

can also conclude from the diversity of actions that the national circumstances in each country are sufficiently different to preclude even the most effective action in one country from being universally replicable.

Mr. Chairman, let me conclude by returning to the purpose of the synthesis document. First, it is designed to help assess the implementation of the Convention. We conclude the implementation of existing commitments is on track -- but the track will lead us to a destination short of our ultimate goal. Second, the report is to help us consider the overall effects and cumulative impacts of measures taken. We conclude that the effects are to reduce emissions below what they otherwise might have been -- but that they are still rising. And third, the report is to help us assess the extent to which progress toward the objective of the convention is being achieved. While we conclude that such progress is slow, we can also take comfort in the fact that we have inaugurated a new process to help us design next steps. We must learn from the mistakes of the past, and insure that the outcome of the Berlin Mandate leads to a more successful future.

Thank You.