



AD HOC GROUP ON THE BERLIN MANDATE  
Fourth session  
Geneva, 11 - 16 July 1996  
Agenda item 7

**REPORT OF THE AD HOC GROUP ON THE BERLIN MANDATE**

**Draft report of the Ad Hoc Group on the Berlin Mandate  
on its fourth session**

Rapporteur: Mr. Dan REIFSNYDER (United States of America), Vice-Chairman

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## **I. OPENING OF THE SESSION**

(Agenda item 1)

1. The fourth session of the Ad Hoc Group on the Berlin Mandate (hereinafter referred to as "the AGBM") was held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, from 11 to 16 July 1996.
2. The Chairman of the AGBM, Ambassador Raúl Estrada-Oyuela, opened the session at the 1st meeting, on 11 July 1996. In welcoming the participants, Ambassador Estrada recalled that Parties are now halfway through the time period for preparing a protocol or another legal instrument. In this context, he expressed concern at the lack of progress made by some Annex I Parties in returning their emissions to 1990 levels and at the perception of some Parties that commitments did not extend beyond 2000. Ambassador Estrada re-affirmed that developing countries will not be subject to additional commitments under the Berlin Mandate. He observed that when developed countries accept and comply with adequate obligations, and when they have facilitated financial support for developing countries to meet their commitments, the time will possibly come when developing country Parties are in a position to enter into new obligations. In noting the variety of proposals before the Group on policies and measures and quantified emission limitation and reduction objectives, the Chairman recalled the option of considering criteria for differentiation between Annex I Parties. The Chairman drew attention to the apparent preference in the Group for a draft protocol, but noted that the continuing divergence of views on the majority required for its adoption meant that an amendment remained an option. He concluded by expressing his hope that the Group was now ready to start negotiations.

## **II. ORGANIZATION OF WORK**

(Agenda item 2)

### **A. Adoption of the agenda**

(Agenda item 2 (a))

3. The AGBM, at its first session, on 11 July, adopted the following agenda:
  1. Opening of the session.
  2. Organization of work:
    - (a) Adoption of the agenda;
    - (b) Organization of the work of the session;

3. Strengthening the commitments in Article 4.2(a) and (b):
  - (a) Policies and measures;
  - (b) Quantified emission limitation and reduction objectives within specified time-frames.
4. Continuing to advance the implementation of Article 4.1.
5. Possible features of a protocol or another legal instrument.
6. Taking stock and intensifying efforts: report to the Conference of the Parties.
7. Report on the session.

**B. Organization of the work of the session**

(Agenda item 2)

5. At the 1st meeting of the AGBM, on 11 July, the Chairman recalled that there would be services available for seven meetings, with interpretation from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. The AGBM agreed to take up agenda items 3 (a) and (b) together and to proceed on the basis of the schedule of work proposed by the Chairman.
6. The AGBM, at its third session, had requested the Chairman to convene informal round tables on policies and measures and quantified emission limitation and reduction objectives. The round table on policies and measures, chaired by AGBM Vice-Chairman Mr. Suphavit Piamphongsant, and the round table on quantified emission limitation and reduction objectives, chaired by AGBM Vice-Chairman Mr. D. Reifsnyder, were held on 12 July. A third round table, on the possible impacts on developing country Parties of the new commitments to be negotiated for Annex I Parties, was held on 15 July. The Chairman noted that he had called on a member of the non-governmental community, Dr. Kilaparti Ramakrishna, to chair the round table on possible impacts.
7. The Chairman, after consultations with the Bureau, had requested the secretariat to seek a legal opinion from the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs on the meaning of Article 17.2 of the Convention. The Chairman requested that this opinion be circulated to members of the AGBM.
8. Statements were made on behalf of environmental and business/industry non-governmental organizations.

**D. Attendance**

9. For attendance at the fourth session of the AGBM, see the report of the Conference of the Parties on its second session, Part One, chapter II, section J.

**E. Documentation**

10. The documents prepared for the AGBM at its second session are listed in annex I below.

**III. STRENGTHENING THE COMMITMENTS IN ARTICLE 4.2(A) and (B)**  
(Agenda item 3)

[to be completed]

**IV. CONTINUING TO ADVANCE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE 4.1**  
(Agenda item 4)

[to be completed]

**V. POSSIBLE FEATURES OF A PROTOCOL OR  
ANOTHER LEGAL INSTRUMENT**  
(Agenda item 5)

1. Proceedings

11. The AGBM considered this matter at its first and ... meetings on 11 and ... July 1996. The Group had before it documents FCCC/AGBM/1996/6, FCCC/AGBM/1996/MISC.1/Add.1-2 and MISC.2 and MISC.2/Add.1. Statements were made by the representatives of 16 Parties, including one speaking on behalf of the European Community and its member States and one speaking on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS).

2. Conclusions

[to be completed]

**VI. TAKING STOCK AND INTENSIFYING EFFORTS: REPORT TO THE**

**CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES AT ITS SECOND SESSION**

(Agenda item 6)

[to be completed]

**VII. REPORT ON THE SECOND SESSION**

(Agenda item 7)

11. At the \_\_th meeting, on \_\_ July, the Rapporteur presented the first part of the draft report of the session (FCCC/AGBM/1996/L.2). The AGBM considered and adopted the first part of the draft report.

12. At its \_\_th meeting, on \_\_ July, the AGBM requested the Rapporteur, under the guidance of the Chairman and with the assistance of the secretariat, to complete the report, taking into account the discussions of the AGBM, the conclusions on agenda items 3, 4, 5 and 6, and the need for editorial adjustments.

13. The Chairman, after thanking all participants for their constructive cooperation, declared the second session of the AGBM closed.

[to be completed]

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