

**SBI Seventh Session
October 20-29, 1997**

Agenda Item 3(b): Communications from Parties not included in Annex 1 to the Convention

Canadian Intervention

Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Regarding the document FCCC/SBI/1997/INF.3, Canada welcomes the efforts being made to facilitate financial and technical support to Parties not included in Annex 1 in the preparation of their first national communication.

We would particularly like to note the positive contribution to capacity building, which Canada believes is essential for implementing many aspects of the UNFCCC, not only preparation of national communications. For example, the planned five month certificate Programme on Climate Change Vulnerability and Adaptation Assessment for training specialists will help develop a basis of expertise that can help facilitate technology transfer in these important areas. Capacity building can serve to other aspects of development priorities in developing countries.

Canada would also encourage a more efficient provision of assistance to those Parties, including expeditious financial support by the GEF.

While the differentiated timing of submission of the initial communications by Parties not included in Annex 1 is acknowledged, reporting is a central commitment by developing country Parties, including inventory preparation and programs. Canada would strongly encourage those Parties who have not yet done so to submit their initial report in a timely fashion.

On the process for consideration of initial non-Annex 1 communications, Canada supports the establishment of an in-depth review process for these communications. In our view, this is one way to advance the implementation of developing and developed countries commitments under article 4.1. Canada believes that the review process will be an important element of the recommendations to COP3.

Thank you.