

SBSTA
Third Session, July 8-16, 1996

CANADIAN STATEMENT

DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGIES:

Thank you Mr. Chairman

In Canada's view, technology is a critical component for engaging all countries in the effort to address the threat of climate change.

Canada supports the SBSTA's initiatives in this regard, in particular its advancement of the Climate Technology Initiative in which we are an active member. We are particularly pleased to see the new climate technology inventory.

The Canadian government's major energy research and development program has recently been refocused to provide increased emphasis on greenhouse gas reduction technologies that could make important contributions in developed and developing countries.

While recognizing the assistance that governments may give to technology transfer, Canada believes that mechanisms for such transfer, for the most part, lie with the private sector. Hence, the obligation is on governments to provide an enabling environment which works to maximize commercial opportunities for technology cooperation.

In support of its position, Canada is sponsoring, at CoP 2, a workshop on Climate Change Business Opportunities, to be held next Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, aimed particularly at business organizations. The workshop will aim at increasing private sector awareness of market opportunities and increasing international awareness of private sector capability.

Canada views the engagement of the private sector in technology as integral to implementing Annex 2 Parties commitments relevant to technology transfer under the FCCC.