- unilateral commitments to targets, backed by funded plans of action (e.g., Netherlands, Denmark);

- unilateral, but preliminary and/or conditional commitments to targets (e.g., Australia, Germany, Norway, United Kingdom);

- targets adjusted for need for economic growth (e.g., Spain, Portugal, Greece);

- targets based on per capita emissions (France, Japan);

- commitment to a set of policies which will stabilize emissions (United States).

In the EC, the more aggressive targets of some Member countries are offset by the economic-growth-adjusted targets of other Members. The target statements of different OECD countries also differ in the percentage reductions, base years, target years and the greenhouse gases included. Outside the OECD, few countries have either adopted targets or committed themselves to strategies for dealing with global climate change.

As noted above, two countries, the Netherlands and Denmark, have funded plans of action to back up their targets. Most countries with preliminary or conditional commitments are in the process of developing plans of action. A few OECD countries have enacted CO_2 taxes either for revenue or for influencing consumer actions. Norway, Finland, the Netherlands and Sweden have introduced carbon taxes. More specifically:

- Norway has introduced a CO_2 tax on fossil fuels. This is designed to increase energy efficiency and the use of renewable sources of energy. The CO_2 tax on gasoline is NKr 0.60 per litre and NKr 0.30 per litre fuel oil.

- A CO_2 tax was introduced in Sweden in January 1991 on fossil fuels used in the domestic sector, the non-energy intensive industry, for cars and for domestic air traffic. CO_2 emissions are subject to a tax of Skr 0.25 per kg of CO_2 (US 4.1 cents/kg). This tax represents Skr 620/tonne of coal, Skr 535/m^3 of natural gas, Skr 0.4/litre of LPG for cars, Skr 750/tonne of LPG for other uses and Skr 0.58/litre of gasoline. Emissions of CO_2 from domestic air traffic are taxed at Skr 0.75/tonne of fuel.

- A small tax on fuels (related to their CO_2 emissions) has been levied in the Netherlands. This tax, which went into effect in February 1990, is intended more to raise revenue than to affect fundamentally consumer preferences.