

PAPER NO. 7: NETHERLANDS

STATEMENT OF THE NETHERLANDS ON AGENDA ITEM 3 (D) "INPUTS TO SUBSEQUENT SESSIONS OF THE AGBM"

In addition to the statement made by Spain on behalf of the European Union and the EU paper on this subject that was circulated - that we of course fully support - I would like to make a few comments on the issue of inputs to the negotiating process, highlighting some elements of the table of inputs as proposed by the EU. As most of these inputs will be the result of analytical or assessment activities I will touch upon the organisation of the analysis and assessment as well.

Focus

Inputs into the AGBM process should be focused on the key issues to be dealt with. And those key issues are clearly spelled out in the Berlin Mandate, namely:

- elaboration of policies and measures for Annex-1 Parties,
- setting of quantified limitation and reduction objectives within specified time-frames for Annex-1 parties,
- continued advancement of the implementation of existing commitments of art. 4.1.

If we want to make the best use of our limited resources and available time, the information to be collected as the basis for the negotiations should be focused on the main questions regarding those three key items. Questions on how to identify policies and measures to be dealt with in the protocol and how to set objectives and time frames. Analysis and assessment should not deal with the question whether objectives and time frames are necessary and/or effective. The Berlin Mandate has already answered that question clearly.

Consideration of the third element of the Berlin Mandate, namely the advancement of the implementation of the existing general commitments, would benefit greatly from inputs that focus on the diffusion and application of technology. In setting their development priorities, the technology choices made by countries have a major impact on the future emissions of greenhouse gases.

Inputs to be provided by SBSTA and SBI

Using the work of SBSTA and SBI to provide inputs into AGBM is receiving broad support. I would particularly like to highlight the importance of also using the intergovernmental technical panels that SBSTA is going to set up. These panels, if set up carefully, would enable us to generate sector specific information regarding policies and measures in those sectors where the priority of coordinated or harmonised action in the context of a protocol should lie.