

STATEMENT BY GERMANY
ON BEHALF OF THE EUROPEAN
COMMUNITY AND ITS MEMBER STATES



Bonn, 31 May - 11 June 1999

SBI 10 - Agenda item 6
SBSTA 10 - Agenda item 10

MATTERS RELATING TO COMPLIANCE UNDER THE KYOTO PROTOCOL

Germany, on behalf of the European Community and its Member States welcomes the submissions from other Parties on matters relating to compliance under the Kyoto Protocol. We would also like to thank the secretariat for preparing a working document that includes a synthesis of the various submissions in order to facilitate the discussion in the Joint Working Group. Both the submissions and the working document provide an excellent basis for further discussion and for the development of an effective compliance system as a prerequisite for the successful implementation of the Protocol.

In two submissions, the EU expressed its views on several issues relating to compliance. We are convinced that a comprehensive, coherent, unified, strong, efficient and effective compliance system is essential for the successful implementation and application of the Kyoto Protocol. We appreciate the opportunity to provide further thoughts and to have a detailed discussion on that matter.

1. The EU believes that the primary objective of any compliance system should be the prevention of cases of non-compliance from arising. Any compliance system should thus have as a main objective to help Parties fulfil their obligations under the Protocol.
2. However, we strongly support a compliance system that makes use of both soft and hard measures to ensure the full and timely implementation of the Protocol. Both approaches should be compatible with each other and should take into account the nature of the obligation and the seriousness of breach and should include, where appropriate, elements of automaticity.
3. The EU would wish a compliance system to be operated by an independent Compliance Committee of limited size. The members of the Committee should be experts of recognized competence in relevant fields, such as those of science, socio-economics and law. They should be elected and should serve in their personal capacity.