibilität der USA“ so aussieht, daß man zwar eine Reduktionszahl zwischen 0 und 5 Prozent akzeptiert, aber dafür um so größere Schlupflöcher einbaut, kommt keine Reduzierung dabei heraus, auch wenn es optisch besser aussieht als offen zuzugeben, daß man nicht reduzieren will.

KIOTO: KLIMAPROTOKOLL MIT FUSSNOTEN

11. Dezember 1997

Das am 11. Dezember in Kioto verabschiedete Klimaschutzprotokoll ist nur ein kleiner Schritt hin zu einem wirksamen Klimaschutzabkommen. Die im Kioto-Protokoll verankerten Schlupflöcher und Ausnahmeregelungen, schieben den neuen Vertrag von vornherein ab. Wesentliche Entscheidungen wie beispielsweise die Anrechnung sogenannter CO₂-Senken und der Handel mit Emissionsrechten wurden vertagt.

Das in Kioto vereinbarte Reduktionsziel von -5,2 Prozent für die Industriestaaten liegt nur unwesentlich unter der seit 1990 bereits erreichten Reduktion von -4,6 Prozent. Die tatsächliche Bedeutung der in Kioto vereinbarten Reduktionszahlen kann jedoch noch gar nicht wirklich beurteilt werden. In dem Protokoll sind zahlreiche Schlupflöcher verankert, deren genaue Ausgestaltung auf die nächste Vertragsstaatenkonferenz vertagt wurde.

Obwohl wissenschaftlich nicht seriös berechenbar, wurden auf den starken Druck insbesondere der USA sogenannte „Senken“ aufgenommen, in denen CO₂ gebunden werden soll und die gegen tatsächliche Reduktionen verrechnet werden sollen. Der von den USA geradezu ultimativ verlangte Handel mit Emissionsrechten hat innerhalb weniger Stunden dazu geführt, dass aus dem Gesamt-Reduktionsziel von 6 Prozent (Art. 3) nur noch 5,2 Prozent wurden, weil Russland und die Ukraine auf den Handel mit Emissionsrechten spekulieren. Beide Länder lehnen für sich jede Reduktion ab, obwohl sie zur Zeit etwa 30 Prozent unter 1990 liegen. Sie werden ihre Emissionsrechte keinesfalls selbst brauchen, sondern wollen sie verkaufen. Genannt wird dieser Betrug „heisse Luft“ oder „Hot Air“.

Für reale Reduktionen haben sich in Kioto vor allem die Europäer eingesetzt. Vor allem die USA haben aber alles daran gesetzt, ein Protokoll zu bekommen, mit dem sie reale Reduktionen im eigenen Land durch Reduktionen ersetzen können, die nur auf dem Papier stehen. Für die nächste Vertragsstaatenkonferenz kommt es nun darauf an, die Schlupflöcher so weit wie möglich zu stopfen, wenn das Kioto-Reduktionsziel nicht in eine Lizenz zur Emissionserhöhung umgedreht werden soll.

Als wichtigen Beitrag dazu müssen die Europäer und Deutschland in jedem Fall ihre eigenen Reduktionsziele von -15 Prozent bzw. -25 Prozent umsetzen. Die EU sollte ihren Reduktionsvorschlag von -15 Prozent so schnell wie möglich zu einer Selbstverpflichtung machen.

**FRIENDS OF THE EARTH • LES AMIS DE LA TERRE
AMIGOS DE LA TIERRA**

**WORLD BANK TOLD: STOP FUELING GLOBAL FOSSIL FUEL
ADDICTION**

Kyoto, 8 December 1997

Delegates of industrialized countries are being challenged by citizens of the world to reconsider the role the World Bank plays in promoting fossil fuel dependency in the South. Mr. Oronto Douglas from Nigeria (Friends of the Earth Nigeria and Oilwatch Africa) will deliver an NGO Declaration to World Bank Vice-President Kock-Veser as he prepares to make his official presentation at the Climate Negotiation plenary.

“The World Bank has spent over 100 times more on fossil fuel development since Rio in 1992 than it has on climate-friendly energy projects,” stated Douglas. This Declaration presents the concerns of vulnerable communities in Southern nations who are suffering the consequences of World Bank fossil fuel development and power projects”.

The declaration has been signed by over 240 Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in 58 countries, the largest South-North coalition ever. It calls for:

- All public funds now spent by multilateral and bilateral overseas development, export credit and investment insurance agencies on subsidizing fossil fuel extraction and power projects to be used instead entirely for investments in clean, renewable, and decentralized forms of energy, with a particular focus on meeting the energy needs of the poorest 2 billion people.
- A moratorium on exploring for new fossil fuel sources in pristine and frontier areas.

Mr. Douglas will be available to answer questions about the pernicious influence on communities and the environment of oil and gas development in Africa. Mr. Jim Barnes, Friends of the Earth International, can explain the background of the Declaration and what groups around the world will be doing to promote it. Mr. Randy Helton, Friends of the Earth Japan, can explain their investigation of Japanese aid funding, the world’s biggest, which shows it has bankrolled 1.3 billion tons of carbon dioxide emissions since signing the Climate Change Convention.

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*FRIENDS OF THE EARTH • LES AMIS DE LA TERRE
AMIGOS DE LA TIERRA*

8 December 1997

Mr. James Wolfensohn

President

The World Bank Group

1818 H Street, NW

Washington, DC 20036

Dear Mr. Wolfensohn,

We are presenting you today a Declaration on Climate Change, Fossil Fuels and Public Funding, which has been signed by more than 250 organizations in 58 countries. It calls for the World Bank, as well as other Intentional Financial Institutions and bilateral aid agencies, to get out of the fossil fuel business, including extraction and power plants. It urges that your resources instead be used to provide clean, sustainable energy supplies to developing countries, and to fulfill your mission of helping the poorest of the poor. In particular, we hope you will focus the energy of the World Bank on how to bring energy services to the world's poorest 2 billion people.

This message was originated by people and countries in the South. In solidarity with them, organizations from all over the world have signed the Declaration.

Sincerely yours,

Oronto Douglas

Friends of the Earth Nigeria

FRIENDS OF THE EARTH

KYOTO DEAL WILL NOT SLOW GLOBAL WARMING, SAYS FRIENDS OF THE EARTH

Kyoto, 11 December 1997

Friends of the Earth International said this morning that the Kyoto Protocol agreed at the United Nations COP 3 meeting on climate change will not slow down global warming. After 11 days of negotiations, governments have come up with a compromise deal that could in the early part of the next century even lead to emission increases because of a series of loopholes that remain in the final text. These loopholes could include the provision for Russia to sell “phantom” emissions with more energy-intensive economies such as the United States.

The emission reductions agreed amount to an overall reduction of about 5.2 per cent for the developed countries at 1990 levels by 2008–2012. This is far below the 15 per cent reduction at 1990 levels by 2010 proposed by the European Union as a realistic and achievable target, and even that reduction is very low indeed compared to the action demanded by some other interpretations of global warming science. It is expected that the rising concentrations of greenhouse gases in the Earth’s atmosphere will contribute to further climate change leading to billions of dollars worth of property damage, loss of human life, sea level rise and extreme weather conditions that may damage tourism and agriculture. It will also accelerate the process of species extinction and habitat loss.

The highly compromised political deal done in Kyoto is largely attributable to the position of the United States which was heavily influenced by fossil fuel and automobile industry interests. The failure to reach agreement led to the talks spilling over into an all night session and ended in disarray as interpretation facilities were withdrawn.

Tony Juniper of Friends of the Earth International said:

“Governments have delivered a deal but at present this is fatally compromised and riddled with loopholes. Millions of people worldwide will remain at risk from the social and economic upheaval that will accompany progressive global warming. There must be an urgent evaluation of what has been achieved here and early efforts to improve on this weak agreement. The acceptance of the need for more effective action by countries like the USA will be vital”.

FRIENDS OF THE EARTH

GLOBAL CLIMATE COALITION VOTED TOP OF THE “DIRTY DOZEN” INDUSTRY – RHETORIC EXPOSED AS HYPOCRISY

Kyoto, 4 December 1997

Government officials and environmentalists attending the Climate Change Convention meeting in Kyoto, Japan have voted the Global Climate Coalition (GCC), an American industry lobby group, as the top of “Dirty Dozen” climate-wrecking firms and industry organizations. Exxon is the runner up and highlights the oil giant’s special efforts to destroy the talks.

The GCC polled most votes for destroying prospects for an effective greenhouse gas reduction target by campaigning in the USA against binding emission controls. The GCC argues pollution reduction targets would destroy jobs, undermine the economy and lead to domestic companies investing overseas instead of at home. However, a new analysis of leading GCC member companies shows how the group’s rhetoric is hypocritical.

For example, between 1992 and 1996 in order to cut costs and increase profits, the member companies of the GCC have shed more than 84,000 jobs whilst making on average 117 per cent more money. Meanwhile, investment to developing countries has grown three times faster than investment at home.

Tony Juniper, a campaigner with Friends of the Earth International at the Kyoto climate summit said:

“Industry opposition to binding climate targets is based more on outdated free market ideology than a rational understanding of scientific opinion or economic opportunities. Far from representing a mainstream view of how to protect the environment, they increasingly represent a minority view of how to protect profits”.

“The Global Climate Coalition’s member companies should modernize their ideas. Stockholders in companies like Exxon should consider the long-term damage caused to their business by deliberate attempts to wreck this meeting. However, BP shareholders will see from this vote the value of Chief Executive John Browne’s more positive view of the need for action on climate”.

Notes to editors:

Full details on GCC membership and oil company financing of political activities in the USA are contained in the new Greenpeace reports *Oiling the Machine* and *Industry and the Climate Debate* released at COP 3 yesterday.

Figures on GCC member company performance from the following sources:

Figures for total employee numbers and net income growth for Mobil, Exxon, Texaco, Shell, Chrysler General Motors and Dow Chemicals, and for net company asset growth inside and outside Annex 1 countries for General Motors, Union Carbide, Eastman Chemicals and Ford, all taken from 1992–1996 company annual reports.

Dirty Dozen	Votes cast
Global Climate Coalition	75
Exxon	63
Tokyo Electric	34
Ford/Chrysler/GM	19
Shell	15
ABB	11
WBCSD	11
Uranium Institute and FORATOM	9
Mitsubishi	7
Mobil	7
Elf Aquitaine	4
BP	3
<i>Other nominations</i>	
GazProm	2
Chinese State-owned Enterprises	1

Gakkos – GLOBAL NETWORK CLASS

CHILDREN FROM AROUND THE WORLD HAVE THEIR ENVIRONMENTAL MESSAGES OFFICIALLY SUBMITTED TO COP 3 VIA GAKKOS, THE INTERNET-BASED EDUCATION NETWORK WHO MAINTAINED A VERY POPULAR BOOTH AT COP 3

10 December 1997

The NEC Global Network Class Gakkos maintained a very popular and informative booth at the Kyoto Conference on Climate Change (COP 3) from December 1 to December 10, 1997. The Gakkos booth provided computer-based introductions for the system itself. Attendees of COP 3 also received information about Gakkos and its successful 1997 first-year activities.

On Friday, December 5th, Gakkos held its first of two very successful and important events. On this day, three students from Mie University attached middle school came to the conference hall with messages they had gathered from over 100 children from 10 schools in 8 countries. The students officially submitted these messages to Mr. Michael Zammit Cutajar, the Executive Director of the UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change), in a ceremony in the 4th floor computer center, or CC: Info Centre.

Additionally, on December 10th, just as COP 3 was coming to a close, Gakkos held its second event. This special event was a seminar to introduce the Gakkos system and its 1997 accomplishments in more detail than was possible at the Gakkos booth. Guests included members of the media, non-governmental organizations, and diplomats.

Of particular note, was the fact that Michael Zammit Cutajar officially agreed to pass the environmental messages gathered “online” to Mr. Kofi Annan, the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Mr. Zammit Cutajar noted that “the children of the world will be the most effected by what decisions are made here at COP 3, and so we must listen and heed their messages, for they are the leaders of the future.”

The Gakkos booth at COP 3 was maintained for the sake of all the 1950 Gakkos network member students from 112 schools in 37 countries (as of December 10th). The NEC Gakkos Global Network Class is focused on elementary and middle school students, aged 10–14.

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GERMANWATCH

VERHANDLUNGSKRIMI IN KYOTO

Nach zweieinhalb Jahren Vorbereitung in acht vierzehntägigen Vorverhandlungsrunden gelang im japanischen Kyoto schließlich eine Einigung zum globalen Klimaschutz. Ein Bericht vom Konferenzbeobachter Manfred Treber von der Nord-Süd-Initiative GERMANWATCH in Bonn.

Nicht am 10 Dezember 1997, wie später in den Geschichtsbüchern stehen wird, sondern erst am Nachmittag des 11 Dezember gegen 14.30 Uhr Ortszeit verabschiedete die dritte Vertragsstaatenkonferenz zur Klimarahmenkonvention das Dokument, das als Kyoto Protokoll möglicherweise einen Markstein der Wende hin zu einer Politik der zukunftsfähigen Entwicklung setzt. Der Vorsitzende des Vorbereitungsausschusses für das Abkommen, der Argentinier Raúl Estrada-Oyuela, den man ohne Übertreibung Vater und gleichzeitig Geburtshelfer des Protokolls nennen kann, wie auch die anderen zentralen Verhandlungsakteure hatten damit nach 30 Stunden Verhandeln ohne Schlaf und fast ohne Pausen (und weiteren ganz kurzen Nächten der beiden vorhergegangenen Tage des Ministersegments) einen (Teil) Erfolg der Politik über die traditionellen Wirtschaftskräfte zustande gebracht.

Dabei gab es Momente, in denen es danach aussah, als würde die zweieinhalbjährige Arbeit von Hunderten, ja Tausenden der weltweit fähigsten Diplomaten, Politiker, Wissenschaftler, von Vertretern der Nichtregierungsorganisationen (dem „Gewissen der Menschheit“) und der Wirtschaft ohne ein greifbares Ergebnis bleiben.

Es war 4 Uhr des Nachts, bereits vier Stunden nach Ablauf der für die gesamten offiziellen Verhandlungen vorgesehenen Zeit. Der Vorbereitungsausschuß (der lediglich eine Empfehlung an die beschlußfassende Vertragsstaatenkonferenz abgeben kann) befindet sich bei Anwesenheit aller weit über Hundert an der Konferenz teilnehmenden Länder in seiner letzten Sitzung. Diskutiert wird immer noch Artikel 3 als erster von insgesamt 28 Artikeln des Protokollentwurfs. Bereits seit zweieinhalb Stunden. Die Zeit verrinnt. Um sechs Uhr werden die Simultanübersetzer weggehen. Seit einer Stunde dreht sich die Diskussion um Emissionshandel im Kreis. Estrada ist besorgt und warnt, möglicherweise werde gerade die Chance für ein Übereinkommen vertan. Er hätte schon mehrfach gesagt, daß einige im Saal den Prozeß am liebsten zum Platzen bringen wollten.

Dann gibt er bekannt, die Sitzung werde für fünf Minuten unterbrochen. Die Pause dauert länger. Zehn, fünfzehn Minuten. Eine halbe Stunde. Viele haben den Glauben an den Abschluß des Protokolls verloren. Fünfundvier-

zig Minuten ohne sichtbare Bewegung. Einige sind eingeschlafen. Der Lauf der Zivilisation scheint einen Moment innezuhalten, als würde er sich kurz besinnen, ob er wirklich anfangen sollte, von seinem zerstörerischen Werk abzulassen.

