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UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

SUBSIDIARY BODY FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE

Eighteenth session

Bonn, 4–13 June 2003

Agenda item 9 (a)

### **OTHER ISSUES**

#### **ISSUES RELATING TO CLEANER OR LESS-GREENHOUSE-GAS-EMITTING ENERGY**

##### **Submissions from Parties**

1. A submission has been received from Canada in relation to item 9 (a) of the agenda of the eighteenth session of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice.
2. In accordance with the procedure for miscellaneous documents, this submission is reproduced\* in the language in which it was received and without formal editing.

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\* This submission has been electronically imported in order to make it available on electronic systems, including the World Wide Web. The secretariat has made every effort to ensure the correct reproduction of the text as submitted.

## CANADA

### **Issues related to cleaner or less greenhouse gas-emitting energy**

Canada continues to believe strongly in the importance of optimizing the uptake of cleaner or less greenhouse gas-emitting energy, in the role that trade in such energy can play in meeting the objectives of the Protocol and the Convention, and in the need for appropriate recognition, within the framework of the Protocol, for the global environmental benefits created by such trade.

It was for these reasons that, at SBSTA 17, in New Delhi, Canada proposed a draft COP decision requesting a study of the role of trade in cleaner or less greenhouse gas-emitting energy in meeting the objectives of the Convention and the Protocol, which is attached as an appendix to this paper.

Canada's proposal at SBSTA 17 was completely different than the earlier draft COP decision put forward by Canada at SBSTA 16 requesting up to 70 Mt of annual credits of CO<sub>2</sub>e for Canada's exports of cleaner energy to the United States. In the course of the consultations that he conducted on the new Canadian proposal, SBSTA Chairman Thorgeirsson proposed draft conclusions that modified the Canadian proposal to more widely accommodate the interests of different Parties.

The Chairman's proposal, inviting Parties to submit views on terms of reference for, and issues to be addressed by a study on issues related to cleaner or less greenhouse gas-emitting energy, was one with which Canada indicated it could agree. Unfortunately, no consensus was possible on either the new Canadian proposal or Chairman Thorgeirsson's, and the conclusions eventually adopted stated only that consideration of the issues under this agenda sub-item was not completed.

Since that time much progress has been made in Canada with respect to climate change. On November 21, 2002, the Government published the Climate Change Plan for Canada, in which it indicated how it intends to meet its Kyoto Protocol commitment. Shortly thereafter, on December 17<sup>th</sup>, Canada ratified the Protocol. In February 2003, the Government tabled a budget that allocated \$Cdn 2 billion over five years for the implementation of the Climate Change Plan for Canada, which brings the Government's total investment in measures to fight climate change since 1998 to \$Cdn 3.7 billion.

While Canada is clearly committed to meeting its obligations under the Kyoto Protocol and is taking decisive action to do so, the Climate Change Plan for Canada reflects the fact that the issue of recognition for cleaner energy exports continues to be a high priority for the Canadian government, as well as for Canada's provinces and territories.

During the High Level Segment of COP 8, the Honorable David Anderson, Canada's Minister of the Environment, indicated that Canada will continue to seek to promote the role of cleaner energy exports in meeting the objectives of the Convention and the Protocol, and believes that the global environmental benefits created by such exports should be taken into consideration when we negotiate second commitment period targets.

As noted by Minister Anderson, the issue of cleaner or less greenhouse gas-emitting energy has a longer-term aspect, for the second and subsequent commitment periods, and for the advancement of the objectives of the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol, which Canada believes should be of interest to all Parties.

Canada sees this issue as important for the future of the Protocol and for all Parties, as we collectively make the transition to a lower greenhouse gas-emitting global economy. Canada therefore request that the proposal that Canada put forward at SBSTA 17 and contained in the appendix to this document, be noted in the SBSTA 18 conclusions.

## Appendix

### Draft Decision -/CP. 8

#### **The role of trade in cleaner or less greenhouse gas-emitting energy toward meeting the objectives of the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol**

*The Conference of the Parties,*

*Mindful* of the objective of the Convention as set out in its Article 2,

*Recalling* the report on the second part of the sixth session of the Conference of the Parties (document FCCC/CP/2001/2, section II, sub-section A), in which it “recognized that cleaner or less greenhouse gas-emitting energy, emphasizing renewables, hydro, geothermal, and natural gas, could promote global environmental benefits to meet the objectives of the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol and optimize the uptake of cleaner or less greenhouse gas-emitting energy”,

*Recalling* the report of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice on its sixteenth session (FCCC/SBSTA/2002/6) in which the SBSTA took note of proposed approaches to issues related to cleaner or less greenhouse gas-emitting energy contained in document FCCC/SBSTA/2002/MISC.3 and of submissions by Canada and by Venezuela on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, contained in documents FCCC/SBSTA/2002/MISC.3/Add.1 and FCCC/SBSTA/2002/MISC.3/Add.2, respectively; and, agreed to continue consideration of these issues at its seventeenth session,

*Recognizing* the potential of cleaner or less greenhouse gas-emitting energy to promote global environmental benefits to meet the objectives of the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol,

1. *Requests*, pursuant to Article 7, paragraph 2, sub-paragraph (1) of the Convention, the secretariat to ask competent international organizations and intergovernmental and non-governmental bodies to analyze the role of trade in cleaner or less greenhouse gas-emitting energy in promoting the objectives of the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol,

2. *Decides* to include on the provisional agenda of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice at its twenty-first session an agenda item entitled “Role of trade in cleaner or less greenhouse gas-emitting energy in meeting the objectives of the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol”, under which the competent organizations and bodies referred to in paragraph 1 above would report on the analysis undertaken.

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