

governments, and others need to explore creative financing schemes to increase access to technologies. For example, the point was raised by some participants that the Kyoto mechanisms, such as the Clean Development Mechanism, might provide incentives for local and regional investment in Southern Africa.

- Of particular note was a discussion on corruption and the clear agreement that corruption was a barrier to attracting financing and technology transfer.

One of the most significant outcomes of the Seminar was in the area of promoting multilateral technology cooperation to facilitate technology transfer. CTI was requested by SADC to jointly conduct a regional technology needs assessment of the energy sector, the first step in our Cooperative Technology Implementation Plan – a CTIP – a methodology we believe, Mr. Chairman, can be used to address many of the questions raised by Decision 4. In fact, CTI has begun a similar assessment with the Government of Thailand. I am happy to report that, since the Seminar in Zimbabwe, more than half of the financial support needed for this endeavor has been offered by the United States from its Agency for International Development. I am optimistic that the balance of the funding will be forthcoming from one or more of the other CTI countries so that this important work can begin.

The next regional CTI seminar on Technology Diffusion will be held from the 14th to the 16th of July in Bratislava, Slovakia for countries in the Eastern European region. This event is being held in cooperation with the UNFCCC Secretariat and co-sponsored by the Directorate for Energy of the European Commission, Japan's New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization, and the United States' Agency for International Development and Department of Energy. CTI will again elicit views on the substance of Decision 4 and share these views with the SBSTA, Mr. Chairman. Later this year, another seminar on technology diffusion is planned in Bangkok, Thailand for the Asian region, as well as a similar seminar for Latin America. Additionally, a training course for Asian countries will be held in Japan, and one for Eastern European countries in Germany.

In closing, I want to publicly thank the many CTI-countries, the European Commission, and the International Energy Agency for their generous and enthusiastic support for the CTI since I assumed the position of Chair in December 1997. Further, on behalf of the CTI, I want to express its sincere appreciation to the many countries that have hosted and helped to organize past CTI events and those being currently planned. CTI looks forward to their continued support and I am confident the CTI will continue to make an important contribution to advancing the objectives of the Framework Convention and addressing the questions and issues posed by Decision 4/CP.4. Finally, Mr. Chairman, I want to thank you again for allowing me to report to you on what the CTI has gleaned from its activities and for the opportunity to contribute to the SBSTA as you move forward to address the sensitive and important area of technology transfer.