



**Welcoming event for the May 2006 sessional period of the Subsidiary Bodies  
established under the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol  
Bonn, 15 May 2006**

**Statement by Richard Kinley, Officer-in-Charge  
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change**

Excellencies,  
Distinguished Delegates,  
Colleagues,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of my colleagues in the secretariat, I would like to welcome all participants to Bonn. I am very grateful to Minister Rona Ambrose, President of the COP 11-COP/MOP 1, for making a special effort to be with us today. I would also like to extend a special welcome to Minister Sigmar Gabriel of Germany. Germany has been an excellent host to the climate change secretariat and to the meetings of the UNFCCC for many years, and we are extremely grateful for that. A special word of welcome and gratitude go to Minister Kivutha Kibwana of Kenya, whose country will be hosting the upcoming COP 12 and the COP/MOP 2. We are looking forward to working with you, Minister Kibwana, in preparation for the conference.

This will be a very special and challenging session. Two important new processes on future action on climate change are beginning: the Dialogue on long-term cooperative action to address climate change by enhancing implementation of the Convention and the Ad Hoc Working Group on Further Commitments for Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol. There is also a lot to be accomplished within the Subsidiary Body for Implementation and the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice. The challenge is to be productive and to make progress within a short time available for the session.

For the Dialogue and for the Ad hoc Working Group, Parties have provided a number of very interesting submissions. The common thread in the submissions for both of these processes is a strong call for stepping up the efforts and moving forward in meeting the objective of the UNFCCC. Many submissions stress the remarkable role of market-based mechanisms in this process. With strengthening scientific conclusions on climate change and growing public concern on climate change impacts, these two new processes assume even more importance.

I would also like to highlight a number of important developments since our last meeting in Montreal.

First of all, implementation of the Kyoto Protocol is going ahead full speed. According to reports submitted to the UNFCCC secretariat at the beginning of 2006, many Parties listed in Annex B to the Kyoto Protocol have already made significant progress in putting in place policies, enacting relevant legislative, regulatory and institutional frameworks

for achieving their Kyoto commitments. However, many Parties to the Kyoto Protocol would have to sustain or even intensify their efforts to further bring down emissions.

The carbon market is experiencing exponential growth. I am pleased to inform you that as of today 180 Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) projects have been registered, with 570 more in the pipeline. The overall emission reduction potential of the CDM pipeline is over 940 million tonnes, roughly equivalent to the combined emissions of the United Kingdom and Spain in 2003 - with the threshold of 1 billion within reach. 4.6 million Certified Emission Reductions have been issued, and project participants are forwarding them to their accounts. The secretariat has been much strengthened to be better able to serve the CDM Executive Board - thanks to resources that have been made available by Parties. However, the significant pledges made by Parties at COP/MOP 1 have not all been realized yet, and there still is a substantial shortfall between identified needs and resources available.

Joint Implementation, launched in Montreal, is also making progress. The Joint Implementation Supervisory Committee (JISC) has been established, and it has made a good start. However, the JISC and the secretariat are currently facing a severe resource deficiency. Compared to the necessary supplementary resources in the biennium 2006-2007, only 12% are available at the moment. With the first commitment period approaching, and a number of JI projects in the pipeline, contributions from Annex I Parties are urgently needed so that the necessary JI Track 2 procedures can be developed on time and cases of accreditation and review of projects can start as soon as possible.

The secretariat has run a comprehensive and rigorous competitive process to select the best developer and operator for the International Transaction Log (ITL). The process is nearing completion, with final details presently being ironed out. We are confident that the deadlines for the launch of the ITL and its link to other systems such as the European Community emission trading system will be met.

Finally, the Compliance Committee has held its first meeting and elected its Bureau. The second meeting of the Committee is scheduled just after the sessions and it will focus on the rules of procedure.

There have also been important developments related to implementation of the UNFCCC:

One of the critical areas of activity under the Convention is adaptation to climate change impacts.

- A regional workshop on adaptation for the Latin American region was held in Lima in April. It has facilitated information exchange and helped identify specific adaptation needs and concerns in the region. Similar events are planned for small island developing States, Asia and Africa in the course of the next twelve months.
- Progress has been made in the preparation of national adaptation programmes of action (NAPAs). We have just received the fourth completed NAPA from Malawi.

- Good progress was made at an informal meeting in Vienna in planning the specific activities to be undertaken in the context of the five-year programme of work on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change adopted in Montreal. This work will be completed during this session, paving the way for action on the important themes of the programme.

There is a lot of interest to the idea of using carbon capture and storage technology to mitigate emissions. I look forward to the discussions at the workshop during this session.

The in-session workshop on mitigation: agriculture, forestry and rural development offers an opportunity to explore potential for stepping up mitigation efforts in these critical economic sectors.

At this session, the work will begin to identify actions to avoid emissions from deforestation in developing countries in the context of the UNFCCC. This is a key mitigation effort that also aims to preserve biodiversity, and therefore to promote sustainable development.

There is a lot of work to do in a very short period of time. I wish you success in making substantial progress at this session, and assure you of the full support of the secretariat in meeting this challenge.

Thank you.

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