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UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Ad Hoc Group on the Berlin Mandate

First session

Geneva, 21 - 25 August 1995

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BERLIN MANDATE

Comments from Parties

Note by the secretariat

The Bureau of the Conference of the Parties, at its meeting on 19 June 1995, considered that the contribution of views by Parties, in writing, would help to advance work on the implementation of the Berlin Mandate (FCCC/CP/1995/7/Add.1, decision 1/CP.1). Such inputs were envisaged as a contribution to the second session of the Ad Hoc Group on the Berlin Mandate (AGBM). Accordingly, the Executive Secretary, in his communication of 23 June 1995 to permanent missions, advised Parties that the deadline for the submission of written contributions was set for 8 September 1995, although any submissions received by the secretariat by 4 August 1995 would be compiled and made available **for information** at the first session of the AGBM later that month.

The interim secretariat has received a submission from France (on behalf of the European Community). This submission is attached and, in accordance with the procedure for miscellaneous documents, is reproduced in the language in which it was received and without formal editing. Further submissions on this subject will be issued in an addendum to this note.

FCCC/AGBM/1995/Misc.1

GE.95-63458

**FIRST CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES
TO THE FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE**

**Statement by France
on behalf of the European Union**

**Item: Adequacy of commitments contained in Article 4
paragraph 2 (a) and (b)**

Berlin, 28 March 1995

1. The European Union thanks the Interim Secretariat for its document FCCC/CP/1995/Misc.1 which presents a synthesis of the different countries' positions on the question of the adequacy of commitments contained in Article 4 paragraph 2 (a) and (b). It wishes, however, to bring the Secretariat's attention to the fact that the European Union's position at INC 11 should be included in this document, and that it had indicated its wish that the statement which was read out at the end of the 11th session be included in the INC 11 summary and not in document FCCC/CP/1995/Misc.1.

On the subject of adequacy, the European Union's position as defined at ministerial level on 9 March 1995 is the following:

2. The European Union confirms the conclusions which it adopted on 15/16 December 1994 and which it presented at the 11th INC. It reiterates its view that commitments by Annex I Parties to reduce greenhouse gases to their 1990 level by the year 2000 are insufficient to achieve the ultimate objective laid down in Article 2 of the Convention. It therefore considers Article 4(2)(a) and (b) of the Convention to be inadequate.
3. The European Union reaffirms its determination to meet its existing commitments and to take such additional measures as may be necessary to achieve this, and urges all other Annex I Parties to do the same.

The European Union, confirming its conclusions of 29 October 1990 inter alia to stabilize CO₂ emissions in the Community as a whole at 1990 levels by the year 2000, calls upon the other Annex I Parties also to commit themselves to stabilizing their CO₂ emissions individually or jointly at 1990 level by the year 2000, i.e. at least not to exceed this level after 2000.

4. INC 11 acknowledged the commitments in Article 4(2)(a) and (b) to be only a first step on the way to the Convention's ultimate objective and the need to review them at the first Conference of the Parties. The European Union would emphasize that the second stage begins as of the year 2000 since the present commitments make no provision for the period after that date.
5. The European Union notes that for the commitments regarding the period after 2000, in view of likely ratification times, a protocol on policies and measures as well as targets and timetables in order to limit and reduce greenhouse gas emissions would need to have been adopted in 1997 in order to enter into force by 2000. If it is to be adopted in 1997, such a protocol would have to be drawn up in the course of a set of negotiations likely to last up to two years.
6. The European Union therefore reaffirms that the first Conference of the Parties needs at least to map out the mandate for negotiations on a protocol and set a time limit for its conclusion. The European Union has already started considering measures that could contribute to limiting and reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the period after the year 2000.
7. The European Union considers it desirable, in the light of the discussions at INC 11, that the mandate to be decided upon by the first Conference of the Parties contain, in particular, the following key elements :
 - a) Provision of a second step towards achieving the ultimate objective of the Convention.

