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PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ANNOTATIONS

Note by the Executive Secretary¹

Addendum

**ROUND-TABLE DISCUSSIONS AMONG MINISTERS
AND OTHER HEADS OF DELEGATION**

¹ As this document reports the results of the Bureau meeting held on 5 and 6 October, its submission was delayed.

Background

1. This document provides additional information on the round-table discussions among ministers and other heads of delegation, item 10 of the provisional agenda, as mentioned in paragraph 73 of the annotations to the provisional agenda for the ninth session of the Conference of the Parties (FCCC/CP/2003/1).

Item 10 of the provisional agenda: Round-table discussions among ministers and other heads of delegation

2. The Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI), at its eighteenth session, endorsed the dates of 10 to 11 December 2003 for the high-level segment of the ninth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 9). The SBI also recommended that round-table discussions be the mode for exchanges during the high-level segment. The SBI invited the Bureau of COP 8, in collaboration with the secretariat, the President-designate of COP 9 and the Government of Italy, to give further consideration to the details and format of the high-level segment of COP 9.

3. At its meetings held on 5 and 6 October 2003 in Rome, Italy, the Bureau considered the character of COP 9 and the role of ministers in achieving a successful outcome. They also considered the details and format of the round-table discussions among ministers and other heads of delegation to be held during the high-level segment of COP 9. The Bureau noted that COP 9 would include plenary discussions on implementation of the Convention by Annex I Parties, as well as the launching and implementing of projects in developing countries under the clean development mechanism.

4. In this context, the Bureau agreed that three round-table discussions will be convened on the following themes:

- (a) Climate change, adaptation, mitigation and sustainable development
- (b) Technology, including technology use and development and transfer of technologies
- (c) Assessment of progress at the national, regional and international levels to fulfil the promise and objective enshrined in the climate change agreements, including the scientific, information, policy and financial aspects.

5. Capacity-building, synergy and possible future steps, as well as the need to increase awareness of vulnerability and adaptation, will be key cross-cutting issues for all three round-table discussions. The President will invite ministers from Annex I and non-Annex I Parties to co-chair the round-table discussions.

6. The round-table discussions will begin in the afternoon of Wednesday, 10 December 2003, and conclude in the afternoon of 11 December. They will be held sequentially and be open to participation by all ministers and heads of delegation. Invited ministers will introduce the discussions.