Kurz vor fünf geht es weiter. Estrada schlägt vor, den Emissionshandel in einen neuen Artikel nach hinten zu verschieben. Und der Hammer saust nieder, einen Widerspruch der USA ignorierend. Von nun an hämmert er die restlichen 27 Artikel durch. Die Übersetzer sollen doch erst um acht Uhr gehen. Um Acht hämmert Estrada immer noch. Einige Delegierte müssen die Versammlung verlassen, um ihren Flieger für die Heimreise noch zu erreichen. Viertel vor Neun gehen die Übersetzer dann wirklich, Und die Chinesen, Araber usw.hören von nun an ungefiltert Estradas Englisch, Schließlich, kurz vor Zehn, kommen als letztes die (Reduktions) Zahlen dran. Rußland und die Ukraine waren bis zum Schluß unbeugsam, widersetzen sich jeder Verringerung, weil sie später so viel wie möglich „heiße Luft“ verkaufen wollen. Die angestrebten und bereits im Protokollentwurf stehenden 6 Prozent Emissionsreduktion in der ersten Verpflichtungsperiode (2008–2012) gegenüber 1990 müssen deshalb nach unten (auf 5,2 Prozent) korrigiert werden.

Der Protokollvorschlag steht nun, Estrada empfiehlt der Vertragsstaatenkonferenz mit einstimmigem Votum, diesen Protokollvorschlag anzunehmen. Der zentrale Vorbereitungsausschuß endet unter dem stehenden Applaus der Delegierten und Beobachter.

Die gleichen Personen treffen sich dann zwei Stunden später, um in der Vertragsstaatenkonferenz die formalen Beschlüsse zu fassen.

Was wurde in Kyoto nun beschlossen? Flapsig gesagt, eine Katze im Sack (wie denn auch GERMANWATCH seine sechsseitige Zusammenfassung der Inhalte des Protokolls betitelt hat).

Der Grund dafür ist, daß zentrale Punkte des Protokolls erst in den Folgeverhandlungen konkretisiert werden: Die Modalitäten des Emissionshandels, die der Behandlung der CO₂-Senken (durch Landnutzungsänderung, Walderweiterung/Abholzung und Böden) und die von Projekten zur Emissionsreduktion/Senkenausbau. Dadurch wird sich erst in Zukunft zeigen, wie groß die Schlupflöcher sind, in denen Klimaschutz – unwillige Staaten ihr Nichtstun unsanktioniert verbergen können (an prominenter Stelle seien hier die USA genannt, die mit sieben Prozent Reduktionsverpflichtung immerhin nicht viel weniger erfüllen müssen als die EU (8 Prozent); oder das unter den Industrieländern sich den Erfordernissen des Klimaschutzes maximal verweigernde Australien, das – an sich skandalös – seine bereits schon hohen Emissionen noch um weitere acht Prozent steigern darf).

Trotz der genannten Unsicherheiten kann man mit gutem Grund sagen: Das Protokoll ist enttäuschend. Nicht nur, weil es bei weitem nicht die Emissionsreduktionen festschreibt, welche nötig sind, um den Emissionspfad einzuschlagen, so daß Schaden vom Menschen und von der Umwelt durch die Klimaänderung abgewendet werden kann: schon vor Kyoto war klar, daß dies keinen Konsens finden wird. Enttäuschend ist das Protokoll vor allem deshalb, weil durch den späten Beginn der ersten Verpflichtungsperiode (2008-2012) die Gefahr besteht, daß die für den Klimaschutz aufgeschlossenen Kräfte in der Gesellschaft die Aktivistinnen, die verantwortungsbewußten Konsumenten und Teile der Wirtschaft, welche ein Umsteuern in der Energie – und Verkehrspolitik aussprechen – möglicherweise abbröckeln und erlahmen. Um den nationalen Klimaschutz und seine positive Ausstrahlung auf die internationale Ebene voranzutreiben, muß dies unbedingt verhindert werden.

Bei aller Enttäuschung: Ist das Ergebnis von Kyoto deswegen ein Mißerfolg? Dies zu sagen fällt sehr schwer, wie ein Blick auf die „andere Seite“ (das ist vor allem die traditionelle Wirtschaft) zeigt. Sie hätte am liebsten bis zum Jahr 2020 so weiter machen wollen wie bisher und ist völlig überrascht, ja teilweise schockiert vom Resultat. Man erwartete, daß in Kyoto kein Ergebnis erzielt werden würde (nachzulesen z. B. in den Energiewirtschaftlichen Tagesfragen vom Dezember 1997).

Das Kyoto Protokoll als Mißerfolg darzustellen (und damit das Vertrauen in den Klimarahmentkonventions-Prozeß, der auf internationaler Ebene ohne Alternative ist, zu unterminieren) gibt Wasser auf die Mühlen derjenigen, die den Klimaschutz am liebsten abtun und ignorieren möchten.

Abschließend sei noch Estradas Schlußbemerkung wiedergegeben, nachdem das Protokoll angenommen war. Nach seinen Abschätzungen sollen durch das Protokoll die Treibhausgasemissionen der Industrieländer bis zum Jahr 2010 um 30 Prozent gegenüber der Trendfortschreibung vermindert werden. Da bei dieser Betrachtung Schlupflöcher nicht berücksichtigt wurden, gibt dies auch einen Hinweis darauf, was in den Folgeverhandlungen noch erreicht (bzw. verspielt) werden kann, wenn die konkreten Ausführungsbestimmungen festgelegt werden.

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GLOBAL COMMONS INSTITUTE – GCI

CONTRACTION AND CONVERGENCE PROPOSALS FOR A CLIMATE CHANGE PROTOCOL FROM THE GLOBAL COMMONS INSTITUTE

Stop the Kyoto catastrophe

One thing is certain: you can't negotiate with the weather – floods, droughts, hurricanes and forest fires are increasing. Despite six years of talk, CO₂ emissions are still going up by over 2 per cent a year.

Prevention of dangerous climate change is now an **essential global security interest**.

Now the negotiations need to focus on global solutions to global problems.

Annex 1 countries are the main cause of the problem, but developing countries suffer most of the damages.

Developing countries cannot rely on the goodwill of developed countries. They need a legally binding agreement which ensures that all countries protect the climate "on the basis of equity and in accordance with their common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities."

The GCI proposals for a protocol are the only ones that will lead to a global solution. We urge you to give them serious consideration.

Double danger at Kyoto

Everything which is on offer from Annex 1 is hostage to the US refusal to ratify a one-sided agreement.

If Kyoto agrees anything less than a 10 per cent cut by Annex 1, they will be off the hook until 2010 and developing countries' room for manoeuvre after Kyoto will be gone. *All* the pressure for cuts will be targeted at developing countries. At the same time, developing countries will face a shrinking carbon budget for their own use due to rising damages. A one-sided agreement at Kyoto means that Annex 1 countries can have everyone's cake *and eat it*.

But without any agreement, Annex 1 will continue to pump out *even more* CO₂.

But there is a way out which works. Developing countries need to accept that the only way to avoid dangerous climate change is a global cap. And the US and Annex 1 need to accept that the only fair way of sharing the pro-

blem is to allocate emissions rights on an equal per capita basis. *This way we can start to negotiate solutions.*

A global agreement

Like everyone, developing countries want to avoid dangerous climate change. They also need resources to develop their economies on a sustainable basis. The GCI principles offer an equitable and effective way forward on both issues.

First, there needs to be agreement on a global limit on CO₂ emissions. We all know that if CO₂ emissions continue above a certain limit, climate damage will grow. To avoid this requires a finite, global **CO₂ emissions reduction budget**.

GCI proposes that the global CO₂ emissions limit should be informed by clear **danger indicators**. These provide a scientific basis for a global emissions budget linked to a concentrations target between 280 and 450 ppmv.

This limit must be agreed by all Parties to the Convention.

Second, the global emissions budget must be cut year by year. Emissions are still rising fast. They will continue to rise for at least 20 years. But then they must fall, or we all pay the price. The annual cuts in emissions are worked out with a contraction formula in the proposals.

Third, the global emissions budget must be divided between countries. GCI believes that the only fair basis is **equal per capita emissions rights**. Equal rights are ultimately the only principle on which every country can agree. Equal rights are the fairest and simplest basis for a global solution.

Because actual emissions are very unequal, it would be difficult to deliver equal per capita rights immediately. GCI therefore proposes that a realistic target date should be negotiated, by when all countries will have a carbon budget based on equal per capita emissions. This principle requires a **formula for convergence** to equal per capita emissions rights by the agreed date.

Fourth, these emissions rights provide a fair basis for **technology transfer**, through aid as well as international trade in emissions entitlements.

These proposals will still permit developing countries to increase emissions. For example, a convergence date of 2030 under a 450 ppmv scenario would mean a 10 per cent cut by Annex 1 by 2010. Emissions entitlements by developing countries would more than double by 2010 and continue to rise by 225 per cent by 2030.

The US wants a global agreement. Developing countries want equality. A global agreement based on equal per capita emissions rights provides the basis for an historic breakthrough at Kyoto. The world wants you to act now. So far, these negotiations have only added to the problem. They have done nothing to solve it.

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GREENPEACE

FIRST WEEK ENDS: DINOSAUR DIPLOMACY DOMINATES

Kyoto, 5 December 1997

Greenpeace today erected a “carbonosaurus” dinosaur outside the Climate Summit meeting in Kyoto, Japan, accompanied by a banner displaying a half-time score: “Dinosaur diplomacy: 1; Climate: 0”, to mark the end of the first week of the talks.

Carbonosaurus is six metres high and five metres from head to tail. It is constructed of scrap metal, such as oil cans and old car parts, symbolizing the coal and oil industries. It has attended previous climate meetings, and has come out today to make the point that progress at this meeting is slow – and from the point of view of the global climate, negative.

Greenpeace spokesperson Matthew Spencer said, “We are five days into the most important conference ever and the major players are still not talking about the real issue – what cuts in fossil fuel emissions will be necessary to protect the climate. None of the major emissions loopholes have been closed and we are very concerned that we might end up with an agreement that leaks like a sieve.”

Ministers are arriving over the weekend, and will have to resolve, in just three days next week, all the major issues before they can agree to their reduction target. Much of the last five days has been spent discussing whether forests and other carbon “sinks” should be allowed to be counted against countries emissions targets. Greenpeace is opposed to this approach because it would allow the industrialized world to increase their use of fossil fuels.

Greenpeace is especially particularly concerned about the influence that the fossil fuel industry lobby continues to have, particularly on the US, where the industry has run a US \$13 million advertising campaign. In contrast, a major UK pensions company, NPI, has today called for governments to put “health warnings” on all fossil fuel advertisements.

Greenpeace US spokesperson Kalee Kreider said, “These fossil fuel guys are trying to wreck these negotiations, predicting economic ruin if countries try to limit greenhouse gas emissions. However, there is hope. The sustainable energy industry and the insurance industry are here to rebut some of their wildest allegations.”

GREENPEACE

GREENPEACE RESPONDS TO VICE PRESIDENT GORE

Kyoto, 8 December 1997

Greenpeace today called on US Vice President Al Gore to “cut the hot air”, following his speech to participants at the Kyoto Climate Summit and expressed extreme disappointment at the speech’s failure to commit the US to reducing its greenhouse gas emissions.

In his remarks, the Vice President simply reiterated the US position calling for a zero per cent reduction (or stabilization) of greenhouse gas emissions by the year 2010 based upon 1990 levels, which means a delay in action to protect the climate for a further 13 years. Significantly, Gore’s speech indicates a lack of resolve to secure an agreement in Kyoto.

“Aside from reiterating the US position for the inclusion of all six greenhouse gases into any Protocol which might be reached, the speech offered us little hope for a sound environmental agreement in Kyoto,” said Bill Hare, Climate Policy Director of Greenpeace International. “While Mr. Gore’s rhetoric was very strong, he has failed to move the US position forward.”

Mr. Gore’s pointed remarks about “those who ask us to believe there really is no problem at all are clearly aimed at the strong fossil fuel lobby in the United States. “This sideswipe at the fossil fuel lobby does not translate into real changes in the US position, and he is obviously still hostage to the interests of Big Oil,” said Kirsty Hamilton of Greenpeace International. “We are not yet convinced that the US is prepared to negotiate a treaty which would mark the beginning to the end of fossil fuels and a shift to solar and renewable energy in order to avert dangerous climate change.”

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GREENPEACE

GREENPEACE: CLIMATE AGREEMENT ENDANGERS THE CLIMATE

Kyoto, 11 December 1997

Greenpeace has labelled the result of the Kyoto Climate Summit totally inadequate to slow the environmental impacts of dangerous climate change.

Without considerable strengthening, Greenpeace estimates that the agreement, when all loopholes are considered, will result in no real reductions in greenhouse gas emissions from 1990 levels. Greenpeace believes that it is completely unacceptable that some of the world's largest polluters will be allowed to increase their fossil fuel emissions.

"This deal provides absolutely no protection from the increasing environmental and economic damage that the burning of coal and oil will continue to unleash on the world," said Kalee Kreider, Greenpeace USA Climate Campaign Director. "It provides no protection for low-lying island nations and coastal regions that can expect to be inundated by sea level rise," continued Kreider.

The fact that a legally binding agreement was reached over the objections of the oil companies shows that industry's grip on governments and stranglehold on the political process is finally loosening. The excruciating negotiations and hard-line tactics of the U.S. government, which nearly derailed the agreement, can be blamed squarely on the oil companies.

"Ministers who have signed onto this deal should know that they will need to come back in the near future to get it right. The people they represent will demand it. Failure to come up with a significant reduction here in Kyoto has merely delayed the inevitable move away from coal and oil – but at a very high price," said Kreider.

To protect the earth from dangerous climate change, deep and early cuts of greenhouse gases are needed. Science shows that we cannot afford to burn more than a fraction of the existing reserves of coal, oil and gas to reach this aim. Greenpeace will be campaigning to ensure that the majority of remaining fossil fuel reserves stay below the ground, and to remove the obstacles to increased investment in clean energy technologies.

KIKO FORUM

POSTCARD DRIVE BACKS CLIMATE-CHANGE MEET

Kyoto, 3 December 1997

A wide variety of events and activities with environment-related themes are being held in connection with the Third Session of the Conference of Parties (COP 3) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), which began in Kyoto Monday.

Twenty-one young people from 21 countries gathered at Heian Shrine earlier this week to turn over 7,000 postcards from over 50 countries bearing messages supporting measures to prevent global warming to government officials attending the Third Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, which began in Kyoto on Monday.

The postcard project, initiated by the so-called Group of 21, calls for a 20 per cent reduction in carbon dioxide emissions by 2005. The campaign has received support, via the Internet, letters and fax, from people from all walks of life.

The Group of 21 was established in August by Robert Kowalczyk, an assistant professor at Kinki University, and other Kyoto-based foreign professors who meet every Sunday to study global economy.

The group's belief that the younger generation should be at the forefront in addressing global environmental problems was behind the decision to ask young people to play such a conspicuous role in the campaign.

Many of the participants in the postcard campaign are students attending Osaka International School in Suita, Osaka Prefecture.

After some of the participants read aloud the names of the countries from which the postcards were sent, a 21-year-old participant, Saori Maruyama, expressed hope that the conference would be successful.

