

SUMMARY REPORT

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Richard Kinley, Coordinator, Resources, Planning and Coordination of the Climate Change Secretariat in Bonn opened the Clean Development Mechanism Workshop with his keynote address. He outlined the process of reaching the final agreement at Kyoto and especially the action of the final critical hours. He described the Kyoto Agreement in terms of two themes – flexibility and credibility. He sees the promise of the Kyoto Agreement in its stimulus for new technologies to address the climate change issue, its influence on the behaviours of emitters and nations and in the opening-up of new markets to facilitate low-cost action. Mr. Kinley stressed the importance and potential of the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) for overall global sustainable development and for building commitments in the developing world towards action on climate change. He noted that sustainable development is the imperative of the developing world. Through the Kyoto Agreement, he sees the potential for an enlightened combination of domestic action in the developed world and international action in the developing world.

The opening remarks for the workshop on July 14th by Paul Heinbecker, Assistant Deputy Minister, Global and Security Policy, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT), built upon the themes provided by Mr. Kinley. Mr. Heinbecker talked of the importance of the goal of achieving effective market-based approaches through the development of emissions trading and credit for effective international action. He stressed the critical need to use every effort to find least-cost actions because there are no dollars to spare in the pursuit of our climate change goals. Mr. Heinbecker underlined the significance of emissions trading, joint implementation and the CDM for Canada. Canada needs a combination of both domestic and international actions in its climate change strategy.

Mr. Heinbecker highlighted the need in developing countries for sustainable development and for the technologies that will contribute to such development. He indicated that we have now framed the interests of both developing and developed countries well and we have the basis of bargaining. But the negotiations will be difficult. He stressed that the flexibility mechanisms of the Kyoto Agreement are not an academic issue; positions have to be taken for negotiations in the Fall of 1998. Finally, Mr. Heinbecker noted that DFAIT is the new home of the JI/CDM Office. This office will be mobilized in the Fall of 1998.

Dr. Irving Mintzer, Senior Associate, Pacific Institute for Studies in Development, Environment and Security, addressed the subject of the institutional issues of the CDM. He described the Kyoto Agreement as providing the basic structure that we now need to equip and furnish with the details of the flexible mechanisms that the