

**Seminar of Governmental Experts
Bonn, 16 May 2005**

STATEMENT BY BRAZIL

Ambassador Konishi,
Mr. Chow,

This seminar has started with a positive note by having you as co-chairs.

Brazil has strongly supported the realisation of this seminar because we are convinced that the best place for the dialogue on the effective and appropriate responses to climate change is in the context of the UNFCCC.

Until November last year we were still discussing the possibility of the entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol. Since February of 2005, though, we entered a new phase.

Nevertheless, a new pessimistic view of the Kyoto Protocol has gained momentum. We have changed the uncertainty regarding the entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol for the uncertainties of the post-2012 regime.

Chairmen,

The discussions on the future of the climate change regime were driven by the fear that the Kyoto Protocol would not enter into force. Now, after so many negotiations, after so many years, we have an instrument in our hands. We have to concentrate on results.

Many actors are concerned about the climate change regime after the first commitment period, in 2012. Many discussions on the post 2012 are legitimate, and we welcome them.

But some of the discussions on the post 2012 are being used to undermine the credibility of the Kyoto Protocol, especially regarding compliance and CDM.

We are facing a distortion of the negotiations process that has contaminated many important documents such as the Report of the Secretary General of the UN, Kofi Annan.

We are concerned, Chairmen, when we read in the report "In Larger Freedom: towards development, security and human rights for all" that the Kyoto Protocol "only extends until 2012". In the executive summary you can even read "the expiry of the Kyoto Protocol in 2012".

Brazil's position is clear: we have to work for the success of Kyoto. We have to work for the success of CDM. We have to work for the success of the Convention.

We have to work, chairmen, for the strengthening and the integrity of the climate change negotiations in the multilateral sphere.

I do not reflect by my words only the position of the government. It is difficult to express for you the deep interest that CDM has generated in Brazil. Local communities, governments of cities and states, NGOs and the business community are debating with enthusiasm the prospects of CDM. But they are not discussing the future. They are acting in the present. It is clear for us that CDM is a cooperation instrument that is both brilliant and innovative.

Thanks to CDM, projects that could not have seen the day have become reality. Projects that bring a positive impact from the social, environmental and economic points of view.

The potential of CDM is immense: it can also have an impact on technology transfer and, even more important, in supporting the development of local technologies.

But we have to avoid the political manipulation of knowledge. In this context, I would like, Chairmen, to reiterate the importance Brazil attaches to the change of patterns of production and consumption with developed countries taking the lead.

This is a guiding principle since Rio. But it has to be addressed not only in the context of our negotiations. It must also be applied to a wider context and particularly to globalisation. Sustainable development and globalisation must go hand in hand.

Some industrialised countries believe that developing countries should have lower emissions. At the same time, they lead the globalisation process, which offers opportunities but is the most powerful instrument of dissemination of unsustainable patterns of production and consumption.

Actions and words of developed countries should be coherent. And we expect them to concentrate on their commitments. We expect them to work hard for the change of their patterns of production and consumption, so that globalisation becomes an instrument of dissemination of patterns that are compatible with the international efforts towards mitigation of climate change.

During the preparatory process for the 1972 Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment, a number of delegates of developing countries struggled to obtain the recognition of the correlation between environment and development. This was the basis for all subsequent negotiations.

A Brazilian delegate, Ambassador Miguel Osório de Almeida said in 1971 “to be many and to be poor is offensive to the sights and feelings of developed countries. Most of their suggestions do not concern cooperation for increasing income, but cooperation to reduce numbers”. This was 35 years ago.

Chairmen,

I want to come back to the importance of CDM for Brazil. Brazil believes CDM contains all the important elements that drive climate change negotiations:

- it contributes to the fulfilment of the ultimate objective of the Convention;
- it is a flexible mechanism that supports the fulfilment of Annex I countries commitments;
- it engages developing countries in a meaningful participation in the mitigation efforts that would not be economically feasible otherwise;
- it can involve governments, civil society and the business community;
- it allows the population of developing countries to meet their legitimate aspirations of raising their living standards in ways that are compatible with sustainable development.

Climate change is one of the greatest challenges facing mankind. There is no single answer. There is no simple answer. But we are convinced that the Clean Development Mechanism can turn out to be one of the most effective means to avoid the patterns of development that have proved to be unsustainable.

We do not use the expression post-Kyoto. We use post 2012. The best way to look at post 2012 is to ensure the success of the Kyoto Protocol and the Clean Development Mechanism.

Thank you.

(André Corrêa do Lago - Head of the Division for Environmental Policy and Sustainable Development, Ministry of Foreign Relations)