

mechanism. This reflects the G77's continuing reservations on the GEF's performance and unwillingness of donors to precipitate major confrontation with the G77 over the current interim status of the GEF.

OTHER COP4 DECISIONS:

17. Research and systematic observation: A report prepared by the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) on the adequacy of the global observing systems for climate was considered. It was decided that the UNFCCC secretariat will assess options for synthesizing national plans and programmes for the observation of climate systems and initiate an intergovernmental process for addressing the priorities for action to improve global climate observing systems. It will also identify immediate, medium-term and long-term options for financial support. This was generally of great concern to developing countries and, in particular of the AOSIS countries, in their need to build capacity to collect, exchange and utilize the resulting data.

18. CFCs and HFCs: Switzerland tabled a proposal that registered concerns regarding the replacement of ozone-depleting substances such as chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), marked for phase-out under the Montreal Protocol, by hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) and prefluorocarbons (PFCs) which are amongst the greenhouse gases covered by the Kyoto Protocol. The IPCC and Technology and Economic Assessment Panel (TEAP) of the Montreal Protocol will convene a workshop to assist the Convention's Subsidiary Body on Scientific and Technical Advice (SBSTA) to establish information on available and potential ways and means to limit the use of HFCs and PFCs.

19. Scientific and methodological aspects of the proposal by Brazil: A workshop will be organized to further analyze the Brazilian proposal, and take account of other relevant analyses, and report their findings to the tenth session of the SBSTA. The Brazilian proposal deals with ways of assessing concentration levels of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere against historic and projected responsibilities.

20. Impact of Single Projects: In Kyoto, Iceland was the sponsor of a decision to address the circumstances of small economies having minimal emissions, where single projects would have a disproportionate impact on its overall emissions. Canada opposed on the grounds that Iceland was apparently seeking an exception for the process emissions associated with a forecasted aluminum industry which would help Iceland to further diversify its economy. AOSIS also opposed on the grounds that a new loophole could be formed, while USA and Australia supported Iceland. EU's proposal -- simply to postpone the decision -- ultimately held sway. Issue will be revisited at COP 5.

21. National Communications of Annex 1 Parties: In its conclusions on the national communications submitted by Annex I