

encouraged to open its "Greentie" project to all Parties and to identify options for training support. With regard to international centres for technology transfer, Parties will be invited to submit comments prior to March 30, 1998. SBSTA will also ask the SBI to consider options for funding international centres and enhancing support for national or regional centres. The Secretariat will investigate additional funding options through the GEF and other potential sources. Parties' views on national communication reporting information on the financing and transfer of technology will be accepted by the Secretariat until March 15, 1998. Resulting changes will be discussed at the next SBSTA. During discussions on these items, Canada reiterated its position concerning the significance of the role of the private sector in the transfer of technology.

8. Roster of Experts. SBSTA agreed to expand the current roster, especially in the area of the economic and financial aspects of the transfer of technology and know-how. For upcoming activities, the Secretariat will try to anticipate expert needs and, if necessary, ask Parties to nominate additional experts. Experts will, among other things, be asked for advice on specific technological and methodological issues, including the preparation and review of reports. The Roster will now be updated on a regular basis, and will be maintained in such a way that the need for a balanced regional representation is taken into consideration. Capacity building remains as a significant objective. The usefulness of the Roster will be reviewed at a future SBSTA meeting. Canada will have an opportunity to identify additional experts for the Roster.

9. Annex 1 Experts Group on Policies and Measures: The Annex 1 Expert Group on the FCCC held a brief meeting on Monday 27 October attended by a very limited number of participants. Final drafts of the two outstanding papers of the Electricity Sector Common Action Study (Market Reform and Voluntary Agreements (VAs)) were discussed. Canada proposed slight modifications to the VAs paper that were accepted. However, due to the short notice, countries were given extra time to allow for experts review and written comments. Final version of these papers will be published by CoP3. Regarding other ongoing work, further drafts of the Options Paper on Emissions Trading, the OECD Compliance Backgrounder and the Methodologies paper were to be sent to capitals by mid November for possible completion by COP3.

10. Review of GEF: No progress was made on the review of the GEF as the operating entity of the financial mechanism of the FCCC. This issue will be re-visited, but its immediate prospects for success remain dim.

11. COP 3 agenda was adopted largely as introduced. There was some consideration given in the common interest group to adding an explicit reference to considering issues related to possible future commitments by developing countries which is formally outside the mandate of current climate change negotiations.