

be committed to implement and coordinate them. Others suggested focusing on selected categories of, or priority, policies and measures.

5. There were differing views on the need for, and level of, international harmonization. The need to better understand possible methods for categorizing policies and measures, as well as the modalities surrounding possible common measures, was recognized.

6. In this context, a number of Parties made proposals for such policies and measures, with frequent mentions of cross-sectoral economic instruments and the removal of subsidies and market distortions; policies and measures on renewable energy, transportation and energy efficiency; and action on non-CO₂ greenhouse gases such as fluorocarbons and SF₆.

7. A number of Parties referred to the need for a coordination mechanism, as proposed in the AOSIS protocol proposal, or to a mechanism or process to review regularly policies and measures.

8. Many delegations stressed the need for analysis of the socio-economic and environmental impacts of policies and measures on non-Annex I Parties, and expressed the view that policies and measures should conform with provisions of the international trading system and not constitute new barriers to trade.

9. New ideas raised included, inter alia, the concept of specific performance targets for policies and measures and target values to improve energy efficiency.

10. The AGBM looked forward to a more focused discussion on policies and measures at the fourth session and, to this end, welcomed the Chairman's offer to convene informal round tables during that session on specific points related to policies and measures, taking account of the interdependence between such policies and measures and QELROs. All delegates and observers were encouraged strongly to attend and participate in these discussions.

11. The AGBM requested the IPCC to prepare a technical paper on possible policies and measures, taking account of document FCCC/AGBM/1996/2 for consideration at the fifth session of AGBM.

4 (c) Quantified emission limitation and reduction objectives

12. In considering quantified emission limitation and reduction objectives (QELROs), the AGBM underlined the interdependence between such objectives and the elaboration of policies and measures. Some Parties stressed that the AGBM should focus its efforts on the agreement of QELROs as a first priority. Many Parties pointed to the Second Assessment Report as a key input to the process of setting QELROs, while some considered this to be premature. In this context, there was a proposal by some delegations that levels of atmospheric CO₂ concentrations lower than 550 ppm should guide limitation and reduction efforts.