

environmental treaties and declarations, including the Convention itself, and notably in the Ozone and Acid Rain regimes.

ACCESSION OF NON-ANNEX I PARTIES TO THE SPECIFIC COMMITMENTS (Article 3(3))

As mentioned above, the commitments in Article 3 are binding only on the developed country Parties that are listed in Annex I of the Convention, and do not apply to developing states. However, in the same manner as Article 4(2)(g) of the Convention allows developing states or other non-Annex I countries to consent to be bound by the commitments that apply only to Annex I Parties, so Article 3(3) of the Protocol creates the identical mechanism in relation to the specific obligations in Articles 3, 4 and 5 of the Protocol. Such a provision has already proved its usefulness under the Convention, as the government of Monaco has used it to accept the commitments of Annex I countries. The governments of Slovakia and the Czech Republic have recently announced that they intend to make similar commitments. Developing and other non-Annex I Parties to the Protocol could only be bound by these commitments if they voluntarily chose to be bound.

The Berlin Mandate, similarly calls upon Parties to "take into account any result from the review referred to in Article 4.2(f), if available, and any notification referred to in Article 4.2(g)."

ARTICLE 4: COORDINATION MECHANISM

The Protocol's Coordination Mechanism is intended to create a subsidiary body that will provide advice to the Meeting of the Parties and offer a forum for the negotiation of specific economic, administrative and other instruments that may assist Parties in meeting the Protocol's Objective.

Parties, policy analysts and climate activists have long recognised that regulation of the economically integral activities that emit greenhouse gases will require a coordinated approach. Indeed, Article 4(2)(e)(i) of the Convention, requires that Annex I Parties "coordinate as appropriate with other such parties, relevant economic and administrative instruments developed to achieve the objective of the Convention."

Because the measures undertaken by Annex I Parties to the Protocol, especially those that may have an impact on trade, will affect the interests of developing countries, the Coordination Mechanism is open to the participation of all Parties. It is expected that the Mechanism's activities will be closely coordinated with the work of the Convention's COP under Article 7(2)(c) of the Convention and the Convention's Subsidiary Bodies on Scientific and Technical Advice and on Implementation.

The Berlin Mandate calls for a process that considers "as provided in Article 4.2(e), the coordination among Annex I Parties, as appropriate, of relevant economic and administrative instruments" and provides for "the exchange of experience on national activities in areas of