

INTERVENTION BY CANADA:

QUANTIFIED EMISSION LIMITATION AND REDUCTION OBJECTIVES WITHIN SPECIFIED TIME-FRAMES

Thank you Mr. Chairman. Canada would like to speak to two issues under Item 3b), namely differentiation and collective limitation and reduction objectives among Annex 1 Parties. But first, we would like to take note of the intervention by the United States and suggest that the proposal that the Secretariat co-ordinate a special session on quantitative emission limitation and reduction objectives for the third session of the AGBM be given serious consideration.

Mr. Chairman, Canada is interested to explore the analysis of differentiated commitments among Annex 1 Parties. A number of Annex 1 Parties made interventions during the first and second session of the AGBM to the effect that they support the notion of differentiated, or regional, targets among Annex 1 Parties.

It is our view that this is consistent with Article 2 (a) of the Berlin Mandate, which in setting out its policies & measures and limitation & reduction objectives, notes that such negotiations amongst Annex 1 Parties would need to take into account "differences in starting points and approaches, economic structures and resource bases, the need to maintain strong and sustainable economic growth, available technologies and other individual circumstances...". In the case of Canada, for example, we would need to take into account a number of unique circumstances in setting appropriate limitation and reduction commitments, including Canada's climate, geography, resource base and economic and political structures.

One cautionary note, however, Mr. Chairman. It needs to be kept in mind that such an approach would likely entail complex negotiations, particularly on the issue of identifying and defining appropriate criteria to be used in differentiating national commitments. It has yet to be clarified, for example, how appropriate commitments would be determined.

Canada is also interested to explore the analysis of collective limitation and reduction objectives among Annex 1 Parties.