
CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES
Fifth session
Bonn, 25 October - 5 November 1999
Agenda item 12 (a)

**ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES
ON ITS FIFTH SESSION**

Draft report of the Conference of the Parties on its fifth session

Rapporteur: Mr. Antonio José Vallim Guerreiro (Brazil)

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I. DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

Decision

-/CP.5 Institutional linkage of the Convention secretariat to the
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II. OTHER ACTION TAKEN BY THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

I. OPENING OF THE SESSION

1. The fifth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, convened pursuant to Article 7.4 of the Convention, was opened at the Hotel Maritim, Bonn, Germany, on 25 October 1999, by the President of the Conference at its fourth session, Ms. María Julia Alsogaray, Secretary of Natural Resources and Sustainable Development, Argentina.

A. Statement by the President of the Conference at its fourth session

(Agenda item 1 (a))

2. The President of the Conference at its fourth session welcomed all participants to the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties. She said that the post-Kyoto process was as significant and challenging as the adoption of the Kyoto Protocol itself. The priorities to be addressed were outlined in the Buenos Aires Plan of Action (decision 1/CP.4), which had integrated the core actions under the Convention with the negotiations on Protocol issues. The Buenos Aires Plan of Action had also set ambitious and politically firm deadlines for agreement on those issues at the sixth session of the Conference of the Parties, which was vital for ensuring that the Kyoto Protocol entered into force as early as possible. It was clear that the objectives of Article 4.2 of the Convention would not be reached by many Annex I Parties. At the same time, developing countries were rapidly becoming a significant source of additional greenhouse gas emissions, even though their per capita levels remained relatively low. Progress had thus been slower than expected and much remained to be done. Mere stabilization, or a slight reduction of emissions from Annex I Parties, was not enough. It was essential to modify longer-term trends by creating the conditions that would allow the early entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol, and a clear manifestation of political will was urgently required in order to move the process forward. She therefore urged the Conference to send out a convincing signal to continue along the path embarked on in Rio de Janeiro, which should lead to the entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol by "Rio + 10", that is, by the year 2002. In wishing the participants every success in their deliberations, she expressed the hope that the advocacy and involvement of non-governmental organizations, the business sector and civil society would continue to contribute positively to the debate and to decisive action.

B. Election of the President of the Conference at its fifth session

(Agenda item 1 (b))

3. At the 1st plenary meeting, on 25 October, on the proposal of the outgoing President, the Conference of the Parties elected by acclamation Mr. Jan Szyszko, Secretary of State for Climate Change, Poland, as its President.

C. Statement by the President

(Agenda item 1 (c))

4. On assuming office, the President paid tribute to the great negotiating skills of the President of the Conference at its fourth session and to her commitment to the cause of climate change. He said that global warming was currently considered worldwide as the main environmental challenge of the coming years. The targets relating to the stabilization and further reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, set in the Convention and in the Kyoto Protocol, required urgent and effective actions to be taken by Parties. The current session of the Conference should be a milestone in the implementation of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action. The agenda contained a number of difficult political and technical issues on which progress needed to be made so that decisions could be taken at the sixth session of the Conference that would trigger ratification of the Kyoto Protocol and offer constructive incentives to developing countries to enhance their active participation in the climate agenda in the context of their sustainable development. Noting that a growing number of businesses and industries now viewed their contribution to limiting emissions as inevitable, essential and even profitable, he emphasized the importance of giving clear, positive signals to business and industry by finding consensus on a number of technical questions. He expressed the hope that negotiations at the current session would, in particular, succeed in advancing the work on defining the rules by which developed countries could lower the costs of meeting their targets by reducing emissions in other countries through the Kyoto Protocol mechanisms and the rules governing compliance and non-compliance, as well as on other issues such as mitigation of adverse impacts of climate change and the implementation of response measures.

D. Addresses of welcome

(Agenda item 1 (d))

5. Mr. Gerhard Schröder, Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, cordially welcomed the participants to the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties. He thanked the Convention secretariat for the smooth organization of the Conference and stated the wish of Germany to host additional United Nations organizations in Bonn.

