

15. The HLS was also critical in securing Decision 1/CP.5 which directs the subsidiary bodies to intensify the preparatory work required to enable CoP6 decisions and provides the President of the CoP (Jan Szyszko of Poland) with additional leeway to advance the process over the next year through use of a facilitator, task group, or other means, at his discretion. In addition, a number of Parties noted the importance of civil society in the process and their expectations of increased public pressure for decisions at CoP6. The HLS also included extensive presentations of current domestic action being undertaken by Parties. The wide range of domestic activities outlined indicates that Annex I Parties are making considerable efforts towards early action on climate change, although developing countries and the European Union pointed out that this was by no means sufficient to respond to the challenge set out in the Convention and Protocol. It was also positive to note that despite having no greenhouse gas reduction commitments, many non-Annex I countries are also keen to be engaged in climate change mitigation efforts.

16. The Road to CoP6: Parties agreed that CoP6 will be held in the Hague, the Netherlands, from 13 to 24 November 2000. Additional intersessional meetings and an intensified work plan including a number of workshops on specific issues were also approved. SBSTA/SBI meetings are scheduled: from 12-16 June 2000, 11-15 September, and 13-24 November with the June and September sessions each preceded by one week of informal meetings, including workshops.