

ministerial level. We should formulate rules that guarantee really effective action to be taken to reduce emissions, that will be clear and transparent, and also be fair. CDM projects have to be clean and sustainable also in other aspects than greenhouse gas emissions.

We also attach great importance to the work on policies and measures. Therefore we need a clear mandate for the workshop on best practices on policies and measures to be held in Copenhagen in spring 2000.

It is true that we industrialized countries have caused the bulk of past emissions. That is why it is the industrialized countries who must take the lead by reducing their own greenhouse gas emissions. We have the technological capacity and financial resources to grasp the new opportunities open to us. Industrialized countries have to fulfill their commitments mainly by domestic action. The European Union has developed a proposal for the definition of a ceiling on the use of the Kyoto Mechanisms, as a basis for further negotiations with other Parties, and urges them to respond constructively to this proposal in the further deliberations.

We in the European Union have already taken a number of actions to cut our emissions, both at the national level and at the Community level.

The European Union is integrating environmental considerations into all decision-making. Reducing emissions of greenhouse gases is one of the most important issues here. The first environmental strategies will be approved this autumn for energy, transport and agriculture. Environmental indicators are also being worked out for all sectors of policy, which can be used to monitor and guide developments. Here are a few examples of the concrete steps being taken:

- We are moving towards a fuel economy labelling system, and an emission monitoring system for passenger cars;
- We have adopted policies and regulations in the waste sector, which provides a basic framework for diminishing emissions of methane from landfill sites;
- We are pursuing various initiatives to encourage energy saving and energy efficiency, and to promote the use of renewable energy sources.
- Introducing a European wide framework for the taxation of energy is an important goal.
- The voluntary agreement with the non-European automobile industry on manufacture of cars with lower emissions is an indication that the Kyoto Protocol already influences practical decisions and policies, even outside the borders of Europe itself.

Mr. Chairman,

We cannot solve climate change problem without partnership with the developing countries. Even though we industrialized countries acknowledge our responsibility, we cannot close our eyes from future developments globally. The developing countries'