

Statement by the United States of America  
Afternoon Session  
23 August 1995

Thank You, Mr. Chairman

The United States delegation is fully aware of the Berlin Mandate and each of its provisions. We are not, in this first meeting of the AG/BM, negotiating this mandate, but are discussing an approach to the analysis and assessment activities called for in the mandate.

In order to analyze and assess next steps for Annex I Parties, it is necessary to consider how their actions may affect the global environmental problem that we face. To do so, we must look at emission trends and at the efforts that all Parties are making to deal with emissions of greenhouse gases. Only in this way can we understand how next steps by Annex I Parties will affect the global environmental problem that we face.

In addition, it is likely that the actions taken by Annex I Parties will affect Non-Annex I countries, as has been noted by delegations from several developing Parties. For this reason as well, we cannot analyze and assess policies and measures to be taken by Annex I Parties in isolation.

We are also aware that Non-Annex I Parties have expressed repeatedly their keen interest in matters related to technology development and diffusion. In analyzing possible policies and measures for Annex I Parties, it will be important to consider the potential for new technologies and for improved diffusion of these and existing technologies to achieve the environmental benefits that we seek. We believe -- and hope -- that all Parties will be very interested in such aspects of the analysis and assessment that our group will undertake.

Finally, we are aware that many Non-Annex I Parties are taking actions that are proving highly successful in limiting emissions and sequestering carbon. We think that these "success stories" will be of great interest to Annex I Parties in analyzing and assessing potential policies and measures, and that we should seek to bring forward this information in the course of our analysis and assessment.

We know that First National Communications from Non-Annex I Parties will not generally be available until 1997. At the same time, much information is available, or will soon be available, from cooperative country study efforts that have