

Monday, 28 October 2002

**THE DELHI MINISTERIAL DECLARATION**  
**on**  
**CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

Informal Proposal by the President

**The Ministers and other heads of delegations present at the eighth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,**

*Recalling* the objective and principles of, and the commitments under, the Convention,

*Acknowledging* the importance of addressing climate change and its adverse effects in the context of sustainable development,

*Pledging* to take further action in the wisdom that the adverse effects of climate change are likely to grow in the future and that developing countries are the most vulnerable and the least able to adapt,

*Recognizing* the conclusions of the World Summit on Sustainable Development that poverty eradication, changing consumption and production patterns, and protecting and managing the natural resource base for economic and social development are overarching objectives of, and essential requirements for, sustainable development,

*Reaffirming* that economic and social development and poverty eradication are the first and overriding priorities of the developing country Parties,

*Taking* note of the progress made in the process initiated by the Berlin Mandate, and the need for its full implementation,

*Welcoming* the efforts of all Parties to implement the Convention,

*Agree* that, in order to respond to the challenges we face now and in the future, climate change and its adverse effects should be considered within the framework of sustainable development through enhanced international cooperation. In this context, we call for the following measures:

- (a) Parties have a right to, and should, promote sustainable development. Policies and measures to protect the climate system against human-induced change should be appropriate for the specific conditions of each Party and should be integrated with national development programmes, taking into account that economic development is essential for adopting measures to address climate change;

- (b) All Parties, taking into account their common but differentiated responsibilities and their specific national and regional development priorities, objectives and circumstances, shall continue to advance the implementation of their commitments to address climate change and its adverse effects in order to achieve sustainable development;
- (c) Adaptation to the adverse effects of climate change is of high priority for developing countries and deserves urgent attention and action on the part of the international community. Effective and result-based measures should be supported for the development of approaches at all levels on vulnerability and adaptation, as well as capacity-building for the integration of adaptation concerns into sustainable development strategies. The measures may include initiation of further action;
- (d) The promotion of international cooperation in developing and disseminating innovative technologies in respect of key sectors of development, particularly energy, and of investment in this regard, including through private sector involvement, market-oriented approaches, as well as supportive public policies;
- (e) The strengthening of technology transfer through concrete projects and capacity-building in all relevant sectors, including energy, transport, industry, agriculture, forestry and waste management, and the promotion of technological advances through research and development, economic diversification and the strengthening of institutions for sustainable development;
- (f) The improvement of access to reliable, affordable, economically viable, socially acceptable and environmentally sound energy services and resources, taking into account national specificities and circumstances, through various means;
- (g) Annex I Parties should implement their commitments under the Convention, including those relating to financial resources and technologies transfer, and demonstrate that they are taking the lead in modifying longer-term trends in anthropogenic emissions consistent with the objective of the Convention through the adoption of national policies and corresponding measures for the mitigation of climate change.

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