Future international climate regime

Switzerland is currently examining its climate policy for the period after 2012, including national and international aspects: the Federal Council prepares a report on these matters; timeframe: end of the year

We look forward establishing an international climate regime that:

- Is environmentally integer and ensures real emissions reduction
- Contributes to sustainable development of all countries
- Is fair and equitable
- Ensures the participation of all major emitters
- Strengthens international cooperation, incl. technology transfer
- Makes use of economic instruments
- Is conducive to domestic action



Approaches to reduce GHG

We support:

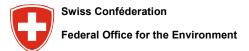
- A wide portfolio of measures and actions including: GHG Intensity Objectives, Promotion of Technologies, Sectoral measures
- Voluntary objectives in several sectors and through policies and measures in developing countries
- Participation of developing countries to emission trading on the basis of caps

The efforts done by Switzerland so far to reduce its GHG emissions cover a number of sectors, in particular energy, transport, agriculture and forestry

The basis for complying with commitments under the Kyoto are:

- Federal Law on the Protection of the Environment: mitigation of emissions from waste disposal, synthetic gases and GHG precursors
- Law on the Reduction of CO2 Emissions (1999): energy related CO2 emissions (75% of Switzerland's GHG emissions)

Consideration of the broader international context is essential for the effectiveness and costs of all these policies.



Long-term GHG reduction potentials

Switzerland is considering various energy scenarios (to 2035)

- Longer-term, Switzerland is facing major challenges for further reducing its energy-induced CO2 emissions (other gases and sources are still being assessed), because:
- i) per capita and per GDP emissions from Switzerland are already amongst the lowest among OECD countries (less than half OECD average); the cost of incremental domestic abatement measures exceeds the cost of measures abroad by ten-fold or more
- ii) Switzerland's electricity generation is currently carbon-free; this might change, depending on how Switzerland will cover a looming electricity supply gap in the future: gas-fired power or nuclear are the two only options, since even ambitious energy efficiency gains and renewables promotion may not suffice to bridge the gap

The cost of the emissions reductions will depend on the level of international commitments and cooperation, in particular through the Kyoto mechanisms

