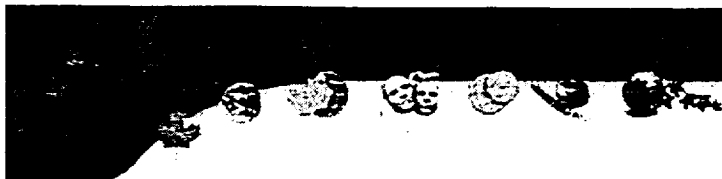


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## General Description of the Argentine Goal for GHG

**Buenos Aires, Oct. 99**

### General Considerations

The Argentine Republic has always participated actively in discussions on climate change. It chaired the ad hoc group on the Berlin Mandate and currently presides over the Fourth Conference of the Parties, which met in Buenos Aires in November 1998.

Its interest in this issue stems from the fact that, apart from concern over the global nature of the consequences of excessive concentrations of greenhouse gases, Argentina is located in a part of the world where variations in the climate have been most severe and which, accordingly, is one of the regions most heavily affected by climate change. This is compounded the marked dependence of the country's productive activities on the climate, which makes its economy and the well-being of its population more vulnerable.

Argentina considers that increased emissions of greenhouse gases - regardless of their country of origin - always have detrimental effects. Therefore, while supporting the principle of common but differentiated responsibility, Argentina believes that measures must be adopted which, while adapted to the specific nature and requirements of each case, involve all countries in a program to curb and mitigate this phenomenon.

It was in this spirit that last November President Menem informed the Fourth Conference of the Parties of Argentina's intention to announce its goals for carbon emissions for the period 2008-2012 at the next meeting of the Parties. The goals were to be set with input from all sectors of society, through a broad debate. The country also sought an alternative within the existing framework that would make its commitment internationally feasible.

As a result, a national commission was established in the Department of Natural Resources and Sustainable Development to prepare and propose the goals for greenhouse gases. This commission, chaired by the minister, was composed of representatives of the six government departments involved (agriculture, external affairs, science and technology, energy, industry and transport) and had an advisory committee with representatives drawn from the private sector, the academic and scientific communities and non-governmental organizations.

The task was approached in the conviction that one of Argentina's priorities is sustainable development and the well-being of its population. The proposal was to maintain growth while lowering carbon emissions.

Experts and private institutions were contracted for the work, whose main tasks included preparation of an inventory of emissions, preparation of socioeconomic scenarios, preparation of projections on emissions for 2008-2012 for the sectors most heavily involved, and preparation of mitigation measures.

### Bases of the Argentine commitment to the goals for the emission of greenhouse gases

Like all developing countries, Argentina's socioeconomic progress implies that its levels of