6. He said that the vision of sustainable development articulated at the Rio Conference in 1992 had not been realized as quickly as many had hoped and that, despite continued efforts, the trends in most environmental sectors were still negative. Environmental protection was not a luxury but vital to safeguard the resources of mankind, and he considered global climate change to be the biggest threat. Despite the establishment of the Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol, there had been setbacks in the climate process, including the failure of many developed countries to return their CO₂ emissions to 1990 levels by the year 2000. He urged Parties, in order to remain credible, to implement at home what they had pledged on the international stage.

7. He then outlined Germany's efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and confirmed its national target to reduce its CO₂ emissions by 25 per cent compared to the 1990 level by the

year 2005, as well as its commitment within the context of the European Union burden-sharing. He announced his Government's intention to present a comprehensive national reduction strategy for greenhouse gases by the middle of 2000 which would follow on the existing national programme and lay down necessary further measures. Measures already introduced and to be taken included an ecological tax reform, an energy savings ordinance to reduce CO₂ emissions in buildings, measures in the transport sector and measures for saving energy in private consumption. Climate protection policies provided opportunities not only for protecting the environment but also for preserving and creating modern jobs. Anybody trying to slow down climate protection or merely failing to make progress would lose touch with important markets in the next century.

8. With regard to recent national phenomena, he stated that nobody should be allowed to postpone measures by pointing out remaining scientific uncertainties. Action had to be taken now. The Kyoto Protocol must enter into force by 2002 at the latest, that is ten years after the Rio Conference. In conclusion, he urged developed countries to take the lead in climate protection and to take the domestic action which, of necessity, was the main means of complying with the obligations of Article 3 of the Kyoto Protocol. Only then could it be expected that developing countries would gradually assume commitments in order to limit and, where necessary, reduce their greenhouse gas emissions.

9. Ms. Bärbel Dieckmann, Mayor of the City of Bonn, extended a warm welcome to all participants in the Conference and expressed her great satisfaction that the City of Bonn, which was the seat of the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and of other United Nations organizations, should have the honour of hosting a session of the Conference of the Parties. She emphasized that Bonn was on its way to becoming a centre for international cooperation, that it was a member of the Climate Alliance and that it had launched a number of energy-saving and environmental programmes. She underlined the important role cities and their citizens played in the field of climate change. The City of Bonn, in cooperation with a number of organizations based in Bonn, had organized a variety of awareness-raising events to accompany the Conference. In conclusion, the Mayor expressed her best wishes for a successful outcome to the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties.

E. Message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations¹

(Agenda item 1 (e))

10. The Secretary-General, welcoming the presence of Mr. Gerhard Schröder, Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, at the opening of the Conference as a demonstration of how high the issue of climate change could climb on national agendas, said that, since the entry into force of the Convention, the Parties to it had laid a solid foundation for long-term action to minimize climate change and its consequences. They were building effective institutions and

¹ The message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations was delivered by the Executive Secretary under agenda item 1 (e), "Statement by the Executive Secretary".

technical capacities at the national level and a credible international system of data-gathering and information-sharing. Targets had been set and a start made on designing a system of compliance. Policy decisions were being based on the best available science, drawing on the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change; cost-effectiveness was being stressed through mechanisms engaging the resources and ingenuity of business and industry; and the work had been opened to the scrutiny of civil society. Those were signs of a maturing international regime and the Parties to the Convention could take pride in their achievements.

11. There was, however, no room for complacency. The efforts being made would bear fruit only if widely understood and supported. The public at large was looking to Bonn for a message. They wanted to hear that countries were fully committed to early domestic efforts to achieve their emission targets. They wanted to be reassured that the strategy devised was fair and inclusive, sensitive to the concerns of vulnerable countries and driven by the need to protect the climate as a global resource. They wanted to see the developing countries being empowered, through finance, technology and capacity-building, to follow environmentally-sound paths of economic development and make their rightful contribution to limiting global emissions. Lastly, they wanted to see evidence that the Clean Development Mechanism, the innovative centrepiece of the Kyoto Protocol, would be ready to be activated immediately after the sixth session of the Conference of the Parties and that the Kyoto Protocol would enter into force by 2002 at the latest.