Maruyama, a student at Kansai University of Foreign Languages who hopes to become a teacher, said she would teach her students the importance of protecting the Earth's environment.

Responding to the statement, Steven Guilbeaut, who works for the climate campaign programme at Greenpeace Canada's Montreal office, said he was

encouraged to see young people take part in activities to protect the Earth and hoped they would continue to retain an interest in environmental issues.

More events are planned throughout COP 3, which ends on 10 December, the largest of which are likely to take place on 7 December.

*by Akino Yoshihara
in the Daily Yomiuri Staff Writer
The Daily Yomiuri*

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KLIMABÜNDNIS ÖSTERREICH

27.11.97

KYOTO – KONSEQUENZEN FÜR ÖSTERREICH

Rund 170 Staaten haben bisher die am Welt-Umweltgipfel in Rio 1992 verabschiedete Klima-Rahmenkonvention der Vereinten Nationen unterzeichnet. Zumindest auf dem Papier herrscht Einigkeit darüber, daß der Ausstoß von „das Weltklima gefährlich verändernden Treibhausgasen“ – vor allem CO₂ – endlich reduziert werden muß.

Zwei große Klimakonferenzen haben festgehalten, daß die bisherigen Vereinbarungen der Klima-Rahmenkonvention nicht ausreichen, um dieses Ziel zu erreichen. Das nach der vorletzten Konferenz benannte „Berlin-Mandat“ schreibt vor, daß in Kyoto ein völkerrechtlich verbindliches Protokoll entstehen soll, daß „quantifizierte Treibhausgas-Emissions-Reduktionen“ mit klaren Zeitlimits für alle Industriestaaten vorschreibt. Doch die Vorzeichen deuten nicht auf substantielle Erfolge hin.

Die EU-Verhandlungsposition:

15 Prozent Reduktion der Treibhausgase CO₂ Methan (CH₄) und N₂O bis 2010 – auf Basis Ausgangsjahr 1990 – lautet der EU-Vorschlag für Kyoto. Diese Ziel wäre von der EU insgesamt zu erreichen. Intern erfolgt eine Lastenaufteilung zwischen –30 Prozent (Luxemburg) und +40 Prozent (Portugal). Österreich müßte –25 Prozent beitragen. Zusätzlich werden „gemeinsam koordinierte Maßnahmen“ und ein Zwischenziel –7,5 Prozent Reduktion bis 2005 – gefordert.

Klimaschutz und Entwicklungspolitik:

Der US-Senat hat sich bereits festgelegt, kein Protokoll zu ratifizieren, daß nicht auch Reduktionsziele für die Entwicklungsländer vorschreibt. Angesichts der Tatsache, daß jeder US-Amerikaner etwa drei mal mehr fossile Energie als ein Europäer und zwischen 50 und 100 mal mehr als ein Afrikaner verbraucht, eine nicht akzeptable Entscheidung.

Mittelfristig kann Klimaschutz nur erfolgreich sein, wenn ein massiver Ausgleich des Verbrauchs von Ressourcen und fossiler Energie zwischen industrialisierten und Entwicklungsländern auf deutlich niedrigerem Niveau stattfindet. Entsprechend darf das Prinzip der „verschiedenen Verantwortlichkeiten“ nicht in Frage gestellt werden. Eine große Gefahr steckt in der

solchen Großkonferenzen eigenen Dynamik der letzten Stunden. Wenn die Zeit bis Konferenzende gegen Null geht, sind oft faule Kompromisse des Ergebnis. Vor allem der erlaubte Handel mit Emissionszertifikaten (böse: Verschmutzungsberechtigungen) wird von den USA und einigen weiteren Staaten als Gegengeschäft zur Zustimmung zu geringen Emissionsreduktionen gefordert. Dieses System sieht vor, daß Staaten, die ihre Klimaschutzziele nicht erreichen, Emissionszertifikate von Ländern erwerben können, die ihre Reduktionsziele überfüllt haben. Auch zeitlich soll dieses Prinzip eingesetzt werden – durch Kauf von Emissionsberechtigungen aus späteren Zeiträumen. Ein zynischer Ansatz, daß sich die Hauptverursacher der Klimaveränderung aus ihrer Verantwortung freikaufen können.

Das wahrscheinliche Ergebnis:

Ein völkerrechtlich verbindliches Protokoll zur Klima-Rahmenkonvention enthält minimale Verpflichtungen zur Reduktion der Treibhausgas-Emissionen. In der Praxis ermöglichen aber die Emissions-Handelsrechte und diverse Schupflöcher im „Kleingedruckten“ eine weitere Beschleunigung der vom Menschen verursachten Klimaveränderung.

Der Folgen für Österreich: Toronto-Ziel in Gefahr

Bereits im Vorfeld von Kyoto sind alle die Aufrechterhaltung des Toronto-Zieles nach der Konferenz in Frage gestellt. Industriellen Vereinigung und Wirtschaftskammer drängen, daß sich Österreich entsprechend den Ergebnissen von Kyoto auf das Kyoto-Protokoll (sicher weitaus weniger ambitionierte Ziele) zurückziehen soll. Auch der Abschluß des 15a-Vertrages Bundesländer zum Toronto- Ziel Könnte zumindest weiter verzögert werden.

Klimabündnis Österreich fordert:

für Kyoto

- Keine Abweichung von der EU-Verhandlungsposition (= Minimalziel für den Klimaschutz), kurzfristige Zwischenziele
- Reduktionsverpflichtungen für alle sechs Treibhausgase („gas by gas“)
- Kein Abwälzen der Last auf die Entwicklungsländer (keine Reduktionsziele für diese, kein Handel mit Emissionszertifikaten)
- verstärkte Einbeziehung der lokalen Einheiten (Länder, Gemeinden) in den Prozeß

und danach:

- klares Bekenntnis der Bundesregierung zum Toronto-Ziel und rascher Abschluß des 15a-Vertrages
- fixer zeitplan für ökologische Steuerreform
- Umsetzung Toronto-Technologieprigramm

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NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL – NRDC

**STATEMENT OF JOHN ADAMS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NRDC
REACTING TO THE KYOTO GLOBAL WARMING PROTOCOL**

Kyoto, 11 December 1997

The agreement reached today in Kyoto marks a historic turning point in the effort to protect the planet. While this is only the first step on a long road, and we know that later agreements must produce far more aggressive action if we are to succeed, the accord reached here today includes substantial legally binding commitments to reduce greenhouse pollution.

The agreement requires real reductions below 1990 levels for industrialized nations (7 per cent for the United States, 8 per cent for the European Union and 6 per cent for Japan), and covers the full set of 6 key greenhouse gases. Although we believe some of the language will need to be tightened, we believe that many of the major potential loopholes were either eliminated or severely constrained.

Now we turn our attention to the coming war at home with the fossil fuel industry, which has spared no expense in seeking to torpedo these negotiations, and will surely try to block efforts to make this agreement a reality. Despite their continued misinformation campaign, I am confident that the American people will reject the fossil fuel industry's flat earth viewpoint, and Congress will ultimately have little choice but to support protection of the planet.

The Vice President deserves special credit for the success of the Kyoto negotiations. Without his leadership and commitment, and the hard work of the US delegation here, these difficult talks would not have succeeded.

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OZONE ACTION

REACTION TO GORE SPEECH

Comments by John Passacantando, Executive Director

8 December 1997

Ozone Action is pleased to have the Vice President join the negotiations. His speech, though welcome, still leaves open many questions regarding the integrity of the Kyoto Protocol. We need leadership – leadership that the US negotiating team has lacked for months.

Vice President Gore is like the fisherman in *The old Man and the Sea*, struggling to bring a large fish to land before the sharks have devoured it. This treaty is being eaten alive. The fossil fuel industry is winning the day and the US has been complicit. Let that now end.

An eager public and much of the business community await real steps to solve climate change. Until now, the US has been party to language in the working document that could encourage massive logging and allow the depressed economies of Russia and Eastern Europe to sell the US, and other industrialized countries, credits to emit enormous amounts of heat trapping gases. Key provisions have disappeared that would enable this treaty to be properly strengthened in the future.

The standard to which we must hold the Vice President was set in 1987 by Ronald Reagan, whose team negotiated an international agreement on ozone depleting chemicals. It had a very modest beginning, but was written so that within five years a phaseout was in place for the worst ozone depleting chemicals in more than 100 countries.

Deeper cuts in emissions reductions must be agreed to, a compliance regime must be in place, action must begin well before 2008, and the loopholes must be closed.

Ozone Action is a non-profit organization based in Washington, DC dedicated exclusively to atmospheric protection.

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LES FORÊTS DU MONDE ENTIER MENACÉES PAR LA POSITION FRANÇAISE À KYOTO

4 décembre 1997

Inclure les « puits de carbone », c'est à dire les forêts durant leur période de croissance dans les objectifs du protocole de Kyoto a parfois été naïvement considéré comme une façon de protéger les forêts du monde entier. En fait, cela créerait des incitations dangereuses pour raser les forêts primaires ou anciennes, pour faire place à des plantations forestières.

Ce que l'on appelle « l'approche nette » consiste à comptabiliser les forêts en croissance dans les objectifs chiffrés de réduction des émissions. Ceci s'oppose à l'approche « brute » qui ne tient compte que des émissions de gaz à effet de serre produites par l'homme. L'approche brute est soutenue par les ONG du monde entier, en particulier Greenpeace, le WWF-International, et les associations de protection de la nature réunies dans le Réseau Action Climat (CAN ou Climate Action Network). Les pays nordiques, l'Allemagne, le Japon, une grande part des pays du Sud soutiennent l'approche brute. En face, l'approche nette est soutenue par la Russie, le Canada, l'Australie, les Etats-Unis, tous les pays soupçonnés de vouloir tricher ultérieurement si une telle mesure est adoptée. A côté, des pays comme la France sont traités de « naïfs » par les défenseurs de l'environnement, de même que les Pays-Bas ou l'Italie qui ont jusqu'à présent défendu l'approche nette au sein de l'union.

« En 1995 au Canada, d'immenses feux de forêt ont brûlé environ sept millions d'hectares dans le Grand Nord, soit plus de la moitié des émissions mondiales liées à la déforestation », explique le docteur Stefan Singer, responsable de la campagne sur les climats du WWF-Allemagne. Cette région du monde contient autant de carbone que dans toute l'atmosphère. « Personne n'a prêté attention à ces taux en 1995, mais si les projets de l'approche nette sont adoptés, le Canada pourrait tirer crédit de la « replantation » de la zone concernée, ce qui fait autant de réductions en moins pour ce pays, poursuit Singer. Sous les tropiques, c'est encore pire puisque les pays seront tentés de couper la forêt puis de replanter des arbres à croissance rapide et en tirer profit. » Protéger la forêt est nécessaire, mais il ne faut pas résoudre le problème du climat au détriment de la biodiversité.

Un autre problème majeur de l'approche nette est l'incertitude. Ainsi, les scientifiques russes affirment n'avoir actuellement aucune idée sur les émissions réelles du grand nord boréal, qui subit les coupes et les incendies et dont la forêt croît très lentement. Ceci est corroboré par Bert Bolin, le prési-

dent sortant du GIECC/IPCC, le groupe mondial de scientifiques qui étudient la question des climats.

Cette incertitude majeure sur la réalité des puits risque de rendre le traité flou et peu vérifiable. Ceci risque de retarder les réductions des émissions liées à la consommation d'énergie.

C'est pourquoi les associations européennes qui suivent à Kyoto la Conférence des Parties à la Convention sur les changements climatiques ont lancé un appel solennel à la France, à l'Italie et aux Pays-Bas, pour que ces pays abandonnent leur position favorable à l'approche nette. Ces trois pays ont bloqué jusqu'à présent l'Union Européenne sur ce point, retardant également l'adoption d'un objectif chiffré pour la Convention.

«L'Italie et la France ont des Ministres Verts, cela nous rendrait d'autant plus furieux si un accord sérieux à Kyoto était saboté à cause de ces deux pays», insiste Delia Villagrasa, directrice du Climate Network Europe, qui regroupe les principales associations européennes de défense de l'environnement du continent.

«Jusqu'à présent, les représentants de l'Union ont tenu bon sur les objectifs et résistent aux intimidations des Etats-Unis en particulier, ce qui nous permet d'être modérément optimiste, indique Antoine Bonduelle, président du Réseau Action Climat – France, un réseau qui représente les principales associations françaises concernées. Désormais la plupart des pays du monde, représentant plus de 85% de la population du globe se retrouvent derrière la position européenne des -7,5% en 2005 et -15% en 2010. Seuls les Américains et quelques pays riches conservent leur position égoïste en faveur du statut-quo.» Quel dommage que la France gâche un peu ce tableau en défendant la position de l'approche «nette», contraire à l'intérêt de l'environnement. Nous ne pouvons qu'espérer que cette position évoluera dans les prochaines heures et en tout cas avant l'arrivée des ministres au Sommet de Kyoto.»

L'approche nette ne doit pas être adoptée dans le protocole de Kyoto.

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SCIENTISTS FOR GLOBAL RESPONSIBILITY – SGR

CLIMATE CHANGE – IT’S SERIOUS

A STATEMENT FROM SCIENTISTS FOR GLOBAL RESPONSIBILITY, UK

Over the past few months the scientific consensus concerning the reality of climate change has strengthened. The debate is now not about whether climate change is happening but over how fast it is happening, why and what to do about it.

Serious warnings were first issued by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change in 1995, where data showing the correlation of climatic variations with latitude was the first crucial evidence indicating that climate change was being induced by human created emissions of CO₂ gases, sulphate aerosols (minute, sulphurous particles) and ozone depletion – and not by any changes in solar activity. The original climate change models presumed that atmospheric CO₂ emissions would double over the next century resulting in a 1.0–3.5 C rise in globally averaged temperature by the year 2100. In fact, the latest extrapolations suggest that we are already on a CO₂ quadrupling trajectory.

Upside Down Results of Global Warming – Failing Currents

Even at levels below the CO₂ doubling levels the latest modelling outputs predict key shifts or reductions in the strength of ocean currents. As the poles warm up the cold polar waters stop sinking, causing a corresponding reduction in warm equatorial polar currents (the thermohaline circulation mechanism). At 650 p.p.m CO₂ well below “business as usual” projections of CO₂ levels, the North Atlantic Current (an extension of the Gulf Stream) would weaken and maybe even stop. Northern European coasts – UK and France – would no longer be bathed in warm water, resulting in a dramatic cooling of the northern Europe land mass. This cooling could exceed the effect of global warming, turning parts of northern Europe into the climatic equivalent of their equivalent latitudes in Northern Canada with a resultant collapse of farming and huge increases in living and fuel costs. Also, the reduction in the thermohaline circulation would reduce the seas ability to absorb CO₂ making global warming happen quicker.

A Host of Icebergs on the Horizon?

Other recent 1997 data reveals, from whaling ship data and deep core samples of Antarctic glaciers, that there have been significant changes in the

polar ice caps with significant reductions and concomitant rises in iceberg numbers. The record in the ice shows that climatic changes can be swift and correlate closely with changes in amounts of CO₂ and methane.

In this decade, the eruption of Mount Pinatuba and the resulting large scale sulphate aerosol emissions masked some of the effects of global warming. Human aerosol emissions have had a similar effect. On top of this, some satellite data has now been found to have erroneously masked the signs of global warming. However, the life time of aerosols in the atmosphere can be measured in weeks, whilst the effect of CO₂ emissions is much longer term – hundreds of years, so the longer our CO₂ emissions stay unchecked the worse and longer lasting any changes in the future will be.

