

SBSTA 11

Agenda item 9(d) – Impacts of single projects on emissions in the commitment period (decision 16/CP.4)

Statement by Canada

October 27, 1999

Thank you Mr. Chairmen

Canada wishes to commend the Icelandic delegation for the work it has done on *Impacts of Single Projects on Emissions in the Commitment Period*.

Canada shares the view of many, including Iceland, that the use of renewable energy is a means of enhancing efforts to limit global greenhouse gas emissions.

In its submissions included in FCCC/SB/MISC.1/Add.2, Iceland highlighted the importance of recognizing a project's "global benefit", defined as a project's contribution to the ultimate objective of the Framework Convention on Climate Change.

In Canada's submission to the secretariat earlier this year, contained in FCCC/SBSTA/1999/MISC.3, Canada encouraged the Secretariat to study the issue of "global benefits".

Climate change is a global challenge. The influence on the atmosphere of a tonne of greenhouse gas emitted or reduced is the same regardless of where it occurs. Canada believes that the issue of "global benefits" is important and deserves to be explored in a wider context. This would encourage actions and activities that contribute to our collective goal of achieving the ultimate objective of the FCCC.

In the context of global benefits, Canada supports further examination and analysis by the Secretariat.

Mr. Chairmen, at CoP4, Canada registered a series of concerns and these were expanded in our submission. I would like to make it clear that Canada continues to hold reservations on this issue and cannot support the draft decision for the Conference of the Parties tabled by Iceland at CoP4 in document FCCC/CP/1998/MISC.11/Add.1 in its current form as, in our view, it could undermine the environmental integrity of the Protocol.

Furthermore, Canada believes that the Kyoto Mechanisms provide Parties with additional flexibility to undertake emission reductions where it is most cost-effective to do so.

In closing, Canada clearly sees the value of keeping an open dialog in the path leading to CoP6, in order to have a clear assessment of the global environmental impact of the proposal upon which we can make a decision at CoP6 as noted by Iceland just now. Thank you Mr. Chairmen.

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