12. The present period was one of extraordinary technological creativity, with old industries being transformed or replaced by new ones, and the key sectors of energy and transport would not remain static over the coming decades. In the context of the need to be more competitive and less polluting, pioneering firms were already leading the way to green profits, and the Convention and the Protocol were moving with that tide. In conclusion, the Secretary-General said that the United Nations system was ready to be a partner in the process and, in that spirit of partnership, he conveyed to the participants his best wishes for the success of their deliberations.

II. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

A. Status of ratification of the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol

(Agenda item 2 (a))

13. For its consideration of this sub-item at its 2nd plenary meeting, on 25 October, the Conference of the Parties had before it an information document on the status of ratification of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and its Kyoto Protocol (FCCC/CP/1999/INF.2). On the invitation of the President, the Conference of the Parties took note with satisfaction that, as of 25 October 1999, 179 States and one regional economic integration organization were Parties to the Convention. The Conference of the Parties was informed that São Tomé and Príncipe had also ratified the Convention on 29 September and would thus become a Party on 28 December 1999. The Conference of the Parties further took note that, as of 25 October 1999, 15 Parties had ratified or acceded to the Kyoto Protocol.

B. Adoption of the rules of procedure
(Agenda item 2 (b))

14. At the 1st plenary meeting, on 25 October, the President informed the Conference of the Parties that, having received a report from the President of the Conference at its fourth session on her consultations on the draft rules of procedure, he intended to undertake further consultations with a view to reaching a consensus on the unresolved issues. On the proposal of the President, the Conference of the Parties decided that in the meantime, as at previous sessions, the draft rules of procedure as contained in document FCCC/CP/1996/2 should continue to be applied, with the exception of draft rule 42.

[to be completed]

C. Adoption of the agenda
(Agenda item 2 (c))

15. For its consideration of this sub-item at its 1st plenary meeting, on 25 October, the Conference of the Parties had before it a note by the Executive Secretary containing the provisional agenda and annotations (FCCC/CP/1999/1 and Add.1). The President proposed, on the basis of consultations with the Bureau, that with regard to sub-item 7 (b), “Work programme on mechanisms (decision 7/CP.4)”, it should be understood that the work programme on the Kyoto Protocol mechanisms would be dealt with as a whole. The Conference would therefore look at those aspects which were to be acted on by the Conference of the Parties as well as those requiring action by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol at its first session. He further proposed that a new sub-item 7 (f), entitled “Matters relating to Article 3, paragraph 14, of the Kyoto Protocol”, should be included, since Article 3, paragraph 14, also called for action by the Conference of the Parties at its first session serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol. For practical purposes, that sub-item would be taken up with sub-item 4 (f), “Implementation of Article 4, paragraphs 8 and 9, of the Convention”.

16. At the same meeting, the President recalled that item 5 of the provisional agenda, “Second review of the adequacy of Article 4, paragraphs 2 (a) and (b), of the Convention”, had been included in accordance with rule 16 of the draft rules of procedure being applied, which provides that “any item of the agenda of an ordinary session, consideration of which has not been completed at the session, shall be included automatically in the agenda of the next ordinary session, unless otherwise decided by the Conference of the Parties.” He informed the Conference of the Parties that the Group of 77 and China had proposed an amendment to the wording of that item. There was as yet no agreement and it was his intention to undertake further consultations with a view to reaching a consensus. He therefore proposed that the item should be held in abeyance pending the outcome of his consultations. The Conference of the Parties accordingly adopted the provisional agenda as contained in document FCCC/CP/1999/1, with the

addition of the new sub-item 7 (f) proposed by the President and with the exception of item 5, which was held in abeyance.

