

SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS OF WORKING GROUPS

The recommended actions in the Conference Statement are mostly general in nature and common to a number of Conference Working Groups. The specific recommendations of the Working Groups are given in the following section.

ENERGY

- 1 Targets for energy supply should be directly related to reductions in CO₂ and other greenhouse gases. A challenging target would be to reduce the annual global CO₂ emissions by 20% by the year 2005 through improved energy efficiency, altered energy supply, and energy conservation.
- 2 Research and demonstration projects should be undertaken to accelerate the development of advanced biomass conversion technologies.
- 3 Deforestation should be reduced and reforestation accelerated to significantly reduce the atmospheric concentrations of CO₂ and to replenish the primary fuel supply for the majority of the world's population.
- 4 There is a need to revisit the nuclear power option. If the problems of safety, waste and nuclear arms proliferation can be solved, nuclear power could have a role to play in lowering CO₂ emissions.
- 5 It is necessary to internalize externalized costs. Policies should be fashioned to achieve broad, complementary social objectives and to minimize total social, economic and environmental costs.

FOOD SECURITY

- 1 National governments are urged to reduce the contributions of agricultural activities to the concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. These contributions arise from the destruction of forests, the inefficient use of inorganic nitrogen fertilizers, the increased conversion of land to paddy rice cultivation and the increased number of ruminant animals.
- 2 National governments should take the prospect of climate change into account in long-term agricultural and food security planning, particularly with respect to food availability to the most vulnerable groups.
- 3 National governments and international agencies should give increasing emphasis to a wide array of policy measures to reduce the sensitivity of the food supply to climatic variability in order to increase resilience and adaptability to climate change.
- 4 National governments are urged to increase their efforts to build sub-regional and regional cooperation aimed at achieving food security. International agencies should assist in promoting these regional cooperative efforts.