



For use of the media only.

MEDIA ADVISORY

Fresh UN talks on future climate action set to begin in Bonn

(Bonn, 3 May 2006) – New talks on future action under the UN-sponsored climate change process will be launched in the week of 15 May in Bonn, Germany.

One round of discussions in the form of a "Dialogue on long-term cooperative action to address climate change by enhancing implementation of the Convention" will start with a workshop to be held in Bonn on 15 and 16 May.

These talks involve all 189 contracting Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). They will address, in an informal and interactive setting, issues such as the link between sustainable development and climate change, adaptation to climate change, the potential of technology and the use of market-based opportunities to combat climate change. The objective is to build consensus on how countries should cooperate better to reduce emissions of heat-trapping gases and to respond to climate change impacts.

A second track of talks involves the 163 Parties to the Kyoto Protocol. The first round of formal negotiations under the "Ad Hoc Working Group on Further Commitments for Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol" will be held between 17 and 25 May. The focus of this body will be on further measures to be taken by industrialized countries for the period after 2012, when the first commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol ends.

"Talks on the future have moved from academia into the United Nations halls" said Richard Kinley, acting head of the United Nations Climate Change Secretariat. "Scientific evidence of the dramatic effects of human-induced climate change is becoming stronger. Governments need to agree on how the world is to reduce emissions within 2 to 3 years. They also need to provide certainty that the exciting new international carbon market can continue to deliver results after 2012", he added.

The talks will be held in conjunction with the regular meetings of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technical Advice and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation, during which such issues as the role of deforestation in developing countries, the role of carbon capture and storage in mitigating climate change, action on adaptation to climate change impacts and progress by Kyoto Parties in implementing their commitments will be discussed.



The sessions will be opened on Monday, 15 May by H.E. Ms. Rona Ambrose, President of the 11th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 11), which served as the first meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (COP/MOP 1), H.E. Mr. Sigmar Gabriel, Federal Minister for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety of Germany, and by Richard Kinley, acting head of the UNFCCC.

In addition to the official sessions, a plethora of side events on issues such as the future climate regime, emissions trading, technology and adaptation will be held in facilities close to the Hotel Maritim in Bonn, the venue of the sessions.

The UN Climate Change Secretariat will give press briefings on the issues covered in the sessions at UN Headquarters in New York on Friday, 12 May 11:00 a.m. EST/ 17:00 p.m. CET (webcast live on the UNFCCC website), and on 15 and 25 May in Bonn.

A media centre with workstations, plug and play facilities and audio feeds will be available for the press at the Hotel Maritim for the duration of the sessions.

Note to journalists: For accreditation, to arrange interviews and for further information, please contact the Ms. Carrie Assheuer, Public Information and Media Assistant: tel.: (+49-228) 815-1005 or press@unfccc.int.

You may also contact Mr. Alexander Saier, Information Officer: tel.: (+49-228) 815-1509 or Mr. John Hay, Head of Communications and Media: tel.: (+49-228) 815-1404; mobile: (+49-172) 258-6944. See also unfccc.int.