Five Centuries of Climate Change

Even if CO₂ emissions can be brought under control, the effects of the increased CO₂ will be felt for up to 500 years. In the CO₂ quadrupling scenario, even if the CO₂ stops rising after 140 years, the sea levels continue rising for 500 years, leading to two metre rises in mean sea level and with temperature increases in the 10–14 C range. The thermohaline circulation mechanism would stop. Even in a CO₂ doubling scenario the thermohaline circulation drops off significantly in 150–200 years time and then recovers over several centuries.

As a result of such horrific scenarios, which are no longer in any significant doubt, the EC, most recently President Clinton, and even the oil giant BP have acknowledged that action must be taken to limit greenhouse gas emissions.

Cap Emissions Now

SGR is in no doubt that CO₂ emissions must be capped and that a CO₂ emissions target below 1990 emissions must be sought in the 2005-2010 time-frame. By 2010, only 13 years away, tougher targets will need to be set and some way of sharing out CO₂ emission among all countries within the overall environmental capacity limit must be found. Options include tradeable pollution permits or more rigid quota systems. The concept of converging towards a “per capita” CO₂ emission allowance within the overall environmental capacity level should also be seriously considered.

Newsletter Special

These issues are explored in a special SGR Newsletter: "Global Warming – What are the Risks?". It is perhaps a sign of how fast knowledge is developing that Fred Pearce's June 1997 comments are already out of date. The SGR Special Newsletter covers the Risks of Climate Engineering – deliberate attempts to modify the earth's climate on a large scale; Air Transport and Global Warming; and Local Perspectives.

Regular updates will be posted on the SGR web site at:
<http://www.gn.apc.org/sgr/>

This site also contains updates from "The Climate Train" – a trans-Siberian train journey by SGR and other NGO delegates to attend the Kyoto Climate Change Conference by environmentally friendly means, and NGO climate discussions in Kyoto, Novosibirsk, Moscow and Beijing.

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SIERRA CLUB

**NOT FAR ENOUGH OR FAST ENOUGH
STATEMENT OF SIERRA CLUB PRESIDENT ADAM WERBACH**

Kyoto, 10 December 1997

Today marks an important turning point as the world focused its attention on global warming and decided to act, proving that we can take collective action to protect our planet. The bad news is that the greenhouse pollution levels set by this treaty are risky for us, dangerous for our children, and potentially catastrophic for our grandchildren.

This first baby step toward curbing global warming does not halt the threat of rising sea levels, spreading diseases, floods, and species extinction. Global warming still places our children's future at risk.

The last days of the Kyoto negotiations have been characterized by a tug of war between meaningful pollution reduction targets and loopholes. Fortunately, it appears that the targets have narrowly won.

By signing this treaty, the nations of the world have soundly rejected the polluters' claims that global warming doesn't exist and that no action is necessary. Any remaining doubt that the planet must end our business-as-usual reliance on polluting fossil fuels has been cast away.

Now it's time for the US to firm our resolve and work to leave a healthy atmosphere for future generations of Americans. To meet this challenge, the Sierra Club will:

- Launch a major public education campaign to rally support for stronger domestic action to curb global warming.
- Release nationwide a series of TV and radio public service announcements to educate the American people.
- Mobilize Sierra Club's 600,000 members across the country to fight for stronger miles per gallon (CAFE) standards for automobiles, energy efficiency, and the development of clean renewable energy.
- Activate Sierra Club's extensive grassroots network who will target, educate, and hold accountable US elected leaders for their actions on efforts to curb global warming.
- Build support for closing loopholes and raising the bar next year at the next global warming conference in Buenos Aires.

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THE SOLAR CENTURY

ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SOURCES

Nothing quite like the sun

Japan and the US have adopted a more aggressive role to advance solar power

28 November 1997

Solar energy from photovoltaic panels could be the single most important long-term means of achieving the deep cuts in the greenhouse gas emissions associated with climate change.

This at least is the claim made by the UK government's solar industry task force earlier this month.

But to take advantage of the fledgling technology's "explosive growth (expected) sometime early in the next century" it urged the government to stimulate investment in the technology in order to drive down costs. Building up domestic manufacturing capacity would enable Britain to capture a promising export market while creating new jobs at home in a labour-intensive industry.

The alternative of "allowing our competitors to corner an excessive share of the global market... would effectively be ceding domestic jobs to them", warned the task force.

Its members include two UK manufacturers, BP Solar and Intersolar, plus banks and insurance companies which increasingly perceive the potential effects of climate change as a threat to their business.

The group is chaired by Jeremy Leggett, a former environmentalist who has also set up Solar Century, a global purchasing club for solar power which is the sort of private sector initiative traditionally preferred by the UK.

But a few governments, namely the US and Japan, two of the foreign competitors cited by the task force, have opted for more aggressive market-forcing programmes. These attempt to drive down the costs of solar, versus conventional energy through government procurement or pump-priming.

Japan, host of the December 1–10 inter-governmental conference in Kyoto on climate change, has led the way with a plan to install solar roofs on 70,000 homes by 2002. It is home to Kyocera, a market leader in emerging international solar markets.

In June, the US administration unveiled a programme to install 1m solar roofs in the US by 2010 although the details of how it proposes to do so are unclear.

The UK government meanwhile is reviewing its policy on renewables which it wants to generate 10 per cent of the country's electricity needs by 2010. But it is waiting for the outcome of the Kyoto meeting before publishing the review's conclusions early next year.

Michael Meacher, environment minister, recently appeared to rule out suggestions that the government provide £ 18m annual support sought by the British Photovoltaic Association. In return the industry had offered to build £100m manufacturing capacity in the UK.

British Petroleum, whose subsidiary BP Solar, with 10 per cent of the market, is the world's third biggest producer of photovoltaic panels, believes that with "appropriate government support and investment" solar can become competitive in supplying peak electricity demand within the next 10 years.

But Mr. Meacher, appearing to foreshadow the outcome of the review, said solar power was still too "expensive" to justify UK subsidies on the scale sought by the British Photovoltaic Association and it would only come into its own in "five or ten years time". The government believes it will get more value for money in the meantime by promoting wind power and more efficient use of fossil fuels.

Chris Rose, deputy director of Greenpeace UK, the environmental pressure group, argues, however, that "there's only so much belt-tightening you can do with the consumption of fossil fuels" in order to combat climate change.

Once these gains have been made, renewables such as solar will be necessary to drive greenhouse gas emissions down to the level required seriously to mitigate climate change.

The British Photovoltaic Association concedes that "PV is not expected to become competitive as a pure generation source under UK conditions for the foreseeable future", with one exception – photovoltaic panels, "high-grade architectural claddings costing £ 600–£ 1,000 per square metre".

This use is at the crux of Mr. Leggett's Solar Century, which is trying to recruit banks and insurance companies to install PV panels as cladding on office buildings. And Mr. Leggett says there is much more the UK government can do to support the industry without handing out large subsidies.

Apart from tax breaks, these include introducing mandatory requirements for new construction to contain a minimum amount of solar in suitable buildings and easing of planning permission for projects including PV.

In the absence of significant government support, however, private UK companies are likely to focus on chasing foreign business as best they can.

One solar market that is already viable is the electrification of remote communities in the Third World. Solar technology was the best way to generate electricity "for millions of households in the developing world," the Washington-based World Watch Institution said in *Shining Examples*, a report detailing local schemes which help finance the panels' installation.

British Petroleum plans to increase its sales of photovoltaic panels 10-fold to \$ 1bn a year over the next decade. John Browne, BP's chief executive, noted recently that although there was sufficient sunlight to generate all the energy the world needs, it now generates only 0.001 per cent of the total.

By 2020 however he believes that up to 5 per cent of world energy could be supplied by renewable energy such as solar power. More recently, Royal Dutch/Shell, the world's biggest oil company, joined the fray with an announcement that it would spend \$500m on developing a fifth core business in renewables including solar.

Established participants such as BP, are worried less about newcomers, such as Shell, than about existing competitors such as Kyocera which stand to receive a big boost from the Japanese government.

The proprietary nature of much of the technology also means that even Shell will be hard-placed to break into the market, says Bob Kelly, chairman and chief executive officer of Houston-based Enron Renewable Energy Corporation.

Leyla Boulton
Financial Times Survey

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TATA ENERGY RESEARCH INSTITUTE (TERI)

KYOTO: A REVIEW

11 December 1997

TERI took a delegation of ten researchers and actively organized and participated in several events held during the Kyoto Conference of the Parties to the Framework Convention on Climate Change. TERI's views were presented essentially to support developing country and Indian interests, based on strong scientific, economic and policy analysis.

At the start of the COP 3 there was considerable doubt on the likelihood of a protocol or agreement emerging that would be acceptable to all the Parties to the Convention. It became apparent in the first three days and during formal as well as informal meetings during the weekend that the only hope of any significant shift in the intractable positions taken by the Parties would come possibly after the Vice President Al Gore of the US and the Ministers from various countries would participate in the COP as scheduled from December 8 onwards. Vice President Al Gore repeated his earlier statements in the address to the Conference, but there was a subtle shift in the tone and language used from that which had been used by him and President Clinton earlier. This was particularly so in the context of the developing countries whose "meaningful participation" in any protocol has been insisted on by the US Administration at various levels. Vice President Gore stated that "the first and most important task for developed countries is to hear the immediate needs of the developing world. And let me say, the US has listened and we have learned".

One of the important features of the Kyoto Conference has been the general solidarity between the Group of 77 (G77) and China. It must be remembered that this is a group with very diverse interests and concerns, but the one binding factor has been the fact that the US has targeted this group for meaningful participation as a result of the US Senate resolution making the ratification of any treaty that the US enters into conditional on participation by the developing countries. It needs to be remembered that the G77 plus China includes members of OPEC, who have generally been opposed to any mitigation action to prevent climate change and the Association of Small Island States (AOSIS) who are likely to be the worst sufferers of climate change, and therefore in favour of strong and widespread action to reduce emissions greenhouse gases (GHSs). Nevertheless, the US has succeeded in partly weakening the position of this group and bringing about their acceptance of three types of provisions in the protocol, which for good reason, they were not in favour of initially. These are:

1. The definition of a clean development mechanism, original proposed by Brazil over six months ago. This new mechanism could be a threat to the multilateral Global Environmental Facility (GEF), because the developed countries would now have an excuse for not providing adequate replenishments to the GEF on the plea that the new mechanism would be far larger and far bigger in their view.
2. The inclusion of sinks in the measurement of net emissions and changes therein, by taking into account changes in sinks, that is forests and tree cover etc. in order to calculate emission levels. The inclusion of sinks is a tricky matter, because to carry out a proper accounting of these would allow open access to information on a country's forestry and biomass growth activities. In the late '80s and early '90s there was a great deal of tension between Brazil and other countries on the one hand and some developed countries on the other, when the Brazilian rain forests were highlighted and claimed as a world resource by the developed countries. Issues of national sovereignty would now certainly come in whenever there is a consideration of sinks.
3. The agreement on emissions trading involving the Annex-I countries is also a shift from the original position of G77 and China. The TERI position which had largely supported this group earlier was that emissions trading among these countries could be acceptable, but should go through a pilot phase to sort out the issues of crediting, measurement, monitoring and verification. However, the details of how the emissions trading system is to work will be established by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific and Technical Advice.

COP 3 has very useful lessons for a country like India, which unfortunately has not been in a central role in the events leading up to Kyoto. Given the enormous implications of any treaty or protocol on climate change, Government's position has to be supported by rigorous intellectual efforts at evaluating a range of possible outcomes. This unfortunately was not done with any measure of adequacy in the preparations before Kyoto.

For instance, there was no conscious effort to build alliances and partnerships with individuals, countries or groups of countries and to pursue a process of regular dialogue with them based on solid analysis of actions and their impacts. For instance, the President of the Global Legislators Organization for a Balanced Environment (GLOBE) Mr. Tom Spencer, who is also a Member of the European Parliament in his speech at the Conference stated "So, let the Conference of the Parties resolve **"to agree to negotiate a legally binding 'Equity Protocol' establishing the principle that the apportionment of global emission entitlements be deliberately converged to a point of equal per capita shares at a date to be agreed."** This is an issue

around which all developing countries should have rallied in a carefully coordinated way, if we kept track of what influential persons and groups were thinking about. As it turns out the US in particular and the developed countries have got away without a commitment on the directions which future action to limit GHGs should take. In effect, a clear statement of principle supporting the concept of “common, but differentiated responsibilities” laid down in the FCCC could have been agreed to through a clear acceptance of a per capita emissions corridor for all countries, to which they would converge over time. The concept of a converging corridor has been advocated through a joint research project between TERI and the Swiss organization INFRAS. This was also presented at a well attended workshop in Kyoto during the period of the Conference.

The Indian delegation was active at Kyoto and worked very hard. Given the importance of India, in any such protocol, and the fact that China and India generally coordinated their positions effectively in Kyoto, the Indian point of view became important at every stage of the negotiations. However, there are vast areas of uncertainty in the wording of the text of the agreement, the interpretation and implementation of which could make a major difference in future outcomes. The Government of India has to pursue an enlightened and different approach to negotiations beyond Kyoto.

Another area in which India could work effectively would be in creating the right public opinion in developed countries such as in the US.

For public opinion on tough steps that should be taken by the US Government. In the survey that was carried out six out of seven people said that steps need to be taken right away on global warming. There was also a general opposition to the obstinate and obstructive stand taken by the corporate sector and the Climate Coalition in the US.

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THE DAVID SUZUKI FOUNDATION

THE CITY OF TORONTO UPSTAGED THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Kyoto, 2 December 1997

The City of Toronto upstaged the federal government at the climate negotiations in Kyoto today! Canada announced plans for mild and gradual cuts in greenhouse gases paled in comparison to the rapid and cost-effective reductions in emissions already under way in Toronto.

The Toronto success story was singled out in a news conference by the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives as the largest greenhouse gas emission reduction among some municipalities from 29 nations participating in their cities for climate protection campaign.

In contrast to the Canadian position which emphasizes the difficulty of achieving even small reductions. Toronto developed a plan with a goal of 20 per cent cuts by the year 2005. By 1996 the city had already reduced emissions by 6 per cent. Methods included recapturing methane from landfills to generate heat and power, changing building codes towards energy efficiency and the systematic retrofitting of buildings, with 300 completed so far. Toronto's program began with a \$22 million start-up fund that has now grown to almost \$27 million through the reinvestment of profits.

David Suzuki Foundation Executive Director Jim Fulton says, "The example of Toronto shows that a concerted effort to reduce emissions pays off. Its success stands in sharp contrast to the cautious nature of Canada's announced position. Canada's announcement is a step in the right direction. But the step is too tentative and insufficient to prevent dangerous global warming. Toronto's example shows that a clear commitment to reductions coupled with a realistic plan can achieve climate goals, and also provide jobs and cost savings."

In Kyoto today Dan Leckie, a city councillor from Toronto also urged Canada to strengthen its position. Mr. Leckie said. "I'm very proud of Toronto's record but I don't want to leave this conference ashamed because my country has such a weak position. I find the Canadian target to be totally unacceptable. Our experience is that a minimum of 20 per cent cuts can be met quickly and without economic hardship – in fact with economic gain."

