



AD HOC GROUP ON THE BERLIN MANDATE  
Fifth session  
Geneva, 9 - 13 December 1996  
Agenda item 6

**REPORT OF THE AD HOC GROUP ON THE BERLIN MANDATE**

**Draft report of the Ad Hoc Group on the Berlin Mandate on its fifth session**

Rapporteur: Mr. Suphavit PIAMPHONGSANT (Thailand), Vice-Chairman

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## I. OPENING OF THE SESSION

(Agenda item 1)

1. The fifth session of the Ad Hoc Group on the Berlin Mandate (hereinafter referred to as "the AGBM") was held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, from 9 to 13 December 1996.
2. The Chairman of the AGBM, Ambassador Raúl Estrada-Oyuela, opened the session at the first meeting, on 9 December 1996. In welcoming the participants, he recalled that only four more sessions remained for the AGBM to complete the Berlin Mandate entrusted to it. The Chairman encouraged Parties to grasp the opportunity to begin to cut down on the number of options under discussion on policies and measures, quantified emission limitation and reduction objectives (QELROs) and other issues before the AGBM. Referring to the Synthesis of proposals by Parties (FCCC/AGBM/1996/10), the Chairman noted that this document highlighted some similarities between different options proposed by Parties, as well as revealing remaining areas of divergence. He concluded by expressing the hope that the Synthesis of proposals would help guide the work of the AGBM at its fifth session.
3. The Executive Secretary, Mr. Michael Zammit Cutajar, welcomed all participants to the session. He noted with satisfaction that Parties are giving increasing thought to the specific content of their proposals. In this context, he observed that the Synthesis of proposals provides the AGBM with a clear direction on how its work should proceed. The Executive Secretary informed the AGBM of changes regarding procedures for the preparation of documentation and reported on the challenges faced by the secretariat in its move to Bonn.
4. Professor Bert Bolin, Chairman of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), addressed the AGBM on the newly issued IPCC Technical Paper entitled "Technologies, policies and measures for mitigating climate change", and highlighted for the AGBM aspects of the IPCC Second Assessment Report which he wished personally to emphasize. Professor Bolin informed the AGBM that two more technical papers would be issued in early 1997 and regretted that these were not yet available to the Group. After discussing different emission limitation and stabilization options, as well as the various policies and measures open to Parties to achieve these, Professor Bolin concluded by expressing the hope that his observations were useful to the AGBM in its deliberations.
5. In thanking Professor Bolin for his statement, the Chairman expressed the gratitude of the Group for his valuable contribution to the work of the AGBM as Chairman of the IPCC.

## **II. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS**

(Agenda item 2)

### **A. Adoption of the agenda**

(Agenda item 2 (a))

6. The AGBM, at its first session, on 9 December, adopted the following agenda:
  1. Opening of the session.
  2. Organizational matters:
    - (a) Adoption of the agenda;
    - (b) Organization of the work of the session;
    - (c) Organization of the work of future sessions.
  3. Strengthening the commitments in Article 4.2(a) and (b):
    - (a) Policies and measures;
    - (b) Quantified emission limitation and reduction objectives within specified time-frames.
  4. Continuing to advance the implementation of existing commitments in Article 4.1.
  5. Possible features of a protocol or another legal instrument.
  6. Report on the session.

**B. Organization of the work of the session**

(Agenda item 2(b))

7. At the 1st meeting of the AGBM, on 9 December, the Chairman recalled that there would be services available for 10 meetings, with interpretation from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. The AGBM accepted the Chairman's proposal to hold an informal round table on proposals from Parties, and an informal consultation on the possible impacts on developing country Parties of the new commitments by Annex I Parties to limit and reduce emissions.

8. The informal round table, chaired at the invitation of the Chairman by the AGBM Vice-Chairman Mr. Suphavit Piamphongsant, was held on the afternoon of 9 December. It was designed to promote the exchange of information on proposals submitted by Parties thus far, with an emphasis on those proposals submitted since the fourth session of the AGBM. These proposals are contained in document FCCC/AGBM/MISC.2 and Add. 1-4. The round table was very well attended, and a lively and productive interchange took place.

9. An informal consultation was convened by the Chairman on the subject of the possible impacts on developing country Parties of the new commitments by Annex I Parties to limit and reduce emissions and to consider what further analysis and assessment is necessary in this regard. After a productive consultation, the Chairman concluded by welcoming offers to submit proposals on how to accommodate the concerns of developing country Parties in the protocol or another legal instrument to be adopted at the third Conference of the Parties, and noted that further studies should be available on this issue by the seventh session of the AGBM.

**C. Organization of the work of future sessions**

(Agenda item 2 (c))

10. At the first meeting of the AGBM, on 9 December, the Chairman reported on the schedule of meetings of Convention bodies as decided by the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties. The sixth session of the AGBM will be held from 3 to 7 March in Bonn, with subsequent sessions to be organized within the following periods:

Seventh session	28 July - 7 August 1997	Bonn
Eighth session	20 - 31 October 1997	Bonn

The terms of the Berlin Mandate will be fulfilled at the third session of the Conference of the Parties, to be held at Kyoto, Japan, within the period 1 to 12 December 1997.

[to be completed]

**D. Attendance**

11. The lists of attendance at the fifth session of the AGBM are given in annex I below.

**E. Documentation**

12. The documents prepared for the AGBM at its fifth session are listed in annex II below.

**III. STRENGTHENING THE COMMITMENTS IN ARTICLE 4.2(A) and (B)**  
(Agenda item 3)

[to be completed]

**IV. CONTINUING TO ADVANCE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF EXISTING  
COMMITMENTS IN ARTICLE 4.1**

(Agenda item 4)

[to be completed]

**V. POSSIBLE FEATURES OF A PROTOCOL OR  
ANOTHER LEGAL INSTRUMENT**

(Agenda item 5)

[to be completed]

**VI. REPORT ON THE FIFTH SESSION**

(Agenda item 6)

13. At the \_\_\_th meeting, on \_\_\_ December, the Rapporteur presented the first part of the draft report of the session (FCCC/AGBM/1996/L.3). The AGBM considered and adopted the first part of the draft report.

14. At its \_\_\_th meeting, on \_\_\_ December, the AGBM requested the Rapporteur, under the guidance of the Chairman and with the assistance of the secretariat, to complete the report, taking into account the discussions of the AGBM, the conclusions on agenda items 3, 4, and 5, and the need for editorial adjustments.

15. The Chairman, after thanking all participants for their constructive cooperation, declared the fifth session of the AGBM closed.

**Annex I**

[to be completed]

**Annex II**

**DOCUMENTS BEFORE THE AD HOC GROUP ON  
THE BERLIN MANDATE AT ITS FIFTH SESSION**

FCCC/AGBM/1996/8	Report of the Ad Hoc Group on the Berlin Mandate on the work of its fourth session, held at Geneva from 11 to 16 July 1996
FCCC/AGBM/1996/9	Provisional agenda and annotations
FCCC/AGBM/1996/10	Synthesis of proposals by Parties
FCCC/AGBM/1996/MISC.2 and Add.1-4	Implementation of the Berlin Mandate: proposals from Parties
FCCC/AGBM/1996/L.3	Draft report of the Ad Hoc Group on the Berlin Mandate on its fifth session
FCCC/CP/1996/15	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its second session, held at Geneva from 8 to 19 July 1996

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