

## **Question and Answer Session**

In the question and answer session, Dr. Mintzer and Mr. Macdonald responded to a number of questions including the following:

- What action should government be taking, particularly in relation to offices to support JI and CDM action?
- What are the CDM opportunities for particular sectors such as the electricity sector?
- What are the options for a portfolio approach or the pursuit of individual projects?
- What are the prospects for the results of the next Conference of the Parties at Buenos Aires in the Fall of 1998 and for 1999?
- What are the opportunities for the oil and gas sector?

### **Responses:**

- The key services of government JI/CDM Offices, in addition to their registry and administrative role, are information sharing and provision of knowledge to build capabilities for action and services to facilitate action and reduce transaction costs.
- Opportunities are seen for JI/CDM action using both the portfolio approach and individual projects; the approach taken determined by the nature and scale of the activity to be undertaken.
- For the energy industry, the opportunities for CDM action are to be found in efficiency improvement projects in existing infrastructure and in technology cooperation actions that will reduce GHG emissions from facilities to meet growing demand.

## **Panel on Industry and NGO Perspectives**

The first member of this panel was Robert Falls, Principal, International Offsets. He talked about Canadian industry experience with AIJ and emerging opportunities in the energy sector for CDM. In reviewing the industry experience, Dr. Falls described a series of initiatives by TransAlta Utilities which characterized the mixed, limited progress that has been made in the past, as a result of the absence of adequate incentives for actions. He talked about a successful project; a project that was initiated but ultimately abandoned; and finally a project which, after two years of work, is still in progress. With these and other examples, Dr. Falls provided a basis for suggestions as to the appropriate means of facilitating projects under the CDM. He described a variety of areas of opportunity in various sectors where technology cooperation can be the means of securing cost-effective international action on climate change through CDM.

Jim Leslie, Program Director, Solutions for Business, International Institute for Sustainable Development, spoke on the subject of CDM and Sustainable Development. His focus was on the imperative of the developing countries for