

assessment of the progress achieved so far is positive but I truly believe that we cannot have a meaningful outcome in Bonn without the collective will of Ministers to do even more. We have come here to make a difference, not by negotiating the details on complex issues but by pushing our negotiators to do this, by providing political guidance and most of all by injecting fresh momentum into a negotiating process that risks congestion.

My informal consultations with some ministers have already shown that there is a strong determination among them to move the process forward decisively. We must reaffirm our commitment to meeting our COP 6 deadlines. We will all need to keep a close eye on the progress next year. The negotiators will have to take on a tremendous task on working out agreements on a number of outstanding issues, but its only you colleagues that can back those efforts politically and I count on your personal involvement in the process leading us to COP 6. I will propose a short decision for your consideration which we could adopt as a sign of our determination to have a successful outcome in the Hague.

Let me repeat - the early entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol is our political imperative. His Excellency Mr. Gerhard Schroeder the Chancellor of Germany in his speech at the opening of the conference stated very clearly that the "Kyoto Protocol must enter into force as quickly as possible, by the year 2002 at the latest - it means ten years after the Rio Conference". Lets take these words as our motto for this Conference.

I look forward to working with you in the days ahead to bring us close to achieving this goal.

Thank you.