THE DAVID SUZUKI FOUNDATION

Kyoto, 5 December 1997

CANADA SEEKING LOOPHOLES TO WEAKEN KYOTO DEAL

Loopholes. That's what Canada's aiming for in the climate negotiations in Kyoto. The code word is "flexibility", but behind that innocuous term are proposals that environmentalists say could allow global emissions to rise by about a third above the target agreed to in the treaty.

Loopholes in the negotiating text allow Canada to take a position that looks green by promising cuts in greenhouse gas emissions. But at the same time industry lobby groups won't need to worry because the fine print being considered in the deal ensures they avoid serious reductions.

Jim Fulton, Executive Director of the David Suzuki Foundation says, "It's embarrassing enough for Canadians that our target for emissions reduction is one of the weakest. But it's outrageous that Canada is also supporting loopholes that can be used to exceed the low targets being discussed in Kyoto."

One loophole Canada supports is a proposal to allow a country to deduct from its greenhouse gas emissions the carbon that could be absorbed by forests and plants within its boundaries. Forests take carbon dioxide from the air and lock it up in new growth. In the jargon of the climate talks, forests become an example of a "sink" into which carbon dioxide emissions are absorbed.

Environmentalists say the inclusion of sinks in the agreement would seriously weaken the treaty. First, scientists cannot accurately predict how much carbon the sinks can absorb. For example, the ability of a forest to absorb carbon dioxide depends on many things, including tree type, soil moisture, latitude, forest age, varying weather, and so on. More fundamentally, managing Canadian forests to offset continually growing industrial emissions is an environmentally risky proposition.

Fulton says, "Forests need to be protected because of the biodiversity that they provide, not as an excuse for us to continue with unchecked increases in carbon dioxide emissions. And it is not just Canada that would use this excuse for inaction. If Canada supports a loophole it can drive a pickup through, the US will barrel through it with their Mac trucks. Then any reductions agreed to in Kyoto will be useless in protecting the climate."

THE DAVID SUZUKI FOUNDATION

Kyoto, 10 December 1997

DRAFT AGREEMENT IN KYOTO CONDEMNED AS SHAMEFUL

In Kyoto Tuesday night the Chair of the climate negotiations, Raul Estrada, created a frenzy of late night activity by releasing a draft treaty for consideration. The proposal calls for five per cent cuts for Canada between 2006–2010, but within a framework of loopholes. While negotiators scurried off to all-night meetings to consider the proposal, a coalition of environmental groups condemned the draft text as “totally immoral and environmentally inadequate.”

After a review of the draft, environmentalists held an impromptu news conference before a swarm of journalists. Representatives from five international groups angrily denounced the proposal as “rotten Swiss cheese” riddled with loopholes that would allow emissions to rise by 10–15 per cent. The environmentalists said an agreement that would protect the atmosphere needed a strong target, a clean structure without loopholes, and a process to ensure countries would actually do what they promised. On all counts, they said, the draft text failed miserably.

Jim Fulton, Executive Director of the David Suzuki Foundation says, “This treaty is supposed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, not increase them. At the moment we have a shameful proposal with low targets and loopholes which would allow emissions for wealthy countries to continue to rise. It does not protect the climate. It does not protect nature. It does not protect people. Instead it protects the interests of companies like Exxon in the US and Imperial Oil in Canada.”

“Canada’s role has been intransigent throughout these talks. Along with the US, our negotiators have been digging in their heels, insisting on loopholes as a way to avoid real and significant cuts. And incredibly, our Ministers still say that there should be no penalties if any nation fails to meet even a weak agreement like this.”

“We have less than 24 hours to rescue the Kyoto negotiations. Prime Minister Chretien has been told in poll after poll that Canadians want their representatives to be leaders in developing a meaningful treaty. Instead, our Ministers have been complicit in sabotaging a real opportunity to address a global problem. I urge the Prime Minister to instruct Ministers Stewart and Goodale to take a new course, one which leaves vested interests behind and helps build an agreement that will protect the climate.

Greenhouse gas emissions in pounds per day

Canada	96 lbs/per capita per day
US	120 lbs/per capita per day
Japan	55 lbs/per capita per day
India	5 lbs/per capita per day
China	15.1 lbs/per capita per day
Mozambique	0.66 lbs/per capita per day
OECD avg.	67 lbs/per capita per day
Africa	6 lbs/per capita per day
Global average	24 lbs/per capita per day
Sweden	38 lbs/per capita per day
Germany	65 lbs/per capita per day

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UNION OF CONCERNED SCIENTISTS

World Leaders Make Down Payment on Climate Protection

11 December 1997, Kyoto

"The agreement is a small but important down payment to limit global warming," said Howard Ris, Executive Director of the Union of Concerned Scientists. "We've started to build the boat. Now we must make it a tight ship."

"Some pages of the treaty look like they were written with a hole punch instead of a pen. Our first priority after Kyoto must be to close these loopholes," said Alden Meyer, Director of Government Relations for UCS. "However, given the fossil fuel lobby's ferocious opposition and multi-million dollar propaganda campaign, adoption of the Kyoto treaty is a welcome accomplishment."

"The science demands a more aggressive response to prevent dangerous disruption of the climate, but this treaty is not a one shot deal," said Ris. "It is the beginning of a decades long effort to prevent the serious consequences of global warming."

The Union of Concerned Scientists has been a leader in bringing attention to the threat of global warming for the past decade and also works to promote clean energy and transportation solutions to the global warming problem. UCS organized the 1997 "World Scientists' Call for Action on Global Warming," signed by over 1,550 senior scientists, including the majority of the world's living Nobel laureates in science.

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WORLDWATCH INSTITUTE

SHIFT TO A LOW-CARBON ENERGY ECONOMY MAY OPEN MULTI-BILLION-DOLLAR ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

Kyoto, 30 November 1997

“Efforts to cut greenhouse gas emissions in the next decade could generate billions of dollars of business in solar energy, micro-power, and low-emissions vehicles, which would lower energy bills and create new jobs,” Worldwatch Institute researchers announced on the eve of the historic Third Conference of the Parties to the Framework Convention on Climate Change.

Christopher Flavin and Seth Dunn, who are in Kyoto for COP 3, have closely followed developments in new energy technologies in the five years since the Climate Convention was signed. They say that many new energy technologies have moved from experimental curiosity to commercial reality, economically turning sunlight, wind, and natural gas into heat and electricity. Relying on synthetic materials, advanced electronics and biotechnology, this new generation of mass-produced machines efficiently and cleanly provides the energy that people need.

“These exciting developments suggest that a strong Kyoto Protocol would create more winners than losers, open the way for dramatic changes in the world energy economy and set off a competition among nations for dominance of the energy markets of the twenty-first century.” Experience in countries such as Denmark, Germany, and Japan shows that relatively modest policy shifts – allowing new energy technologies access to the market, and levelling the playing field – are all it takes to spur an energy revolution.”

The Worldwatch researchers cite some early signs of change:

- The world market for solar cells has gone from \$340 million in 1988 to \$900 million in 1996. In Japan, housing companies have introduced homes with silicon roof tiles that generate enough electricity to meet most of a family’s annual needs and have already installed 10,000.
- The global wind power industry, already a \$2 billion a year business, is growing by 25 per cent annually. Its tough fibreglass blades and electronic controls pump out electricity at a cost that is often lower than that of coal-fuelled power plants, and still plunging.
- A new generation of micro-power plants is being located inside office and residential buildings, allowing for the efficient production of electricity and heat. These are based on devices such as small gas turbines

and fuel cells, and could make the coal-fired power plants that generate nearly one-third of today's carbon emissions obsolete.

- A new kind of hybrid electric car that is twice as efficient – and produces half the carbon emissions – of today's cars is on the way. Toyota has already begun selling one such model, and several others are under development.

The pace of adoption of these and other new energy technologies will depend on whether government policies – many of which shore up the status quo and retard the development of alternatives – are transformed. Efforts to cut fossil fuel subsidies, improve energy efficiency standards, and provide incentives for renewable energy and reforestation are among the modest initiatives that have begun to alter emissions trends. If any one country were to adopt a "Dream Team" of best energy practices – Danish tax policy, US appliance standards, German renewable energy incentives, and Dutch industry covenants – it would be able to surpass even the toughest goals being considered for the Kyoto protocol.

In their recently published review of the new policies adopted in ten leading industrial nations, *Rising Sun, Gathering Winds; Policies to Stabilize the Climate and Strengthen Economies*, Flavin and Dunn found that Denmark, the Netherlands, and Germany have the best track records so far, though even they are not doing all they could. The weakest policies to date are those of Australia and Canada, with the United States faring only slightly better.

"The challenge now is to accelerate the energy revolution in industrial nations and encourage its spread to developing countries where emissions are growing the fastest. They are poised to build hundreds of fossil-fuel-burning power plants and millions of motor vehicles that could be producing carbon pollution for decades to come. It is therefore essential for industrial nations to demonstrate leadership in Kyoto, showing the way forward for developing countries."

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WORLD RESOURCES INSTITUTE – WRI

WRI PRESIDENT CALLS KYOTO PROTOCOL A HISTORIC STEP FOR HUMANKIND

Washington, DC, 11 December 1997

Jonathan Lash, President of the Washington, DC-based World Resources Institute (WRI), announced this morning his support of the new Kyoto Protocol, saying it was an agreement of historic proportion. "If countries who sign the treaty put in place the requisite policies and actions, the world will be set on a new course, one which is less dependent on fossil fuels, less polluting and less a threat to human health."

Lash said opponents who are claiming that the treaty is not global and therefore should not be ratified "are misguided and fail to acknowledge developing country actions that are already reducing CO₂ emissions." Lash countered their arguments by citing recent WRI research indicating that developing and former socialist-bloc actions have implemented reforms since the early 1990's that raised energy prices and reduced energy subsidies, resulting in improved energy efficiencies and the slowing in growth of CO₂ emission. He noted that these findings are confirmed by the World Bank which has documented a 50 per cent decrease in fossil fuel subsidies by these countries from 1990 to 1996. For example, in China, total fuel subsidies in 1995-1996 were less than half those in 1990-1991. Mexico, which began eliminating subsidies in the early 1990s has managed a 53 per cent reduction. He explained that as a result, energy efficiency of these developing and transitional economy nations has in fact improved at a higher rate than that of the United States.

Most importantly, he added, while emissions from developing nations are increasing overall, "it's important to understand that the US and other industrialized countries, while having only 20 per cent of the world's population, are responsible for 90 per cent of all global carbon emissions that have been released into the atmosphere since the industrial revolution, and continue to emit two-thirds of all global emissions." These and other details were emphasized by Raul A. Estrada-Oyuelo, Chairman of the Committee of the Whole, in a statement he distributed during the Kyoto negotiations.

Nevertheless, Lash said, while the treaty does not mandate participation by developing countries, it does provide a means by which developing countries can accelerate greenhouse gas reductions. He especially celebrated how the treaty will allow developed countries to gain credit for emission reduction projects in developing countries thereby presenting them with a cost-

effective means of reducing emissions, while also providing developing countries with new technology that will assist them in emission reductions.

Lash also noted that these types of measures were in fact applauded and supported by some business leaders. "Enlightened businesses, such as General Motors, Sun Oil, British Petroleum, Enron, AEP, Browning Ferris and Interface among the many, have acknowledged publicly that climate action is warranted," Lash, who co-chairs the President's Council on Sustainable Development (PCSD), explained. Indeed, in a recent letter to President Clinton from the group, members wrote that five principles should guide US action on climate change. The document states, "The risk of climate change... and the potential for serious impacts to nature and human well-being is of sufficient concern that timely and effective actions should be taken to reduce those risks." The Council is a federal advisory committee that includes diverse leaders from business, government, and community, environmental and native American groups.

"It is now up to the American people, the Administration and Congress to embark on a serious course of action to reduce US greenhouse gas emissions," Lash said. He explained that the reduction target of 7 per cent is realistic and achievable through sensible and flexible market-based policies, and added that the US "has a proven track record that these instruments work. Using these policies, we have phased out CFC_s and reduced SO₂ emissions by 50 per cent at a faster rate and at a much lower expense than was predicted by those who opposed such measures at the time. It is time for all the stakeholders to come to the table and negotiate a meaningful programme of action."

The World Resources Institute is a Washington, DC-based centre for policy research and technical assistance that provides objective information and practical proposals for policy change that will foster environmentally sound development. WRI works with institutions in more than 50 countries to bring the insights of scientific research, economic analysis, and practical experience to political, business, and non-governmental organization leaders around the world.

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WORLD WIDE FUND FOR NATURE (WWF)

WWF GIVES USA THUMBS DOWN ON COMBATting CLIMATE CHANGE

1 December 1997

GLAND, SWITZERLAND – The USA deserves a resounding thumbs down for its actions to slow global warming, according to the latest International Climate Change Scorecard released today by the WWF-World Wide Fund For Nature at the Climate Summit in Kyoto, Japan.

Ranked among five other key nations and the EU, the USA scored the worst on fulfilling its Earth Summit commitments to reduce greenhouse gases, proposals to cut dangerous emissions after 2000, and energy efficiency performance. The USA also got thumbs down for its support of two loopholes that threaten to undermine the Kyoto process.

“The US hasn’t budged from the back of the pack since we began scoring 11 months ago,” said Andrew Kerr, European Co-ordinator for WWF’s Climate Change Campaign. “But there’s still time to shift the balance – we’re waiting for Vice President Al Gore to arrive with a better offer.”

The five-category scorecard also graded Australia, Canada, Japan, Russia and the EU as leaders or losers in the current negotiations. Under the heading “Fulfilment of Rio Conference Commitment,” the EU earned thumbs up, Russia a mediocre vote, while the USA, Canada, Australia and Japan all earned thumbs down.

WWF also assessed these six key players’ proposals for post-2000 commitments by developed nations to cut down greenhouse gases, including carbon dioxide (CO₂) the most prevalent and dangerous gas. Again the EU came out on top, while the rest, including Russia, received failing marks.

According to the world’s most experienced conservation organization, success in this week’s talks hinges on plugging dangerous loopholes in the Convention on Climate Change. One important potential hole is a “net approach” which refers to proposals pushing the use of carbon dioxide absorbed by forest plantations and other forest projects to offset fossil fuel emissions. Again the USA came out a loser, along with the Canada, Australia and Russia. The UE faired middle of the road, while Japan surprisingly earned a “thumbs up.”

It’s position on another alarming loophole facing negotiators this week – trading fictitious emissions – places the USA again at the back of the pack. The proposal would allow excess emissions in Russia and Central and Eastern European countries – achieved unintentionally as a result of the

collapse of the economies in those nations in the early 1990s – to be “banked” or sold in an emissions trading system. The EU scored the best on this issue, followed by Canada and Japan. Australia and Russia ranked alongside the USA at the bottom of the scale.

WWF believes the 3rd Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP 3) represents a pivotal event in halting an escalating global warming trend threatening the environment and economies. Climate change is happening NOW – and affecting ecosystems, wildlife, human health and the economy around the globe. The best way to combat it is to cut CO₂ emissions by 20 per cent below 1990 levels by 2005.

WWF leads international efforts to protect the diversity of life on Earth. The WWF Climate Change Campaign is working around the world to raise awareness of the threats of climate change to wildlife and natural ecosystems, urge governments to take action to prevent climate change, and build partnerships with business and industry to find solutions to the problem.

