

FOCUSES ON NEXT STEP COMMITMENTS FOR ANNEX 1 COUNTRIES. G77 STRESSED, IN THEIR VIEW, BERLIN MANDATE INCLUDED NO COMMITMENTS FOR THEM. THE CHAIRMAN'S CONCLUSIONS AND THE MAJOR INTERVENTIONS WERE FAXED TO AGE, ENVCA/GAIB AND NRCAN ENVDIV. WITH THE PICTURE CLEARER NOW ON THE TYPES OF ANALYSIS THAT COULD BE UNDERTAKEN, IT WILL BE IMPORTANT FOR CANDEL TO NEXT MEETING (LATE OCTOBER 1995) TO BE PREPARED TO NARROW DOWN THE SPECIFIC PRIORITIES.

3. UNDER THE CANADIAN CHAIR, MEETING OF THE COMMON INTEREST GROUP (CIG) WAS RE-ESTABLISHED WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF E. EUROPEAN COUNTRIES AS APPROPRIATE TO INCLUDE ALL ANNEX 1 COUNTRIES.

4. REPORT: THE FIRST MEETING OF THE AGBM TOOK PLACE IN GENEVA FROM 21 TO 25 AUGUST, 1995. CANADIAN DELEGATION WAS CO-CHAIRED BY DOUG RUSSELL/ENVCAN/APPD/GAIB AND PETER FAWCETT/DFAIT/AGE, AND INCLUDED GERA/DFAIT, RUDDOCK/GENEV, VARANGU/NRCAN, DREXHAGE/ENVCAN, PIERRE GUIMOND/CDN. ELEC. ASSN., AND LOUISE COMEAU/SIERRA CLUB.

5. THE FIRST SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES (COP 1) AGREED TO BEGIN A PROCESS TO ENABLE IT TO TAKE ACTIONS ON CLIMATE CHANGE FOR THE POST-2000 ERA. THE BERLIN MANDATE SETS THE STAGE FOR FUTURE NEGOTIATIONS ON NEXT STEPS. DEVELOPED COUNTRIES DID NOT AGREE TO ANY NEW COMMITMENTS IN BERLIN, BUT THEY DID AGREE TO AIM TO ELABORATE POLICIES AND MEASURES, AS WELL AS SET QUANTIFIED LIMITATIONS AND REDUCTIONS OBJECTIVES WITHIN SPECIFIED TIME-FRAMES. IT WAS ALSO AGREED THAT THE PROCESS WILL NOT INTRODUCE ANY NEW COMMITMENTS FOR THE NON-ANNEX 1 PARTIES (LDCS), BUT WILL REAFFIRM EXISTING COMMITMENTS AND CONTINUE TO ADVANCE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THESE COMMITMENTS.

6. CHAIRMAN ESTRADA (ARGENTINA) HELD INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS IN ADVANCE OF THE PLENARY MEETING TO PROPOSE "FRIENDS OF THE CHAIR" IN LIEU OF A BUREAU. MANY DELEGATIONS ENCOURAGED HIM TO FOLLOW STRICTLY THE RULES OF PROCEDURE TO ESTABLISH A SMALL BUREAU OF 3. HOWEVER, BY WEEK'S END THE PRESSURE TO ENSURE REGIONAL BALANCE AND ACCOMMODATE SPECIAL INTERESTS (AOSIS AND OPEC), HAD PUSHED THE POSSIBLE SIZE OF BUREAU TO AS HIGH AS 13. MOST LIKELY OUTCOME WILL BE A BUREAU OF 5 WITH ONE FROM EACH REGIONAL GROUP. ASIA GROUP IS MOST DIFFICULT WITH JAPAN, SAUDI ARABIA AND THAILAND ALL VYING FOR ONE SEAT. CHAIRMAN ESTRADA CONCLUDED MEETING BY NOTING THAT HE WOULD RESUME HIS CONSULTATION ON THIS MATTER EARLY IN THE LATE OCTOBER SESSION OF THE AGBM.

7. MOST OF THE AGBM DISCUSSION FOCUSED ON ANALYSIS AND ASSESSMENT (A&A) ADDRESSING ISSUES SUCH AS: HOW THE ANALYTICAL WORK CAN BEST BE USED TO INFORM NEGOTIATIONS FOR A PROTOCOL OR ANY OTHER LEGAL INSTRUMENT; HOW TO