[to be completed]

D. Election of officers other than the President

(Agenda item 2 (d))

17. At the 1st plenary meeting, on 25 October, on the proposal of the President, the Conference of the Parties elected by acclamation seven Vice-Presidents and the Rapporteur of the Conference, the Chairman of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice and the Chairman of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation. The Bureau of the Conference was thus constituted as follows:

President

Mr. Jan Szyszko (Poland)

Vice-Presidents

Mr. Liu Zhenmin (China)

Mr. Papa Cham (the Gambia)

Mr. Yvo de Boer (Netherlands)

Mr. Tuiloma Neroni Slade (Samoa)

Mr. Mohammad Salem Al-Sabban (Saudi Arabia)

Mr. Philip Gwage (Uganda)

Mr. Olexander Bielov (Ukraine)

Rapporteur

Mr. Antonio José Vallim Guerreiro (Brazil)

Chairman of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice

Mr. Harald Dovland (Norway)

Chairman of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation

Mr. John W. Ashe (Antigua and Barbuda)

E. Admission of organizations as observers

(Agenda item 2 (e))

18. For its consideration of this sub-item at its 2nd plenary meeting, on 25 October, the Conference of the Parties had before it a note by the secretariat on the admission of organizations as observers (FCCC/CP/1999/4 and Add.1), listing two intergovernmental organizations and 36 non-governmental organizations that had requested to be admitted as observers. Pursuant to a recommendation by the Bureau of the Conference, which had reviewed the list of applicant organizations, the Conference of the Parties decided to admit those organizations as observers.

F. Organization of work, including the sessions of the subsidiary bodies

(Agenda item 2 (f))

19. In introducing this sub-item at the 2nd plenary meeting, on 25 October, the President drew the attention of the Conference of the Parties to the annotations thereto in document FCCC/CP/1999/1/Add.1 and to the tentative schedule of meetings contained in document FCCC/CP/1999/1. He said that the bulk of the work of the session would be conducted in the subsidiary bodies, which would have the responsibility of developing draft decisions and conclusions for submission to the Conference of the Parties for adoption. The subsidiary bodies were expected to conclude their work by Wednesday, 3 November, whereupon their Chairmen would report to the plenary on the results achieved and on any outstanding issues. Should further work prove necessary on any given item, the Conference of the Parties might decide to request the President or another member of the Bureau to undertake consultations. Such consultations should be concluded by the evening of Thursday, 4 November, to enable the Conference to close with the adoption of decisions in an orderly manner in the afternoon of Friday, 5 November. The high-level segment attended by ministers and other heads of delegation would be convened from the afternoon of Tuesday, 2 November, until the morning of Thursday, 4 November.

20. The President informed the Conference of the Parties that provision had been made for the holding of two simultaneous meetings with full interpretation facilities each morning and afternoon, including Saturday, 30 October. In addition, it was anticipated that either formal or informal meetings would be held in the evenings.

21. A statement was made under this sub-item by the representative of one Party.

22. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 27 October, the Conference of the Parties, on the proposal of the President, decided that a time-limit of three to four minutes should be set for the policy statements to be delivered by ministers and other heads of delegation during the high-level segment.

[to be completed]

G. Date and venue of the sixth session of the Conference of the Parties

(Agenda item 2 (g))

[to be completed]

H. Calendar of meetings of Convention bodies, 2000-2003

(Agenda item 2 (h))

[to be completed]

I. Adoption of the report on credentials

(Agenda item 2 (i))

[to be completed]

J. Attendance

[to be completed]

K. Documentation

23. The documents before the Conference at its fifth session are listed in annex III below.

III. REPORTS OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES

(Agenda item 3)

A. Report of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice

(Agenda item 3 (a))

24. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 25 October, the Conference of the Parties took note of the report of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice on its tenth session (FCCC/SBSTA/1999/6) and expressed its appreciation to the outgoing Chairman, Mr. Chow Kok Kee (Malaysia).

[to be completed]

B. Report of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation

(Agenda item 3 (b))

25. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 25 October, the Conference of the Parties took note of the report of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation on its tenth session (FCCC/SBI/1999/8) and expressed its appreciation to the former Chairman, Mr. Bakary Kanté (Senegal) and to its

Vice-Chairman, Mr. Mohammad Reza Salamat (Islamic Republic of Iran), who had acted on behalf of Mr. Kanté after his withdrawal.

