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INTERGOVERNMENTAL NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE
FOR A FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE
Second session
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Agenda Item 2

PREPARATION OF A FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Set of informal papers
provided by delegations, related to the preparation
of a framework convention on climate change

Note by the secretariat

Addendum 9

This addendum contains material received on 21 June 1991 from Kuwait/Saudi Arabia/USSR and Yugoslavia; and material received on 22 June 1991 from Kuwait.

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List of informal papers

23. KUWAIT, SAUDI ARABIA, UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS
(Paragraphs 7, 14 and 16 of the Ministerial Declaration of
the Second World Climate Conference (SWCC) 1990).
24. KUWAIT
25. YUGOSLAVIA: Basic elements that should be incorporated into the
International Convention on Climatic Changes.

PAPER NO 23: KUWAIT, SAUDI ARABIA, USSR

In order to achieve sustainable development in all countries and to meet the needs of present and future generations, precautionary measures to meet the climate challenge must anticipate, prevent, attack, or minimize the causes of, and mitigate the adverse consequences of, environmental degradation that might result from climate change. Where there are threats of serious or irreversible damage, lack of full scientific certainty should not be used as a reason for postponing cost-effective measures to prevent such environmental degradation. The measures adopted should take into account different socio-economic contexts.

We recommend that in the elaboration of response strategies, over time, all greenhouse gases, sources and sinks be considered in the most comprehensive manner possible and also that limitation and adaptation measures be addressed.

The specific difficulties of those countries, particularly developing countries, whose economies are highly dependent on fossil fuel production and exportation, as a consequence of action taken on limiting greenhouse gas emissions, should be taken into account.

(The above are paragraphs 7, 14 and 16 of the Ministerial Declaration of the Second World Climate Conference (SWCC) 1990)

PAPER NO. 24: KUWAIT

In respect to the world community's effort to protect the atmosphere and climate change, we would like to stress the adoption of a balanced and parallel method in dealing with the different aspects of concluding an international convention to control GHG through a global approach, which would take into consideration all GHGs and activities that lead to these phenomena. In so doing, we should be careful that the solutions we are adopting do not encourage new ecological, economic or social problems, which would place increased burdens on LDCs.

The control of GHG emissions should not be limited to the gas and energy sector alone; and there should be equivalent and parallel consideration of other GHGs, specifically methane and NO_x, and of other industrial sectors, agriculture, and domestic activities (for example, solid waste disposal methods).

It is also essential to work with equal zeal in enhancing existing sinks and the creation of new ones. This means working actively on protecting forests and wet areas, as well as development and transfer of technology related to salt-tolerant plants in arid and semi-arid areas. The transfer of technology should also include increasing combustion efficiency to reduce NO_x, and the development of agricultural and solid waste disposal techniques that generate less GHG.

PAPER NO.25: YUGOSLAVIA

Basic elements that should be incorporated into the International Convention on Climatic Changes:

I. The preamble should include, among other things the following:

1. Climate protection as a common good for today's and future generations.
2. The effect of anthropogenic factors on climatic change and the undertaking of precautionary measures to alleviate and eliminate negative effects.
3. Actions of States on national and international fields with full respect for the sovereignty of States.
4. Peaceful exploitation and implementation of climate and the principle of good neighbourly relations as concerns climate issues.
5. The principle of sustainable development.
6. The responsibility of developed countries and their obligations as regards GHG stabilization measures and support to developing countries.
7. Obligations in respect to the development of an environmentally safe technology.
8. The needs of developing countries for new financial sources and technology transfer under favourable conditions.
9. The need for further research and systematic observation in order to gain knowledge on the climate/man cause and effect relations.

II. The Convention's operational part should contain the following elements:

1. Definitions
2. The obligation of States signatories to undertake, as a precaution on the basis of best available technologies, the following measures:
 - to decrease GHG, in particular CO₂, by using the best available technology;
 - to conserve and develop CO₂ sources and reservoirs;
 - to develop strategies for climate change adaptation and for neutralizing negative effects.
3. The obligation of States, the developed countries in particular, to stabilize SO₂ emission in a given time frame and to draw out measures for decreasing the other GHG.
4. Measures for limiting emissions in certain sectors of the economy (power generating industry, industry, wood industry, agriculture...).
5. Together with the defining of obligations of States signatories there should be protocols on:
 - GHG decrease;
 - ways for securing and investing new and additional financial resources and technology transfer.