WORLD WIDE FUND FOR NATURE (WWF)

WORLD FORESTS THREATENED BY INCLUSION OF "SINKS" IN KYOTO CONVENTION

3 December 1997

- The US, New Zealand, Russia, Canada and Australia – long time supporters of sinks – are still insisting in including them in the final text. If included, they would in fact create dangerous incentives to clear old-growth forests to plant new ones for carbon credit. (See the following WWF position paper issued to the press here today.)

(In case you've forgotten, sinks "mean any process, activity or mechanism which removes a greenhouse gas, an aerosol or a precursor of a greenhouse gas from the atmosphere." Carbon sinks, predominantly refer to forest capacity to absorb CO₂. Debate continues on how to accurately quantify sinks and how to discriminate between anthropogenic, or man-made emissions and natural emissions. Bad forest management leading to forest fires could be seen as "natural" while reforestation could be counted against emissions reductions obligations leading to carbon credits through reforestation.

Another type of loophole within the sink issue is gaining interest here – sea sinks. Certain countries such as Japan which refuse net approach because about ²/₃ of their country is covered by forest – may be thinking of using the sea surface as a dumping ground for carbon dioxide. Scientific uncertainties are even much stronger for this than for the forest sink issues.

- The "basket of gases": As confirmed officially, it seems the trend is to include the standard basket of three gases – carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄) and nitrous oxide (N₂O) – in the final text. The move now is toward an annex to the protocol to control the remaining three gases which would be adopted at COP 4. (These gases, that some green NGOs are lobbying to include are: hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), sulphur hexafluoride (SF₆) and (perfluorocarbons) PFCs. WWF agrees that these remaining three gases must be phased out as soon as possible, but including them in the current basket may pull attention away from the worst greenhouse gas, CO₂. And if we insist these gases are included in the current basket this may unnecessarily it could dilute the EU proposal.

WWF's position on this is: The Kyoto protocol should ensure reductions are defined on a gas-by-gas basis and not through a basket approach. If a basket approach is adopted, it should only include CO₂, CH₄, N₂O.

- Net approach: The EU seems firm on sticking to its decisions – at least until Ministers begin to appear next week.
- The “Compliance mechanism” appears now going to be regulated by a “Clean development fund.” Support for this seems to be gaining. WWF has long been a proponent of this. This fund should be fed by countries that do not fulfill their commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions – the money (50 \$ per tons of excess CO₂) should be given for technical transfer to developing countries.

WORLD WIDE FUND FOR NATURE (WWF)

“STOP PLAYING WITH OUR PLANET!” WWF TELLS KEY PLAYERS AT KYOTO CLIMATE SUMMIT

5 December 1997

KYOTO, JAPAN – At the end of the first week of negotiations at the Kyoto Climate Change Summit, WWF said key nations risk turning the talks into a “football game with the planet.”

Underlining their concerns that the Summit will not deliver an agreement to cut greenhouse gas emissions, WWF presented a theatrical rendition of the current status of negotiations at the Kyoto conference venue. The WWF delegation at the talks staged a football match for possession of the planet wearing the face masks of the leaders of the USA, Russia, Japan, Germany and the UK.

“Diplomats are playing games with the planet,” said Adam Markham, Director, WWF Climate Change Campaign. “Concepts like differentiation, sinks and joint implementation are being used as loopholes to avoid actually reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Nature and people will lose. Climate change will accelerate and we will suffer dangerous impacts including extreme weather events, the spread of pests and diseases, and the extinction of species.”

Ministers from all over the world, including the United States Vice President, Al Gore, arrive in Kyoto for the last few days of negotiations early next week. WWF believes they must bench the poor performers on their teams and demonstrate real leadership.

“Beyond the halls of Kyoto, several national surveys reveal that the publics of many nations want their governments to commit to REAL, measurable emission cuts,” Markham said. “The public cares nothing for bracketed texts and ‘non-papers,’ or for 100 different ways of saying ‘no’. Ministers cannot ignore the strong calls for actions from the people they represent.”

WWF shared the results of a few of the many national opinion polls which show strong public support for action to combat climate change, including four Japanese public opinion polls conducted by Tokyo Shimbun newspaper (30 June 1997), Asahi Shimbun newspaper (31 August 1997), Nihonkeizei Shimbun newspaper (19 November 1997), and the Japanese Prime Minister’s office (27 September 1997). The conservation group also shared results from a United States opinion poll carried out for WWF by The Mellman Group, Inc. (29 September 1997).

WWF, the largest conservation organization in the world is calling on industrialized nations to combat climate change by cutting carbon dioxide emissions by 20 per cent below 1990 levels by 2005. WWF leads international efforts to protect the diversity of life on Earth. The WWF Climate Change Campaign is working around the world to raise awareness of the threats of climate change to wildlife and natural ecosystems, urge governments to take action to prevent climate change, and build partnerships with business and industry to find solutions to the problem.

WORLD WIDE FUND FOR NATURE (WWF)

CLIMATE CHANGE CONVENTION SUCKED INTO "BLACK HOLE OF LOOPHOLES," WWF SAYS

12 December 1997

KYOTO, JAPAN – Two and a half years of negotiations on climate change ended, Thursday, with a flawed agreement that will allow major polluters to continue emitting greenhouse gases through loopholes.

The treaty will fail to properly reduce the threat of climate change because key players – in particular, the United States and Japan – have refused to set realistic targets for emission reductions. They also inserted loopholes that would further reduce their already very low targets and in some cases, even allow an increase in greenhouse gas pollution.

"Governments can run away from the Kyoto Summit, but they can't hide," Adam Markham, director, WWF Climate Change Campaign said, "Despite this agreement's many flaws, WWF will push for early ratification and entry into force so that the process of raising targets and closing loopholes can proceed. This plan has no where to go but up, so WWF is going take the message to the public that they must pressure their governments to take action that will truly reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Opinion poll after opinion poll in the United States, Japan, Australia, and other countries show overwhelming public support for real government action on climate change and they will not tolerate political smoke and mirrors to disguise the truth."

United States Vice President, Al Gore, Japan Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto, and many other government leaders agreed the science of climate change is irrefutable. Gore in his speech to the Kyoto delegates described the climate skeptics of being akin to "tobacco scientists." WWF believes the result of today's agreement plays into the hands of those vested interests.

"If this agreement is not improved, governments will have condemned the world to the human misery of floods, droughts, rising sea-levels and the spread of infectious diseases," Markham said. "The preservation of nature and wildlife – polar bears, the tiger, even Santa's reindeers are just a few of the many species sucked into the black hole-loop holes of this tragically weak plan."

For its part, WWF will expand its work at the national level around the world to encourage energy savings and reductions of greenhouse gas emissions through such programs as:

- working with modern utilities to provide green electricity to consumers,

- working with multi-national domestic appliance manufactures to increase the energy efficiency of the products and
- promoting energy efficient commercial buildings, housing and renovations (such as the major hotel development for the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games).

WWF's target of reducing carbon dioxide emissions by 20 per cent from 1990 levels must be put back on the agenda. Stricter limits will have to be discussed at future sessions to limit emissions from polluting energy sources.

WWF will continue to monitor the impact of climate change on nature and wildlife, and help promote the clean energy systems of the future that will allow humankind to live in harmony with the environment while meeting material needs.

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Kyoto: Keine Reduzierung der Treibhausgase vor 2010
USA können Rechte für 800 Millionen Tonnen CO₂ von Russland aufkaufen

Kyoto/Frankfurt, 11.12.1997. Seit 2 Uhr nachts (MEZ) liegen die Ergebnisse der Verhandlungen auf dem Weltklimagipfel in Japan vor. Danach soll der Ausstoß an klimaschädlichen Treibhausgasen in den Industrieländern bis zum Zeitraum 2008 bis 2012 im Durchschnitt um 5,2 Prozent im Vergleich zu 1990 gesenkt werden.

Laut Protokoll müssen die Staaten der EU um 8 Prozent reduzieren, die USA um 7 Prozent und Japan um 6 Prozent. Gleichzeitig dürfen andere Staaten wie Norwegen und Australien ihre Emissionen zwischen 1 und 8 Prozent steigern. „Die im Protokoll festgeschriebene Reduktion ist fast schon durch den Zusammenbruch der osteuropäischen Volkswirtschaften erreicht worden“, kritisiert Oliver Rapp, Referent für Klimaschutz von WWF-Deutschland. Damit bedeuten die Ergebnisse von Kyoto unter dem Strich im besten Falle eine Stabilisierung der heutigen Treibhausgasemissionen. Die Einbeziehung von Aufforstungen als sogenannte Senken für Kohlendioxid führt sogar dazu, daß es unter Umständen erlaubt sein kann, im Jahr 2010 mehr Klimagase in die Atmosphäre einzutragen als heute.

„Das Protokoll ist löcherig wie ein Schweizer Käse. Der Öffentlichkeit wird ein Fortschritt vorgegaukelt, den es real nicht gibt,“ erklärt Rapp. Die USA und ihre mächtige Industrielobby haben den Weltklimagipfel als Verschmutzungsbörse mißbraucht. Was US-Präsident Clinton als „historisches Abkommen“ feiert, ist eine Hitliste der von den USA in Kyoto diktierten Schlupflöcher. Die Zielperiode des Protokolls ist zu spät für einen nennenswerten Fortschritt im Klimaschutz, denn 11 Jahre passiert erst einmal nichts. Es gibt nur schwache Kontrollmechanismen, um das Erreichen der in Kyoto gesteckten Ziele zu garantieren.

Nach wie vor ist der internationale Handel mit Emissionsrechten vollkommen ungeklärt. Industriestaaten, die das ihnen gesetzte Limit unterschreiten, können ihre Emissionsrechte verkaufen. Länder, die ihr Ziel verfehlen, können diese Emissionsrechte wiederum aufkaufen.

Die Einbeziehung des Handels mit Emissionsrechten wurde insbesondere auf Druck der USA in das Protokoll aufgenommen. Die USA, die sich zu einer Reduzierung um 7 Prozent verpflichtet haben, können durch Aufkaufen der russischen Emissionsrechte ihren CO₂-Ausstoß um 9 Prozent steigern und würden dennoch ihre Verpflichtungen im Protokoll erfüllen. Ruß-

land liegt derzeit beim Ausstoß des wichtigsten Treibhausgases Kohlendioxid (CO₂) etwa 30 Prozent unter den Zielvorgaben, könnte somit jährlich die Emissionsrechte für rund 800 Millionen Tonnen verkaufen. Zum Vergleich: Der jährliche CO₂-Gesamtausstoß in Deutschland beträgt etwa 900 Millionen Tonnen.

„Um den Karren aus dem Dreck zu ziehen, liegt es jetzt an der EU und an Deutschland, durch Eigeninitiative den Prozess wieder voranzubringen“, sagt Rapf. „Der WWF fordert die EU auf, ihre Verhandlungsposition, die Treibhausgase um 15 Prozent zu reduzieren als Mindestziel festzuschreiben. Deutschland muss durch zusätzliche Maßnahmen beweisen, dass sein Ziel, den CO₂-Ausstoß um 25 Prozent zu reduzieren, erreichbar ist. Nur durch internationale Vorreiter kann wieder Dynamik in die internationale Klimapolitik kommen.“ Der WWF wird das magere Ergebnis zum Anlass nehmen, seine Anstrengungen für weitreichende Klimaschutzmaßnahmen auf nationaler und internationaler Ebene zu verstärken. Es kann nicht sein, dass die Steinzeitpolitiker aus den USA die Zukunft unseres Planeten bestimmen», betont Rapf.

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Klima-Gipfel in Kyoto
Klima-Fußballspiel in Kyoto: Abbruch wegen Foulspiels
Als Staatschefs maskierte WWFler protestierten in Kyoto gegen Hardliner

Kyoto / Frankfurt 05. 12. 97. Gelbe Karten hagelte es beim internationalen Klima-Fußballspiel in Kyoto. Präsident Clinton drohte wegen fortgesetzten Foulspiels der Platzverweis. Verwarnungen erhielten auch die Spieler Hashimoto und Jelzin. In der 32. Minute wurde das Spiel abgebrochen.

Unter dem Motto „Stop playing with our planet“ hatte die Delegation des WWF in der Halle des Konferenzzentrums auf dem Klimagipfel in Kyoto ein Fußballspiel der Staatsoberhäupter der USA, Rußlands, Japans, Deutschlands und Grossbritanniens nachgestellt. Vertreter des WWF spielten in den Masken der Staatsoberhäupter Fußball mit einer Weltkugel.

Ziel der Aktion war es, gegen den seit Tagen bestehenden Stillstand der Verhandlungen zu protestieren. „Die Verhandlungen auf dem Weltklimagipfel verkommen zu einem diplomatischen Spiel mit der Zukunft unseres Planeten. Einige Delegationen befassen sich mehr damit, Schlupflöcher zu finden, als ernsthaft über den Abbau von Treibhausgasen zu diskutieren“, betonte der Referatsleiter Klimaschutz der Umweltstiftung WWF-Deutschland, Dr. Stephan Singer, vor Ort.

Nach fünf Verhandlungstagen in Kyoto sind mehr Rückschritte als Fortschritte gemacht worden. „Für jeden Vorschlag, der den Klimaschutz voranbringen könnte, werden drei neue auf den Tisch gelegt, die nur die Absicht haben, den Einigungsprozeß zu bremsen und das Protokoll zu verwässern“, analysiert WWF-Experte Singer die erste Woche.

Ogleich zwischen den Delegationen Einigkeit darüber herrscht, daß der globale Klimawandel ein reales Problem ist, sind doch die meisten Vorschläge darauf ausgelegt, die Verantwortung für eine Klimaschutzpolitik abzulehnen. Abgesehen vom Vorschlag der EU führen alle Vorschläge zu einer Aufweichung der Ziele, auf die man sich schon auf dem Berliner Klimagipfel 1995 geeinigt hatte. Die USA, Kanada, Australien, Neuseeland und Japan als die größten Bremser legten Vorschläge vor, die voll von Schlupflöchern sind, die eine reale Steigerung der Treibhausgasemissionen in den nächsten Jahrzehnten zulassen würden. Die Anrechnung von natürlichen Kohlenstoffsenken wird trotz der fehlenden wissenschaftlichen Basis und der daraus resultierenden Unsicherheit über deren zukünftige Entwicklung von der großen Bremser-Koalition unterstützt.

Auch der Handel von „Phantomemissionen“ aus dem Zusammenbruch der ehemaligen Sowjetunion soll erlaubt werden. Die Bremser-Koalition schlägt vor, daß die Emissionseinsparungen aus dem Zusammenbruch von anderen Staaten gekauft werden können, damit diese ihr Emissionsbudget vergrößern können.

Die vergangenen Verhandlungstage waren von Diskussionen geprägt, wie eine tatsächliche Reduzierung der Treibhausgasemissionen am besten vermieden werden könnte. Allein der Vorschlag einer Stabilisierung der Emissionen würde bedeuten, daß die Emissionen in den nächsten Jahren wieder steigen. Bereits jetzt liegen die Emissionen der Industriestaaten 4,5 Prozent unterhalb des Levels von 1990, was vor allem auf den Zusammenbruch der Wirtschaft im ehemaligen Ostblock zurückzuführen ist.

