

Canada Country Statement

Mr. President, Executive Secretary and distinguished colleagues:

We are here to tackle one of the most complex challenges facing the world. Like all nations, Canada is vulnerable to the effects of climate change, particularly in the north. In Canada, we are taking action now because climate change will affect the quality of life for Canadians for generations to come.

We all know climate change is a global challenge that requires global solutions. We must all work together to reach meaningful decisions by CoP 6. Here at CoP 5, we must send clear messages to ensure investments and actions now to decrease global emissions.

I would like to share with you three messages that I hope will shape our work here at CoP 5 and build momentum as we move forward to CoP 6.

First, we will not succeed without meaningful domestic action on the part of Annex 1 countries. The responsibility of Annex 1 countries for leadership is clear. We cannot constrain each country's unique opportunities to act. For Canada, our intention is to achieve the majority of our reductions at home.

Today I am distributing *Taking on the Challenge*, a document that describes Canada's actions to date from the Pacific to the Atlantic to the Arctic. It also outlines how we will develop our national strategy, in partnership with our all sectors of our society, to achieve our Prime Minister's recently restated goal – to meet our Kyoto commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. In fact, more than 450 Canadians are involved in developing options to meet our Kyoto target. Our provinces, municipalities, First Nations, industry, environmental organizations and youth - all represented here in Bonn - continue to work together to reduce our emissions in Canada.

My second message is that climate change is a global problem requiring a truly global solution. Forecasts tell us that Annex 1 emission reductions alone will not be enough to reverse the upward trend. Developing countries are taking action. Some are indicating their sovereign intent to limit emissions and Canada encourages the efforts of all countries. We must also facilitate capacity building and adaptation in developing countries, particularly the most vulnerable.

Finally, our priority here and at CoP 6 is to make decisions that lead us to the entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol, at the earliest possible date. We must have concrete substantial progress here in Bonn. There must be an intensified effort by our negotiators over the next year. We need active engagement of Ministers to keep these negotiations on track. Success here and constant momentum in the months to come will ensure actions by all.

We cannot let the opportunity of CoP 5 pass us by. Let us make the right choice for our common future.