

Goal 4 Implement the Department's priority commitment at Johannesburg 2002

OBJECTIVES

TARGETS/ACTIONS

4:D

Advancement of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Kyoto Protocol

(Change in the Earth's climate and its adverse effects are a common concern of humankind. We remain deeply concerned that all countries, particularly developing countries, including the least developed countries and small island developing States, face increased risks of negative impacts of climate change and recognize that, in this context, the problems of poverty, land degradation, access to water and food and human health remain at the center of global attention. The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is the key instrument for addressing climate change, a global concern, and we reaffirm our commitment to achieving its ultimate objective of stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system, within a time frame sufficient to allow ecosystems to adapt naturally to climate change, to ensure that food production is not threatened and to enable economic development to proceed in a sustainable manner, in accordance with our common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities. Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration, in which heads of State and Government resolved to make every effort to ensure the entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol to the UNFCCC, preferably by the tenth anniversary of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 2002, and to embark on the required reduction of emissions of greenhouse gases, States that have ratified the Kyoto Protocol strongly urge States that have not already done so to ratify it in a timely manner)

Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (38)

- (i) promote ratification of the Kyoto Protocol by a sufficient number of countries so that the Protocol can enter into force (including Russia whose ratification is essential and then as many other Parties to the UNFCCC as possible before 2008)
- (ii) initiate a process at the start of 2004 to construct a global climate regime based on actual implementation of the Kyoto Protocol and adoption of its Marrakech Accords (tentative completion in 2005). This will include undertaking a rigorous analysis of Canadian interests and options for future commitments.
- (iii) support a platform for an informed policy dialogue with other countries in the 2003-2005 period including views/support for the architecture of a future global climate regime with a structure for differentiated mitigation commitments. This will mean supporting developing country participation in meetings and workshops leading up to CoP9, MoPl meetings and beyond, and launching and/or intensifying Climate Change policy dialogue within or outside Kyoto with key international partners such as the USA, Russia, China and Japan