[to be completed]

**IV. REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMMITMENTS
AND OF OTHER PROVISIONS OF THE CONVENTION**
(Agenda item 4)

A. National communications from Parties included in Annex I to the Convention
(Agenda item 4 (a))

[to be completed]

B. National communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention

(Agenda item 4 (b))

[to be completed]

C. Report of the Global Environment Facility to the Conference
(Agenda item 4 (c))

[to be completed]

D. Capacity-building
(Agenda item 4 (d))

[to be completed]

E. Development and transfer of technologies (decision 4/CP.4)
(Agenda item 4 (e))

[to be completed]

F. Implementation of Article 4, paragraphs 8 and 9, of the Convention (decision 3/CP.3 and Article 2, paragraph 3, and Article 3, paragraph 14, of the Kyoto Protocol)
(Agenda item 4 (f))

[to be completed]

G. Activities implemented jointly under the pilot phase (decision 6/CP.4)

(Agenda item 4 (g))

[to be completed]

H. Other matters referred to the Conference of the Parties by the subsidiary bodies at their eleventh sessions

(Agenda item 4 (h))

[to be completed]

V. [to be completed]

VI. PROPOSALS TO AMEND THE LISTS IN ANNEXES I AND II TO THE CONVENTION

(Agenda item 6)

A. Review of information and possible decisions under Article 4, paragraph 2 (f): proposals to remove Turkey from the lists in Annexes I and II

(Agenda item 6 (a))

26. For its consideration of this sub-item, the Conference of the Parties had before it document FCCC/CP/1997/MISC.3 containing a submission by Turkey, and document FCCC/SBI/1997/15 containing proposals by Pakistan and Azerbaijan to delete the name of Turkey from the lists in Annexes I and II to the Convention. Introducing the sub-item at the 3rd plenary meeting, on 27 October, the Deputy-Secretary of the Conference said that the Conference of the Parties, in its decision 15/CP.4, recalling the discussions concerning the request by Pakistan and Azerbaijan at its third session for the deletion of the name of Turkey from the lists included in Annexes I and II to the Convention, had taken note of the new information submitted by Turkey and had decided to continue the review of the matter under Article 4.2(f) at its fifth session. The President informed the Conference of the Parties that the President of the Conference at its fourth session had held informal consultations with several delegations with a view to finding a solution, but that it had not proved possible to reach a consensus. The President also informed the Conference of the Parties that Azerbaijan had indicated that it wished to maintain its proposal. At the invitation of the President, a statement was made by the representative of Pakistan reiterating its proposal and a statement was made by the observer for Turkey. Further statements were made by the representatives of four Parties.

27. At the same meeting, on the proposal of the President, the Conference of the Parties agreed that the President should undertake informal consultations with a view to concluding the sub-item by the end of the session.

[to be completed]

B. Amendment proposed by Kazakhstan: to add its name to the list in Annex I
(Agenda item 6 (b))

28. For its consideration of this sub-item, the Conference of the Parties had before it a note by the secretariat entitled "Amendment to Annex I to the Convention: Proposal for the Republic of Kazakhstan to amend Annex I to the Convention" (FCCC/CP/1999/2). Introducing the sub-item at the 3rd plenary meeting, on 27 October, the Deputy-Secretary of the Conference informed the Conference of the Parties that, on 24 April 1999, Kazakhstan had submitted a proposal to amend the Convention to include its name in the list in Annex I. In accordance with Article 15.2 and Article 16 of the Convention, the Executive Secretary, on 3 May 1999, had transmitted the proposal to the Parties and to the signatories of the Convention in English, the language in which it was submitted. Subsequently, the proposal had been circulated in all the official languages of the United Nations. At the invitation of the President, the representative of Kazakhstan introduced the proposed amendment. Statements were made by the representatives of 20 Parties, including one speaking on behalf of the European Community and its member States.

29. At the same meeting, the Conference of the Parties, on the proposal of the President, agreed that the President should hold informal consultations with a view to concluding the sub-item by the end of the session.