Der WWF verurteilt vor allem die Vernebelungsstrategie der USA. „Es wäre schon schlimm genug, würden sich die USA mit einer Stabilisierung des CO₂-Ausstoßes bis 2010 durchsetzen und so den Auftrag des Berliner Mandates außer Kraft setzen. Schlimmer ist jedoch, daß sie real eine drastische Steigerung ihrer Emissionen anstreben“, erklärte Singer. „Nimmt man alle Vorschläge der USA zusammen, so haben wir es mit einer realen Zunahme des Ausstoßes an Treibhausgasen um 20-35 Prozent bis zum Jahre 2010 zu tun.“

Die nächste Verhandlungswoche muß nach Ansicht des WWF mit der Ankunft der Minister und des amerikanischen Vize-Präsidenten eine Trendwende bringen, wenn in Kyoto noch ein Protokoll verabschiedet werden soll, das den Namen „Klimaschutz“ zu recht trägt. Um wirksame Signale zu setzen, muß eine Einigung unter Ausschluß aller jetzt diskutierten Schlupflöcher erzielt werden. Die Treibhausgasemissionen aller Industriestaaten müssen um mindestens 15 Prozent gesenkt werden. Nur so kann der Trend zu gesteigerter Verbrennung fossiler Brennstoffe umgekehrt werden. „Ein verbindliches Klimaschutzprotokoll muß auch ein System beinhalten, das die Angemessenheit der Ziele nach jeweils aktuellen wissenschaftlichen Erkenntnissen ständig überprüft und Sanktionen bei einer Nichteinhaltung der vereinbarten Ziele ermöglicht“, sagte Singer.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES
AND
MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES – ICLEI

CITIES CHALLENGE UN CONFERENCE OF PARTIES

Kyoto, 2 December 1997

...Elected officials from cities around the world, coming to Kyoto, Japan from their World Summit held in Nagoya, today challenged the United Nations meeting on climate change in Kyoto to follow their lead by setting early and aggressive targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Representing the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI), the group called for a 20 per cent reduction target by 2010 and an interim target for the year 2005. The municipal leaders presented a Report to the UN detailing the accomplishments of the Cities for Climate Protection (CCP) Campaign, a growing network of local governments from 29 countries representing over 100 million people and five per cent of the world's greenhouse gas emissions. In addition, the group presented the Nagoya Declaration adopted by participants attending the CCP World Summit.

"We now have 48 cities in our campaign that have set targets and timetables for emission reductions and another 152 cities that have pledged to do so. We are finding that we can meet these targets with measures that have benefits far exceeding their costs while making our communities better places to live," said Peter Heller, Chairman of ICLEI. "But we need a strong international agreement in Kyoto to reinforce and encourage these local efforts. We must reduce greenhouse gas emissions, not just stabilize them, and we must start making significant reductions by the year 2005."

The group's report to the UN Climate Conference includes the results of a survey of its members' progress in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. "To date we have documented measures that have reduced 42.1 million tons of greenhouse gas emissions since 1990, and that is just the beginning," said Phil Jessup, International Director of the Cities for Climate Protection Campaign. "Our members are reporting reductions that now exceed 10 million tonnes per year and that number is growing fast".

A key finding of the group's survey is the multiple benefits delivered by greenhouse gas emission reduction measures, including improved local air quality, financial savings, local job creation and economic development, reduced traffic congestion, and overall improvement in urban livability.

According to Heller, "Cities are moving on this issue, and the more they do, the more they find that aggressive reduction targets are realistic, achievable

and good for the environment and the economy. But they need the encouragement and support of their national governments. Here in Kyoto we need a strong and positive commitment from the international community to early and aggressive reduction targets.”

The Cities for Climate Protection Campaign was established by the International Council for Local Environmental initiatives to slow down the earth’s warming trend and to improve local air quality and urban livability by empowering local governments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. It is a performance-based campaign in which cities measure the levels of greenhouse gas emissions in their communities, set targets and timetables for emissions reduction, and implement policies and programs in their communities to meet those targets.

ICLEI is an international association of local governments concerned about the environment, whose world secretariat is located in Toronto, Canada Affiliated with the UN through its association with the International Union of Local Authorities, ICLEI is funded primarily by its more than 250 member cities, as well as by national and international governments and agencies.

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**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REGULATORY
UTILITY COMMISSIONERS (NARUC)**

**NARUC SUPPORTS JOINT IMPLEMENTATION ASPECT
OF PRESIDENT'S CLIMATE CHANGE PLAN**

24 October 1997

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) announced its support for President Clinton's intention to make Joint Implementation a key element of the U.S. proposal to forge an international agreement to control emissions of greenhouse gases.

In remarks at the National Geographic Society in Washington, D.C., President Clinton outlined what will become the U.S. negotiating position for upcoming talks in Kyoto, Japan in December. Joint Implementation, one of three key elements in the President's proposal, is a system "that allows a firm in one country to invest in a project that reduces emissions in another country and receive credit for those reductions at home," he explained.

In response, NARUC President Bruce Ellsworth said, "Joint Implementation holds the promise of the most effective and efficient technologies being applied when and where needed, while keeping costs low and providing for the energy requirements of developing countries."

NARUC has adopted several Resolutions concerning climate change issues. The most recent of these Resolutions, adopted in July 1997, recommends that the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change make Joint Implementation a permanent part of the Convention. The Resolutions is attached.

Founded in 1889, the NARUC is a quasi-governmental, nonprofit organization whose members include regulatory bodies of the fifty States, the District of Colombia, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. Designed to serve the public interest by seeking to improve the quality and effectiveness of government regulation of carriers and utilities, its members play a crucial role in shaping the profile and substance of public regulation in America today.

Resolution on Global Climate Change

WHEREAS, Atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases are rising and are projected to continue to increase; and

WHEREAS, The costs of mitigating rising greenhouse gas emissions could be substantial (and will be borne in part by utilities and their customers); and

WHEREAS, The U.S. Department of State is participating in international negotiations on treaties and protocols for the mitigation of greenhouse gases; and

WHEREAS, The National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) supports full and vigorous debate including all stakeholders and considering all alternatives regarding the mitigation and anthropogenic greenhouse gases, adaptation policies and other global climate change measures; and

WHEREAS, NARUC and its standing committees are monitoring the issue of global climate change and providing information to the membership; and

WHEREAS, The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) holds open the opportunity for international cooperation to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through jointly implemented mitigation projects; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, The Executive Committee of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), convened at its 1997 Summer Meeting in San Francisco, California, urges that the U.S. Department of State and other Federal agencies continue to include the interests and expertise of the States in ensuring a fully coordinated, national effort to establish appropriate greenhouse gas mitigation policies; and be it further

RESOLVED, That NARUC recommends that Parties to the UNFCCC make a permanent part of the Convention those projects to reduce greenhouse gas emissions undertaken jointly by two or more signatory nations.

Sponsored by the Committees on Energy Resources
and the Environment and International Relations
Adopted July 23, 1997
Reported NARUC Bulletin No. 31-1997, p.9

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PARLIAMENTARIANS

GLOBAL LEGISLATORS ORGANIZATION FOR A BALANCED ENVIRONMENT – GLOBE

“THE OXEN AND THE BUTTERFLIES”

7 December 1997

Ladies and Gentlemen, Excellencies, delegates, members of the press, fellow parliamentarians and beloved Madam Chairman of GLOBE Japan, Akiko Domoto – Welcome to GLOBE. You Madam Chairman are a living symbol of what might be described as the GLOBE motto “think for yourself, and speak for the species.” That is what we intend to do in our work here today.

We meet in Kyoto at the hinge of the negotiations, as we begin what I believe is called the “end-game”. The start of the Ministerial Segment is the moment at which the Great and the Jet-lagged join the Wise and the Weary!

We know that these negotiations are not a game. The next few days are at the hinge of history. This conference is not pre-destined for success. We all know that there are those here in Kyoto who contemplate a tactical failure.

Success this week would not be the end of our work on climate change; but it would perhaps be the end of the beginning. Success would be a public promise to a grandchild. Failure would be the starting flag for a ferocious future.

We parliamentarians, who have come the long road from Berlin via Geneva, think this a time for simplicity and a touch of principle.

We parliamentarians are, you see, simple folk. We are the oxen of the world’s political system. We observe these great negotiations which map out the future of the species, knowing that our work begins when you negotiators have finished.

You need us to vote the laws and pass the budgets which give reality to your formulas.

Above all you need us to stand on platforms around the planet and explain to electors:

- to explain why the monsoon is late, the rivers are dry, or the floods are rising.
- to explain why the Forest is burning, the cattle are dying, or in some countries why there is surf in the High Street;
- to explain above all that these are not Acts of God, but Acts of Man.

We “parliamentary oxen” have longer lives than “Ministerial butterflies”, even if we are not as beautiful. We are specialists who carry the political memory of the planet’s governmental system. GLOBE with over 300 members can only be here as witness to a greater reality. There are 30,000 elected legislators on planet Earth.

Some months ago 95 of our brother oxen in the upper chamber of the United States Congress passed a “Sense of the Senate” resolution. It stated a simple political fact. They could not ratify a treaty unless it was seen to be fair and to be a global solution to a global problem. There are 150 similar parliaments around the world who could, and should pass similar resolutions. The “Sense of the Planet” is that none of us can carry forward climate change legislation if it is not seen to be both efficient and equitable.

Kyoto is a challenge to us all. Climate change is a challenge to us all. It is not a scientific challenge, the science is clear. It is not a technological challenge for we are an innovative species. It is a political, intellectual, institutional, and some would say spiritual challenge.

In conferences over the last two years, GLOBE has adopted and adapted the analysis put forward by the Global Commons Institute, and others, known as Contraction and Convergence.

We support this because we believe it to be both equitable and efficient; because it forces us to think in the right time scale 1860–2100; and because its simple dramatic graphic is both flexible and powerful. It is not the answer, but it is the framework for an answer. It illustrates the problem and the need for an institutional development in which to place emissions trading, technology transfer and the rest. It is an envelope of equity within which we can trade and barter our collective path to sanity.

It provides an ethical answer to the ethical question of Southern rhetoric, and an efficiency answer to the efficiency argument of the North. Any deal must be subject to auditing and validation. Any deal can only be made to work within accepted and robust institutional and intellectual framework.

Contraction and Convergence is the intellectual underpinning for “The Tale of the Three Bubbles”. The “European bubble” incorporates the same principle – the less developed must be allowed to continue to grow, in the most carbon-free way possible, while the most developed must make the most severe cuts within a cap on emissions. It is inadequate only in as far as we need a “planetary bubble” that applies the same principle globally. If we need reminding of urgency we have only to recall the “ice-bubbles” in the Antarctic that record the carbon-driven dramas of previous ages.

We know all this will take time. We should be inspired by the snail climbing Mt. Fuji in the famous haiku. Though today that snail would perhaps be seen as climbing to a new environment in pursuit of a rising cloud levels, rather than undertaking a spiritual quest.

A great man once said something very foolish – “when you have seen one Californian Redwood, you have seen them all.” We all need to recognize our oneness with the natural world. For each of us there will have been a moment of inspiration. Mine came 15 years ago here in Japan at the Great Shrine of Ise. I find it literally unbearable that every day we pollute that sacred stream, damage those sacred pines, and block out that ancient sunlight.

If we fail to act here in Kyoto, we cannot lay the blame on our Gods. We will have to live, if live we can, with the consequence of our own acts on our own species and on the natural world that we so arrogantly seek to command.

GLOBAL LEGISLATORS ORGANIZATION FOR A BALANCED ENVIRONMENT – GLOBE

GLOBE PARLIAMENTARIANS PRESENT AT UNFCCC COP 3

Kyoto, 7 December 1997

After the Kyoto Conference of the Parties, our Parliaments will be requested to ratify the Kyoto Protocol. As parliamentarians involved in environmental policy, we will be requested to advise our colleagues on the ratification of the Protocol.

It is our responsibility to advise the delegations on the benchmarks which we feel the Kyoto Protocol must meet so that we may confidently recommend it to colleagues in Parliament.

Thus we ask you, the representatives of the world's governments, to take your responsibility in the face of the threat of climate change, so that we, the parliamentarians, may take ours.

1. The future of the Climate Convention and of the ongoing climate negotiations depends on a decisive outcome in Kyoto. The world cannot afford to walk away without having concluded a meaningful agreement at this conference, for fear of seeing public support for the process weaken dangerously and threaten the very future of the Climate Convention.
2. The Kyoto Protocol must give the world, its governments, its citizens, its markets and its industries the very clear signal that we are engaged in a process of genuine reductions of our economies' greenhouse gas emissions. This signal can only be given if the industrialized countries commit themselves to real and substantial GHG emission reduction targets within an agreed time limit.
3. A significant part of the reduction targets to be agreed must be carried out domestically by industrialized countries. We cannot accept an agreement allowing industrialized countries loopholes, such as buying their way out of a commitment to reducing emissions at home. The inclusion of sinks and trade with hot air should not be permitted at this stage.
4. The Protocol to be signed must be transparent and enforceable. The process which you are starting here is one which all the world's countries, citizens and political leaders must be able to trust and rely on as a commonly agreed effort where rules will be enforced and free riders penalized.

5. It must be recognized that although the emissions of some developing countries are increasing steadily, they cannot be asked to make commitments before the industrialized countries have proved their own commitment to the Convention.
6. We are concerned that the involuntary reductions which have taken place over the last ten years in the countries in transition should be accepted as the early fulfilment of their commitments.
7. The considerable difficulties in agreeing a fair basis for cuts in greenhouse gas emissions warrants the adoption, in the next phase of the Climate negotiations, of another approach which is both fair and simple. Parties to the Convention should consider aiming towards per capita emission targets.

We appeal to you to agree to a Protocol which we can present to our colleagues in Parliament as a genuine first step towards resolving the climate crisis.

GLOBAL LEGISLATORS ORGANIZATION FOR A BALANCED ENVIRONMENT – GLOBE

Kyoto, 11 December 1997

Speaking in the closing hours of the UN Climate Change Conference, Tom Spencer, MEP, President of GLOBE International, said:

“Kyoto cannot be described as a success – and yet it is not quite a failure. The result is ambiguous even by the standards of such gatherings. I am pleased that we will have a Protocol, and very worried at its leaky nature, and aversion to principle or consistency.

It is as if humanity, having planned to set to sea in a grand ocean liner, finds itself afloat instead in a partially fitted out hulk. Only half the crew are on board, and most of them are engaged in rearranging deck chairs. The vessel lacks not only agreement as to its ultimate destination, but a rudder in the shape of principle. There is no agreement as to the course to take, and no effective steering gear. The good ship SS Kyoto can only be regarded as progress, in as far as being on board is preferable to swimming alone in shark-infested waters.

Major efforts are going to be needed in the year before COP 4 in Buenos Aires if the Protocol is to be tightened up sufficiently to be worth ratifying. At the moment, the proposed Protocol offers as many opportunities for fraud and dishonesty as the Common Agricultural Policy. The Americans, in particular, have been playing fast and loose with the planet’s future because of domestic pressure from the fossil fuel industry.

These talks in Kyoto are not the last word on Climate Change. They are rather a first faltering attempt to find the language in which to discuss safeguarding the future of the planet. I very much regret the failure to adopt the Equity Protocol which I suggested laying out long-term guidelines as to how we should share emissions within a global cap on our production of greenhouse gases”.

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CONFESSIONAL GROUPS

WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

CHURCH EXPERT GIVES CAUTIOUS WELCOME TO CLIMATE TREATY, DESPITE LOOPHOLES

GENEVA, SWITZERLAND, 12 December (ENI) – The leader of an international church delegation to the United Nations' conference on climate change in Kyoto, Japan, has given a cautious welcome to the treaty agreed yesterday to limit greenhouse gas emissions.

