

data with earlier projections, as well as providing some objective comment on our collective efforts.

In anticipation of this task (and what we see will be a growing database of information), we note our strong support for the adoption of revised guidelines for Annex I Parties and guidelines for the preparation of first communications from non-annex I Parties. The adoption and use of improved guidelines will greatly facilitate the Secretariat's task in compiling and synthesizing available information.

Based on our reading of the Second Compilation and Synthesis report, it is clear that individually and collectively, Annex I Parties are fully committed to implementing the full range of their commitments. All reporting Parties have communicated national inventory data. With respect to national efforts to address climate change, Parties are taking action to address the full range of commitments - mitigation, adaptation, financial and technological transfer. We are pleased to note the wide and diverse array of activities reported in national communications. Parties have demonstrated both ingenuity and commitment in devising measures to address greenhouse gases from all sources and sectors. This strong, positive involvement bodes well for our long-term efforts.

However, in spite of the good intentions demonstrated in the national communications, we can reach an additional conclusion: the cumulative effect of current measures is not likely to be adequate to meet the aim set out in Article 4.2 of returning emissions to 1990 levels by the year 2000. Further, it is also apparent that current efforts are an inadequate down-payment on the ultimate objective of the convention, that of stabilizing atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases. The IPCC emission scenarios show that for all considered stabilization levels, emissions reductions significantly below that of 1990 levels will be required.

As can be seen from the secretariat compilation, the inventory data provided by Annex I Parties for the years between 1991 and 1994 show an unfortunate increase in emissions -- not a decline. The projections of measures indicate that a rise above 1990 levels is expected -- both for the overall trend and for the emissions of many Parties, and that in the post-2000 period, even further increases can be expected. And (while such data is not provided in the compilation and synthesis document -- an omission which we believe should be remedied), external sources suggest a growth rate in emissions even more rapid than that projected in this document.

In spite of the clear efforts being made to reduce emissions in many countries, too often the focus is solely on "no regrets" actions -- and these have proven either elusive or inadequate. We may need to move beyond such limited and so far inadequate efforts to take no regrets actions and take bolder and more ambitious steps to help insure that the climate changes predicted by the IPCC do not materialize.

The synthesis report also highlights the broad and diverse array of actions being taken to mitigate climate change. While this demonstrates the varied options open to us, we