

IV. Proposals by France for the Protocol or the other legal instrument to which the work of the AGBM should lead.

IV.1. Strengthening of the commitments of the Annex I Parties.

8. The cost of the new measures which may well be implemented by the Annex I Parties after the year 2000 is very different from one country to another bearing in mind in particular the intensity of the efforts already accomplished and the results obtained in energy policy matters. France believes these starting point differences between the Annex I Parties will have to be fully taken into account when determining new commitments, in accordance with the Berlin Mandate.

9. Further, in the light of the analysis factors presented above, France considers the future protocol should comprise commitments by the Annex I Parties on a set of policies and measures which they will decide to implement. The elaboration of quantified objectives with a phased timetable is useful in sizing policies and measures. However the uncertainties concerning emission forecasts will probably make any precise commitment on emission levels in the medium or long term very difficult, not to say impossible.

10. In its statement made in the name of the European Union during COP1, France gave, for guidance purposes, a list of policies and measures aimed at limiting the net emissions of greenhouse gases. The negotiation taking place within the framework of the AGBM should address first and foremost the policies and measures requiring coordination at international level for reasons of competitiveness or in order to raise their efficiency, and the implementation of which would allow significant progress towards the ultimate objective of the Convention. France considers the following as priorities in this framework :

- recourse to economic instruments including taxation on products emitting CO₂ and suppression of direct or indirect subsidies encouraging consumption of fossil fuel energy ;