[to be completed]

**VII. PREPARATIONS FOR THE FIRST SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE
OF THE PARTIES SERVING AS THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES
TO THE KYOTO PROTOCOL (DECISION 8/CP.4)**

(Agenda item 7)

A. Matters relating to land-use, land-use change and forestry
(Agenda item 7 (a))

[to be completed]

B. Work programme on mechanisms (decision 7/CP.4)
(Agenda item 7 (b))

[to be completed]

C. Procedures and mechanisms relating to compliance under the Kyoto Protocol
(Agenda item 7 (c))

[to be completed]

D. Impact of single projects on emissions in the commitment period (decision 16/CP.4)

(Agenda item 7 (d))

[to be completed]

E. National systems, adjustments and guidelines under Articles 5, 7 and 8 of the Kyoto Protocol

(Agenda item 7 (e))

[to be completed]

F. Matters relating to Article 3, paragraph 14, of the Kyoto Protocol

(Agenda item 7 (f))

[to be completed]

VIII. ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL MATTERS

(Agenda item 8)

A. Programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001

(Agenda item 8 (a))

[to be completed]

B. Income and budget performance in the biennium 1998-1999

(Agenda item 8 (b))

[to be completed]

C. Arrangements for administrative support to the Convention

(Agenda item 8 (c))

[to be completed]

D. Institutional linkage of the Convention secretariat to the United Nations

(Agenda item 8 (d))

30. For its consideration of this sub-item at its 2nd plenary meeting, on 25 October, the Conference of the Parties had before it the report of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation on its tenth session (FCCC/SBI/1999/8). The President drew attention to a draft decision, the text of which was contained in annex I to that report, on the institutional linkage of the Convention secretariat to the United Nations, which the Subsidiary Body for Implementation at its tenth session had recommended for adoption by the Conference of the Parties. He informed the

Conference of the Parties that the Executive Secretary wished to propose a minor editorial amendment to the draft decision, which was read out by the Secretary of the Conference.

31. At the same meeting, the Conference of the Parties approved the text of the draft decision recommended by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation, as orally amended, and adopted decision -/CP.5 entitled "Institutional linkage of the Convention secretariat to the United Nations". For the text of this decision, see Part Two, section I, of this report.

[to be completed]

E. Implementation of the Headquarters Agreement

(Agenda item 8 (e))

[to be completed]

IX. HIGH-LEVEL SEGMENT ATTENDED BY MINISTERS AND OTHER HEADS OF DELEGATION

(Agenda item 9)

A. Opening of the high-level segment

(Agenda item 9 (a))

32. At the 5th plenary meeting, on 2 November, the President, welcoming ministers and other heads of delegation to the opening of the high-level segment, said that the presence of so many ministers, not only of the environment but also of energy, development planning, science and technology and the economy, was a clear indication that the climate change process was maturing and that governments were embracing sustainable development. He was particularly encouraged by the presence of a large number of ministers from developing countries. Many developing countries were the most vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change. They had, however, one important advantage: their economies could evolve without making the environmental mistakes of previous development practices.

33. The world was witnessing more and more signs of climate change. To stem the steady increase in greenhouse gas emissions it had a powerful instrument in the Kyoto Protocol, but it was essential to make it effective and operational as soon as possible. At the last session, the Conference of the Parties had adopted a comprehensive work programme in the Buenos Aires Plan of Action and the present session in Bonn was regarded as a milestone in the process of reaching agreement on the key aspects of that Plan of Action.

34. Positive results had already been achieved at the present session, but to arrive at a meaningful outcome in Bonn required the collective will of ministers to do even more. Their role was to provide political guidance and, above all, to inject momentum into the negotiations in order to move them forward decisively. It was essential to reaffirm the commitment to meeting the deadline of the sixth session of the Conference for reaching agreement on the outstanding

issues, and it was his intention to propose a short decision to that effect. Lastly, to echo the words of the Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany in his statement at the opening of the Conference, it was also essential that the Kyoto Protocol enter into force by the year 2002 at the latest, that is, ten years after the Rio Conference.

