

City of Toronto wrote to Minister Axworthy proposing to host CoP4, but to date no decision has yet been made on the Canadian support whether to proceed, until the necessary financial arrangements have been decided. We understand that Buenos Aires Argentina is considering making an offer, which if accepted would be the first venue for a Climate Change CoP in a developing country.

SBSTA

6. Development and Transfer of Technologies: In the Agenda item on technology transfer, very few delegations took the floor (Canada was one). The G-77 and China continue to raise the question of Intergovernmental Technical Advisory Panels (ITAPs) but there was no discussion. Canada will respond to the request by the Secretariat to supply additional names for the Roster of Experts, particularly those with a background in economics and finance.

7. Climate Technology Initiative (CTI) -- The CTI continues to advance on many fronts. CTI began with fanfare at COP 1, but this was followed by only patchy progress over the past two years. It is now picking up a bit more attention, although few countries are actively supporting the initiative. Numerous meetings were held on the CTI on the margins of the SBSTA. Of particular interest to Canada, was the CTI Ad hoc group meeting, where Candel gave an update on the Task Force on Enhancing Markets for Emerging Technologies, for Canadian Chair Aube. Interest was shown by Italy, Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, USA, Germany and Japan on possible future participation. More generally, many dels, including Canada, the US and Italy, were critical of the lack of engagement of governments and encouraged a more strategic approach to the CTI, including developing a clearer link to technology commitments under the UNFCCC. Also of note was a CTI sponsored seminar on capital stock turnover in the electric utility sector, which will be followed by an IEA workshop on the same topic in Paris on 15-16 of Sept. CTI is promoting regional workshops on technology component of GHG emission reduction. Sweden hosted such a workshop in March 97 and plans have begun to hold another in Asia or China, probably in early 1998. The next CTI meeting will be held in the margins of the next SBSTA meeting.

8. NGO Consultative Mechanism-- Considerable attention was paid, somewhat unexpectedly, to this item beginning with the Secretariat and Executive Director (who had prepared three papers for consideration) and by the Environmental NGOs, industry and municipalities. ENGOS asked for greater access to, and participation in, government floor discussions. Some delegations, including Canada, supported the need for better input through existing mechanisms such as through the UNFCCC internet page. Candel also supported a limited increase in the number of interventions NGOs could be permitted during each meeting of the Subsidiary bodies and at COP3. Parties have been asked to provide more detailed comments by August 25, to be