Dr David Hallman, the climate change programme coordinator of the World Council of Churches, told ENI today that "at least the reduction targets for emissions by industrialised countries, like the US, Canada and Japan, are tighter than in the original proposals".

The aim of the Kyoto conference was to agree a plan to reduce emissions of so-called "greenhouse gases", such as carbon-dioxide, which are a main cause of global warming. Carbon dioxide is produced from burning oil and other fossil fuels.

The Kyoto protocol, which was agreed early on 11 December by environment ministers from nearly 160 countries after a marathon all-night negotiating session, commits 38 industrialised countries to cut their greenhouse gas emissions by slightly more than 5 per cent under 1990 levels between 2008 and 2012. All are committed to deeper cuts after that.

But Dr Hallman told ENI that there were "a number of big loopholes in the treaty which could allow the rich countries to claim they were meeting the targets without having to limit their domestic emission very much at all".

One example of such a loophole was the fact that industrialised countries would be able to trade "emissions quotas" among themselves, Dr Hallman said. This would allow a country falling short of its cutback target to purchase quotas from a country which had exceeded its target. Western countries could thus purchase "reduction credits" from Russia and other eastern European countries whose emissions had dropped as a result of the collapse of their economies, thereby avoiding full cutbacks, he suggested.

Dr Hallman said: "Continuing close scrutiny will be needed at the national and international level by churches and other non-governmental organisations [NGOs] to make sure these loopholes don't negate the intent of the treaty as it moves into an implementation phase over the next couple of years."

The WCC, which has been campaigning for industrialised countries to cut back on their emissions of greenhouse gases, believes that the issue of

climate change raises “profoundly ethical and spiritual concerns regarding the exploitation by the rich and powerful of the poor and the natural world,” Dr Hallman said.

In the run-up to the Kyoto gathering the WCC initiated a petition campaign, gathering hundreds of thousands of signatures, through churches in 23 industrialised countries in Europe, North America, Australia, New Zealand and Japan, which aimed to increase public support for cutbacks in greenhouse gas emissions.

Dr Hallman told ENI that he believed that lobbying by the churches and by NGOs had a “big impact” at the Kyoto conference and the churches had played a significant role in “pressing the ethical dimension”.

Earlier this week, addressing the Kyoto conference, Dr Hallman called on industrialised countries to demonstrate “in the near future, real and significant reductions in domestic greenhouse gas emissions”.

Although the “rich of the world”, were responsible for the vast majority of human-induced greenhouse gas emissions, he told delegates, they seemed “unwilling to honestly acknowledge that responsibility and translate it into action”.

He said that it was “the height of arrogance to propose that restrictive commitments be placed on the poor to make up for the delinquencies of the rich”, a reference to the demands by some industrialised countries – including the United States – that restrictions be placed on developing, as well as industrialised, countries.

But he warned that there were also “a few wealthy and powerful countries and elites within the category referred to as developing countries who sometimes misuse this classification of nations to disguise their economic self-interest”.

By Stephen Brown

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FRANCISCANS INTERNATIONAL

Kyoto, 5 December 1997

Our Franciscans International delegation at this third Conference of Parties COP 3 consists of members from Japan, Philippines, Netherlands, Australia, Germany and the United States and so we address ourselves not only to the Conference as a whole but to our countries of origin and to their delegates and ministers in particular.

The Franciscan Tradition has always held that the natural world is the manifestation of the sacred and that the human is that creature in which the universe reflects upon and celebrates itself in conscious awareness. The human now finds not only its place but also its presence to the sacred in this cosmos. To diminish the natural world is to diminish the inner capacities of the human to respond. Regarding one of the subjects of COP 3 carbon emissions: by denigrating the atmosphere so much so that the moon and stars are diminished in their brilliant impact; by reconstituting the rain to be acid, we have not merely already denigrated an outer reality but diminished our inner life at its root. It is the mystery of things which calls the human to fulfillment.

The Kyoto conference on climate change informs humankind that the earth is subject to irreversible damage in the major pattern of its functioning. We are presently faced with the cumulative significance of human insensitivity to the natural world and with an appalling sense of inertia in rising to the moral, spiritual and ethical challenge of this dramatic ecological issue.

The central human task of our immediate future is to assist in activating a mutually enhancing presence of the human community to the earth community, known to us all as interdependence. This task finds its most urgent focus at this Conference in the current situation of the small island states.

Today we call upon all governments, businesses, and industries, as well as environmental NGOs to refocus on our profound responsibility to the peoples of the Small Island States. They represent profound indigenous cultures and the most proximate human presence to the great repository of life, the oceans. These places of the meeting of human and oceanic life are the most imperiled biosphere in the crises of climate change, global warming and life threatening rising water levels. The small island states are the watermark for the viable human in this ecological crisis. Simply said, if there is not immediate change, most of them will disappear.

Franciscans International calls upon all to listen and hear and respond to their sentinel, crucial, and critical voice which is really a wake up call for all

peoples to the profoundly negative human factors altering the natural functioning of our planet.

Franciscans International-JAPAN, in a special way, realizing that through the Presidency of this historic Conference and our fellow Japanese citizens of the delegation here, challenges Japan to now become the world leader in assuming an historic and decisive role in favour of the approval of the proposals of the Small Island States. Japan is already a world leader in new environmental friendly technologies and should at this Conference become the foremost international leader supporting real sustainable human growth which will adequately meet the challenges of the present crisis of climate change.

New technologies, not including dangerous nuclear power, are the key to setting ecological limits on carbon emissions and are the channels for establishing a mutually enhancing the long range presence of the human community to the natural world.

So we challenge the world leaders here to give the world a strong Kyoto Protocol – 20 per cent reduction in emissions for the Annex 1 countries with a basket of all six gases and a serious compliance schedule with appropriate penalties.

At this Conference, the Small Islands States, have the most risk. They are asking us not to think in minimal terms or short range proposals. The weakest voices are calling on the powerful nations and industries to begin again here and now reducing the risk of global warming. Their survival depends on it. And in reality they are the most important voice that must be heard because whether they admit it or not, in the long run, the survival of all countries and peoples depend on it.

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TRADE UNIONS

*INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF FREE TRADE UNIONS –
ICFTU*

**CLIMATE CHANGE AND JOBS:
TOWARDS A STRATEGY FOR SUSTAINABLE EMPLOYMENT**

“There is a grave danger of environmental and employment policies pointing in contradictory directions. Yet in the debates about what should be the global programme on climate change, there is very little discussion of a sustainable employment strategy” said Stephen Pursey, chief economist of the ICFTU.

Trade unions are concerned that few policy-makers have considered the impact on workers and workplaces of meeting the challenges identified by the Assessment Reports of the IPCC. Working people around the world could well find themselves bearing a disproportionate share of the direct and indirect costs of either dislocation as a result of failure to arrest global warming or of large scale changes in employment structures as a result of action to reduce emissions.

Furthermore the underlying problem of the social and economic consequences of environmental policy is being ignored, thus leading to divergent views about what needs to be done and what is politically feasible.

As the vast majority of greenhouse gas emissions come from manufacturing industry, energy production and supply, as well as from transportation and construction sectors in industrialized nations, workers in these sectors are most at risk from proposals to reduce emissions. Total US job losses could be in a range between 900,000 and 1.6 million jobs with similar consequences in other countries. While new jobs in “green” industries will be created, such an energy saving in buildings, it is unclear where and how many and therefore what training and adjustment measures are needed.

Resistance to high targets will come from those sectors in both industrial and developing countries which will suffer most and, given crisis levels of global unemployment, may be opposed by workers unless strong and equitable employment transition measures are linked to target-setting. Proposals to soften the effect of targets on companies through such mechanisms as “tradable permits”, could result in the dangerously divisive effect of closures of industries in one country to allow an increase in emissions in another.

Developing countries must be encouraged to participate in emissions reductions because firstly, their emissions are rising fast and will soon reach significant levels. And secondly, once locked into a high emissions development pattern, it becomes increasingly costly to break out of it. Developing

countries too will need to join in the setting of binding targets even if they have differentiated goals and timetables.

As prime contributors to global warming, industrial countries have a responsibility to take the lead both by cutting their own emissions and by providing financial and technical assistance to developing and transition countries.

Our over-riding concern is to ensure that action to prevent environmental degradation is consistent with the goals of full employment and the eradication of poverty. This will not be achieved by relying on market mechanisms or by suppressing workers legitimate concerns about their jobs. It will require careful planning by governments, employers, and trade unions in all countries and the UN. The ICFTU therefore urges COP 3 to initiate large-scale detailed studies of the employment implications of its decisions with the International Labour Organization.

The International Confederation of Free Trade Unions consists of nearly 200 national centres of independent and democratic trade unions in 137 countries and territories with a total membership of 124 million working men and women.

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**UNION OF INDUSTRIAL AND EMPLOYER'S
CONFEDERATIONS OF EUROPE – UNICE**

UNICE POSITION ON GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE

10 October 1997

Global issue:

- The prospect of global climate change is a matter for genuine public concern. UNICE shares this concern and believes that industry must cooperate with governments and others to seek economic and internationally agreed solutions promoting sustainable development.
- The EU is responsible for about 16 per cent of global energy-related CO₂ emissions, and within this EU industry today accounts for 5 per cent of global emissions. These shares will decrease in relative terms as economic activity builds up in developing countries. Concerted action that will engage all countries contributing significantly to the problem is therefore an essential part of an effective response, and a necessary part of political agreement at Kyoto.
- Commitments by the EU must be conditional upon other industrialised countries matching that commitment, since unilateral Community action would be ineffective, and might even be counterproductive. It would be unacceptable for the EU to take unilateral action, since the Community's industrial competitiveness would be damaged if other industrialised countries did not make comparable efforts.

Managing uncertainties:

- There remain considerable uncertainties about both the magnitude and timing of temperature increases, as well as the climate consequences of increasing concentrations of greenhouse gases. There can be no uncertainty, however, about the damaging impact of the proposed unilateral EU energy tax.
- Action must be proportional and equitable, with options rested for their economic and social impacts.

EU industry is already acting to address the climate change issue:

- EU industry already occupies a leading international position in achieving energy efficiency. It will resolutely pursue its efforts in this area,

including by undertaking long-term sectoral agreements, in particular at national level.

- It is important to ensure that EU industry can continue to generate the wealth that makes it possible to finance the ecologically efficient investments that need to be made on a large scale in the domestic/tertiary sector, transport sector and electricity sector.
- The impact on international competitiveness will remain the acid test of response options since inappropriate options can put at stake the viability of industry sectors.

Targets and timetables as part of a long term strategy:

- The very nature of the climate change issue requires a very long-term framework for a response strategy. This strategy needs to be based on research to narrow uncertainty and develop new technology options, and include development of international institutions and processes to support innovative solutions.
- UNICE is ready to support targets and timetables to reduce greenhouse gas emissions that are realistic and achievable, provided that a concerted international response to climate change is ratified.
- It is important to define predictable pathways to achieve the long-term objectives, in such a way that business and industry can identify economic options to meet agreed targets and timetables.

Effective policies and measures:

- Industry must be consulted on the proposed policies and measures before they are selected.
- UNICE supports the use of long-term agreements as an optimum way for industry to contribute to reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
- Innovative market-based approaches such as Joint Implementation and Tradable Permits should be encouraged, taking an equitable starting basis and all precautions to avoid market distortions. Flexibility in the location of reductions in greenhouse gas emissions is a key element, because it could dramatically lower the overall economic costs.
- A new energy technology strategy needs to be part of the concerted long-term response, recognising that the world's energy needs will, for a considerable time, have to be met from existing fuel sources.

- Policies and measures need to have clear objectives, to be proportionate to benefits, to avoid market distortions, to be easy to administer, implement and adjust, and should be judged by lifecycle effect.
- UNICE strongly opposes any increase in energy taxes as ineffective to reduce CO₂ emissions, damaging to industrial competitiveness, as well as hindering energy-efficient investment by industry.

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OTHERS

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– NUCLEAR ENERGY INSTITUTE ,THE URANIUM INSTITUTE*

ICC ENDORSES GREATER RELIANCE ON NUCLEAR ENERGY

Kyoto, 8 December 1997 – Japan in a continuation of strong business and industry support for nuclear energy, the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) today recommended that delegates at the United Nations summit on global climate change include nuclear energy as an option for meeting increased electricity demand while avoiding greenhouse gas emissions.

As government delegations begin today to finalize an agreement to limit global climate change here in Kyoto, the ICC said that even with all our efforts to improve energy efficiency and conservation programmes, demand for energy and electricity will continue to grow significantly.

“Nuclear energy continues to offer an economic, safe, environmentally sustainable option for the generation of electricity,” the ICC said in a statement distributed to delegates from about 170 nations.

All energy sources will be necessary to meet this expanded demand. National energy policy must reflect economic and environmental priorities. Continued use of nuclear power plants and development of renewable energy sources are essential to meeting the goal of creating a sustainable future.

The International Chamber of Commerce statement reaffirms the significant carbon reductions provided by nuclear energy in many countries. Globally, nuclear power plants produce 17 per cent of electricity and avoid approximately 2.3 billion tons of CO₂ annually.

“The ICC reflects a longstanding recognition by business and industry of the nuclear energy’s unique ability to meet large-scale electricity demand and reduce greenhouse gas emissions,” said Joe F. Colvin, President and Chief Executive Officer at the Washington, D.C.-based Nuclear Energy Institute. “Nuclear energy must be recognized by the delegates at the summit for the significant role in reducing greenhouse gases.”

“We are pleased that the ICC has recognized that nuclear energy has an outstanding safety record and that technologies for waste management and decommissioning nuclear plants are commercially available”, said Dr. Wolf-J. Schmidt-Küster, Secretary General FORATOM the trade association for the European nuclear industry based in Brussels.

The report, which has now been approved by the World Council of the International Chamber of Commerce, called on government leaders to promote the expanded use of nuclear energy in the face of public perceptions. The ICC has thousands of member companies in 130 countries.

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CLEARING THE AIR:

Nuclear power and climate change

Countries participating in the Kyoto conference are striving to agree on limits for emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases. Whatever the details of the limits adopted, it is clear that the overall goal is to achieve meaningful reductions in future levels of carbon dioxide emissions.

Nuclear electricity generation provides about 17 per cent of world electricity generation, avoiding the emission of about 2.3 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide annually. This represents nearly one-third of the CO₂ emitted from electricity generation. It is thus essential that nuclear generating capacity is maintained if emissions from power generation are to be successfully limited over the next 10 to 15 years and beyond.

In the longer term, without continued large-scale nuclear programmes, many countries will find it impossible to meet future electricity demand while complying with the proposed limits on carbon dioxide emissions. Nuclear power is the only fully developed non-fossil electricity generating option with the potential for large-scale expansion. A continued steady growth of nuclear power could cut energy-related CO₂ emissions substantially over the coming decades if it were used to avoid increases in fossil fuel burning. Nuclear power therefore deserves full consideration as one means of curbing CO₂ emissions.

Whether to pursue a nuclear power programme is a decision for each country to take in the light of its own energy circumstances. Where nuclear power is adopted, however, it should be recognised as a component of a national strategy to reduce CO₂ emissions. The nuclear industry will continue to work with governments, other industries and environmental organisations to ensure that the maximum use is made of this clean source of electricity.

The nuclear industry calls on the governments participating in the Kyoto conference to recognise the present role of nuclear power in limiting greenhouse gas emissions, and its potential for meeting future electricity demand without adding to such emissions.