35. The Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, speaking on behalf of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, said that at the opening of the session the Secretary-General had delivered a clear message to governments, non-governmental organizations, civil society and private business, calling for action, commitment and political leadership to meet the hopes and aspirations of the majority of the world population, which had recently passed the 6 billion threshold. There was clear scientific evidence that climate change, linked to human activities, was the most pressing challenge, threatening the survival of human communities, natural species and ecosystems around the world. It was the poorest regions of the world, where population was the highest, that would suffer most if action for mitigation was postponed. There was a need to change technologies and behaviour, and production and consumption patterns, and develop lifestyles in sustainable directions. Technologies were available, or could be developed and implemented, to decrease greenhouse gas emissions in developed countries for which targets were agreed in the Kyoto Protocol. There should be no further delay. A start could be made by undertaking pilot projects with civil society and private business in areas such as higher energy efficiency, renewable energies and decrease of deforestation. There was also a need for greater solidarity between developed and developing countries. The latter needed to stimulate development in order to overcome poverty and they had to be given the chance to do so in a sustainable manner.

36. It was essential that the Conference of the Parties should take the opportunity of the present session to give an honest signal of political leadership and of unquestioned commitment to the implementation of the Conference, through the development of effective compliance, monitoring and reporting systems, and rapid progress in the ratification of the Kyoto Protocol, which must enter into force by the year 2002 at the latest. It should send a clear message to the world that the global family, regardless of different interests and responsibilities, should unite in its efforts to fight climate change, for the good of the earth and to ensure a better world for future generations.

37. The Executive Secretary said that the arrival of ministers provided a political opportunity to build confidence in the success of the negotiations on the Buenos Aires Plan of Action. There were a number of ways in which that could be achieved. Firstly, the leading industrial economies could demonstrate their engagement in early domestic action as part of their effort to reach the Kyoto targets, and the industrializing developing countries could demonstrate their recognition of the developmental gains to be made from a climate-friendly economy. All Parties needed to be sensitive to the human dimension of vulnerability, tragically underlined by the recent cyclone in India. Secondly, the innovative Clean Development Mechanism could become the cornerstone of a North-South compact at the sixth session of the Conference of the Parties. It needed to be made attractive to private sector investment in sustainable development. Business and industry needed to be given positive signals, such as an affirmation that Parties would make

arrangements for an early start to the Clean Development Mechanism. Thirdly, the present session had provided an opportunity to address the bottlenecks in the delivery and consideration of national communications from developing countries. He welcomed the emerging decisions on that subject and on capacity-building and the fact that a further nine non-Annex I Parties had submitted their first national communications at the present session. In all, 22 such communications had been received. Fourthly, the credibility of the Kyoto Protocol regime had to remain a central concern: a regime that would permit the Kyoto targets to be achieved solely through hot air and sinks would undermine the commitment to modify longer-term emission trends. While the mechanisms of the Protocol and compliance remained the key issues, the soundness of national emissions inventories and their technical review must not be overlooked. Progress on those technical issues at the current session had been encouraging. Lastly, a negotiating process needed deadlines. Pressure had to be maintained to achieve results at the sixth session of the Conference of the Parties, with a view to bringing the Kyoto Protocol into force by 2002. At the same time, deadlines were needed for the continuation of the process beyond the sixth session, including the review of the Protocol by the second session of the Conference serving as the Meeting of the Parties, the 2005 performance benchmark, and the continuation of the Protocol into the second and future commitment periods without a break.

38. Climate change was a thread in the fabric of global relations. The main breakthroughs in the climate change negotiations could be achieved only in that global strategic context. He therefore appealed to ministers to integrate the Convention and the Protocol in that broader international agenda, so that the global venture could advance successfully to the sixth session of the Conference of the Parties and beyond.

B. Policy statements

(Agenda item 9 (b))

39. At the 5th plenary meeting, on 2 November, policy statements were made by the representatives of ... ministers and other heads of delegation. For the list of speakers, see annex I below.