- b) Establishment of a special ad hoc working group, under the auspices of the Conference of the Parties, to elaborate a protocol, to which as many Parties as possible could adhere, building upon the principles in Article 3 of the Framework Convention on Climate Change and the findings of the IPCC including its Second Assessment Report. The AOSIS protocol proposal and the German elements paper will as well as others form part of the negotiations.
 - c) Report of the ad hoc group to the second Conference of the Parties on the state of negotiations on the protocol; completion of the negotiations six months before the third Conference of the Parties in order to allow adoption during that Conference.
 - d) Inclusion in the ad hoc group's working programme, in cooperation with the other subsidiary bodies, of an analysis or assessment to identify potential and possible policies and measures for achieving limitations and reductions of greenhouse gas emissions.
8. The European Union has prepared a number of key elements which we believe could form the basis for a mandate for the negotiation of a protocol. These key elements are attached to this statement, which is available in the meeting room.
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Key elements to be considered in a protocol

- i) Comprehensiveness of the protocol, covering all greenhouse gases, their sources and sinks and all relevant sectors;
- ii) Common but differentiated responsibilities of Parties in line with their respective capabilities and possibilities:
 - lead responsibility of Annex I Parties through specific commitments, individually or jointly, strengthening and enlarging those undertaken in Article 4 2) a) and b) of the Convention;
 - participation, over time, of non-Annex I Parties as recognized in Article 4.2 (f) and (g); establishment of a framework leading to sustainable patterns of economic development that will secure steadily increasing economic growth while restraining the growth of greenhouse gas emissions;
- iii) Combined approach including both policies and measures as well as targets and timetables such as 2005 and 2010, taking into account the differences in starting points and approaches, economic structures and resource bases as set out in Article 4.2 (a);
- iv) Coordinated policies and measures covering CO₂ and other greenhouse gases, in particular in those areas where international coordination is called for in view of competitiveness concerns, priority being given to:
 - measures subject to competitiveness concerns;
 - measures concerning globally oriented industrial sectors;
 - measures in sectors where decisions may have long term adverse effects on climate change;
 - measures relating to tradable products,

in particular when these measures represent :

- * potential or actual globally significant greenhouse gas emissions or sinks;
- * potential significant benefits in addressing other problems;
- * potential further steps towards better energy efficiency;

taking into account, inter alia, in an appropriate way the indicative list of possible policies and measures shown in the Annex to the present conclusions.

- v) regular review of the commitments relating to the limitation and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions;
 - vi) provisions to coordinate and exchange experience on national policies and measures in areas of interest, particularly those identified in the review and synthesis reports as a major contributor to greenhouse gas emissions;
 - vii) provisions regarding public access to information on energy consumption and on national policies, regional institutes in charge of promoting a rational use of energy and energy labelling.
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Indicative list of possible policies and measures**measures regarding energy use and CO₂**

- use of economic instruments, including fiscal measures such as CO₂/energy taxation and elimination of disincentives to the efficient use of energy;
- CO₂ emissions from large combustion plants;
- energy consumption by household appliances;
- thermal insulation of buildings;
- CO₂ emissions from energy-intensive industrial sectors;
- CO₂ and other greenhouse gas emissions from vehicles, and more generally from the terrestrial transport sector;
- CO₂ and other greenhouse gas emissions from international transport especially from airplanes and boats;
- promotion of the use of new and renewable sources of energy;
- storage of carbon in forests;

measures regarding CH₄

- limitation of CH₄ emissions from extraction and transfer of coal and gas;
- limitation of CH₄ emissions from waste disposal;

measures regarding N₂O

- N₂O emissions from some industrial processes (adipic acid, nitric acid, ...);
- N₂O emissions related to fertilizer use;

measures regarding HFCs and PFCs

- limitation of HFCs and PFCs emissions through an optimization of their use in all activities, i.a. in refrigeration and air-conditioning systems.
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