

Ad Hoc Body on the Berlin Mandate
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Geneva

CANADIAN INTERVENTION ARTICLE 4.1
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Thank you Mister Chairman.

Canada has consistently held to the position that climate change is a global problem, requiring action by all countries. This concept is recognized in the Convention. What is also recognized in the Convention, however, is that not all Parties will be undertaking the same level of action -- the concept of common but differentiated responsibilities.

In Berlin, the Conference of the Parties agreed not to introduce any new commitments for non-Annex 1 countries in this next round of discussions which we are pursuing now. The Berlin decision did not, however, diminish the commitments which non-Annex 1 Parties already had under the Convention. In fact, as noted by earlier speakers, the Conference of the Parties reaffirmed and agreed to advance the implementation of these commitments.

In our view, mister Chairman, there are many successful projects and measures being undertaken in non-Annex 1 countries which could serve as good examples for all of us. These include, research and development projects in China and education and awareness programs in Mexico. Further, there are programs under development which will also contribute to the mitigation of climate change. For example, an examination of a regional electrical energy project to seek opportunities to assist Central American countries in line loss reduction, energy efficiency and demand side management is currently underway.

As well, Canada has long been a supporter of the concept of joint implementation or activities implemented jointly as a cost-effective mechanism to reduce net greenhouse gases. We believe that the concept is win-win in that it can provide significant benefits for the project proponent and the host country, including through the introduction of new and more efficient technologies.

As we move to the third session of the AGBM, we will have to examine what this element of the Berlin mandate decision really means. We would encourage Parties to come forward with examples of what is currently being done to mitigate climate change in non-Annex 1 countries. This will help us answer the questions of how this will affect the development of national inventories, national programs on measures to mitigate change and national communications. In Canada, we think some of the answers will emerge through examination of some of the successful initiatives noted earlier. We note with encouragement the examples by our colleague from Argentina and others.

Finally, Mister Chairman, we have heard much over the past few days on the perceived linkage between Annex 1 countries fulfilling our commitments before non-Annex 1 countries advance implementation of their own responsibilities. Canada is meeting our commitments under the Convention. For example, we have done our national communications and supported and participated in an in-depth review. We call upon all other countries to do the same, particularly under Article 4.1.

Thank you mister chairman.