

INTERGOVERNMENTAL NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE
FOR A FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE
Third session
Nairobi, 9-20 September 1991
Agenda item 2

11 September 1991

ENGLISH ONLY

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 12

This addendum contains material received from Sweden.

A/AC.237/Misc.1/Add.12

NBO.91-154

42

List of informal papers

31. SWEDEN; Text based on compilation of proposals related to commitments; Differentiated responsibilities - differentiated obligations (submitted on 11/9/91)

PAPER NO. 31: SWEDEN

Differentiated responsibilities - differentiated obligations

In the consolidated text on principles and commitments, based on proposals presented by delegations, the principle of common but differentiated responsibility is acknowledged. There is however no elaboration on the practical measures that need to be taken in order to implement this principle.

The Swedish delegation therefore wishes to recall the proposal it made at the second session of the INC aiming at the establishment of categories of countries with regard to specific commitments. The purpose would be to express the commitments in different categories in a precise way. Some examples are given in Secretariat compilation of 15th August 1991, paras 97-99, doc A/AC.237/Misc.7.

In terms of the convention, reference to categories of countries could be made in a special chapter between the chapter on general and specific commitments. This text would contain general guidelines for the establishment of categories whereas specific provisions for the implementation of the method of categorisation would appear in annex.

The main elements of this proposal can be summarized as follows:

1. The contracting parties are divided into categories. These categories can be based on "objective" quantitative criteria (GNP per capita; emissions per capita etc. etc.), or on existing categories such as least developed countries, developing countries, countries with economies in transition, OECD countries or on any other criterias that would be elaborated by the parties.
2. All countries accept certain basic obligations, fundamentally general commitments as set out in the consolidated text A/AC.237/Misc.9.
3. Every single category provides for a "package" of commitments which would clearly set out the obligations undertaken by countries belonging to that category.
4. A time-table is established, designed to define dates on which new commitments can be undertaken by the different categories. These dates would also be used for reviewing the possibilities for countries to move from one category to another.
5. The system will be supplemented by an efficient review process, which would ensure appropriate implementation and provide support for contracting parties in carrying out their national programs.