

the Protocol, adopt new targets and timetables, and assess the effectiveness of the steps taken by developed countries.

A long list of specific functions and powers are specified in Article 8(1), including the catch-all which entitles it to "exercise such other functions as are required for the implementation of this Protocol". The majority of these provisions are identical to powers attributed to the Conference of the Parties for the implementation of the Convention by Article 7(2) of the Convention.

Article 8(2)-(4) of the Protocol, which contains the rules governing the holding of sessions of the Meeting of Parties, and attendance, are the same as the provisions in Article 7(4)-(6) of the Convention, which govern sessions of the Conference of the Parties.

Article 8(1)(d)-(e) provides that the Meeting of the Parties will receive, review and ensure the publication of the reports submitted by Annex I Parties on their implementation of greenhouse gas control measures, and to regularly assess the overall aggregated effect of the steps taken by Annex I parties.

Essentially these provisions give to the Meeting of the Parties the function in relation to the Protocol, that the Convention, in Article 10, entrusted to the Subsidiary Body For Implementation.

The publication of national reports and the international assessment helps to promote transparency and facilitates public analysis by the media and NGOs of how effectively industrialized countries are fulfilling their commitments under the Protocol.

## **FINAL CLAUSES**

### **DISPUTE SETTLEMENT**

Article 9 states that any disputes are to be settled in accordance with the terms of the Convention. It leaves open the possibility that the Parties to the Protocol may decide, in cooperation with the Parties to the Convention, to make use of whatever Multilateral consultative Process may be established under Article 13 of the Convention.

### **AMENDMENTS**

Article 10 establishes the same procedure for the proposal, adoption and entry into force of amendments to the Protocol as apply in relation to amendments to the Convention. However one notable difference is that the Convention provides for adoption of amendments by a  $\frac{3}{4}$  majority when consensus cannot be reached, whereas the Protocol specifies a smaller majority at only  $\frac{2}{3}$ .