

SBSTA  
Third Session, July 8-16

CANADIAN STATEMENT  
MECHANISMS FOR NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION CONSULTATIONS  
July 10, 1996

Thank you Mr. Chairman:

Canada appreciates the efforts of all of the non-governmental and local government organizations who participated in the Workshop held this past March. The Secretariat, as always, has done a commendable job in capturing the outputs of the presentations in its documentation on this topic.

Canada continues to be a strong supporter of stakeholder engagement in the climate change file, both domestically and internationally.

Domestically, we have established an Non-Governmental Advisory Group, consisting of 21 members from business, cross-sectoral institutions and environmental groups, to provide advice to the Government on Canada's long term strategic approach to climate change negotiations, as well as on Canadian positions under development for each negotiating session.

In addition, our business and Environmental NGOs were invited to sessions with the team conducting the in-depth review of Canada's first national communications.

Representatives from the environment and business community are key members of our official delegations to all FCCC sessions.

We encourage other Parties to provide similar fora through which NGOs can contribute to the development of national strategies and can provide input on international negotiations.

At CoP 2, Canada has taken the initiative to organize a workshop to discuss business opportunities arising from international efforts to address climate change.

In our view, engagement of the private sector is critical in effectively implementing any actions undertaken whether domestically or internationally.

For this reason, if other Parties also agree, we would support establishment of a Business Consultative Mechanism, as long as it acted in a transparent fashion and permitted open participation by any interested representatives of the business community, including those from the developing countries.

Based on our own experiences, Canada is of the view that the BCM can provide significant added value to international efforts to implement the FCCC.