C. Exchange of views among participants

(Agenda item 9 (c))

[to be completed]

X. OTHER STATEMENTS

(Agenda item 10)

A. Statements by observer States

(Agenda item 10 (a))

40. At the 4th plenary meeting, on 2 November, statements were made by the representatives of two observer States, Palau and Turkey.

B. Statements by intergovernmental organizations

(Agenda item 10 (b))

41. At the 4th plenary meeting, on 2 November, at the invitation of the President, in a special scientific segment intended to provide the Conference of the Parties with information on the progress of the science of climate change, statements were made by the Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization, the Chairman of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme.

42. At the same meeting, statements were also made by the Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Global Environment Facility, the Assistant Administrator and Director of the Bureau for Development Policy of the United Nations Development Programme, the Assistant Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Managing Director of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the Vice-President for Environmentally and Socially Sustainable Development, World Bank, the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Secretary-General of the Convention on Wetlands, the Deputy Secretary-General of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, the Executive Director of the International Energy Agency and the Officer-in-Charge of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

C. Statements by non-governmental organizations

(Agenda item 10 (c))

At the 4th plenary meeting, on 2 November, statements were made by the representatives of the following non-governmental organizations: Business Council for Sustainable Energy (also on behalf of European Business for a Sustainable Energy Future), Climate Action Network - Europe, Climate Action Network - South-East Asia, European Atomic Forum (on behalf of International Nuclear Forum), European Landowners' Organisation (also on behalf of Confédération Européenne des Propriétaires Forestiers), Franciscans International, National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, International Chamber of Commerce, International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives and World Conservation Union.

XI. OTHER MATTERS

(Agenda item 11)

43. At the 2nd plenary meeting, on 25 October, the President recalled that the Conference of the Parties, in its decision 10/CP.4, had decided to review, at its fifth session, the outstanding issues pertaining to the establishment of a multilateral consultative process and had invited the President of the Conference to conduct consultations on those issues during the inter-sessional period, with the aim of identifying solutions. Unfortunately, it had not proved possible to reach agreement in those consultations. He therefore proposed to request Mr. Slade, Vice-President of

the Conference, to conduct further consultations on the outstanding issues and to keep him informed of any developments.

[to be completed]

XII. CONCLUSION OF THE SESSION

(Agenda item 12)

A. Adoption of the report of the Conference of the Parties on its fifth session

(Agenda item 12 (a))

[to be completed]

B. Closure of the session

(Agenda item 12 (b))

[to be completed]

Annexes²

Annex I Policy statements made under agenda item 9 (b): list of speakers

[to be completed]

Annex II List of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations attending the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties

[to be completed]

Annex III List of documents before the Conference of the Parties at its fifth session

[to be completed]

² The annexes will be included in the final report of the Conference.

**PART TWO: ACTION TAKEN BY THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES
AT ITS FIFTH SESSION**

I. DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

Decision -/CP.5

Institutional linkage of the Convention secretariat to the United Nations

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling its decision 14/CP.1 whereby it decided that “the Convention secretariat shall be institutionally linked to the United Nations, while not being fully integrated in the work programme and management structure of any particular department or programme”, and decided further “to review the functioning of the institutional linkage of the Convention secretariat to the United Nations, not later than 31 December 1999, in consultation with the Secretary-General, with a view to making such modifications as may be considered desirable by both parties”,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 50/115 of 20 December 1995,

Taking note of the information provided by the Executive Secretary that the institutional linkage is working satisfactorily and is being adapted to changing circumstances,

Taking note also of the expression of intent by the Secretary-General to seek the endorsement of the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session for continuation of the institutional linkage,

1. *Invites* the United Nations General Assembly to decide at its fifty-fourth session on the issue of meeting the conference-servicing expenses of the Convention from its regular budget, taking into account the views expressed by Member States;

2. *Approves* the continuation of the institutional linkage of the Convention secretariat to the United Nations, subject to review not later than 31 December 2001, in consultation with the Secretary-General, with a view to making such modifications as may be considered desirable by both parties.

*2nd plenary meeting
25 October 1999*

[to be completed]

II. OTHER ACTION TAKEN BY THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

[to be completed]
