



Speech to the Second Conference of Parties

United Nation Framework Convention on Climate Change

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Mr President, Honourable Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

it is very clear that the environment is becoming the reference for the policies and international negotiations, as one of the main criteria for co-operation between North and South, as well as a method for development in the most industrialized countries.

Environmental quality objectives and standards for production and products, are developing quickly towards best available techniques, due to the pressure of environmental associations and to the new market competition, due to the introduction of the environment as a criterion for products selection. In the same way, criteria of environmental compatibility are destined to influence "heavily" the co-operation and transfer of technology between North and South, or East of the World.

This is the undoubtedly result of the 1992 Summit in Rio de Janeiro, independently of the importance of the commitments taken and of the actions until now undertaken at global level. This should be therefore the starting point for the evaluation and definition of the role of the Convention on Climate Change.

The IPCC Second Assessment Report, adopted in 1995 in Rome, has concluded that the balance of evidence suggests that there is a discernible human influence on global climate.

According to the IPCC SAR, stabilization of atmospheric concentrations of CO₂ at twice the pre-industrial level, 550 p.p.m., will require global emissions to be less than 50% of current levels of emissions; such a concentration level is likely to lead to an increase of the global average temperature of around 2° C above the pre-industrial level.

As indicated by Presidency of the European Union, the objective is to avoid that global average temperature exceed 2° C above pre-industrial level and, therefore concentration levels lower than 550 p.p.m. CO₂ should guide global limitation and reduction efforts.

This means that the concentrations of all greenhouse gases should at least be stabilized. This is likely to require also a reduction of emissions of greenhouse gases other than CO₂, in particular CH₄ and NO₂.

The SAR calls upon all countries to take up responsibility in order to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions through adequate measures, which have to be primarily finalized towards the reduction of energy consumption, in industrial and energy production, in the transport and residential (lighting, cooling, heating) sectors.

With the Convention on Climate Change, the industrialized countries have committed themselves to adopt policies and measures in order to stabilize greenhouse gas emissions.

The European Union will stabilize its CO₂ emissions by the year 2000 at 1990 levels.

As European Union, we are preparing ourselves to adopt further commitments for a significant reduction of our emissions by the year 2005 and 2010.

We are requesting the other industrialized countries to follow our example, and in particular, we hope that the United States will adopt appropriate measures to stabilize and reduce their emissions.

Nevertheless, the European Union has a "marginal" weight in the global situation (12.9% of global emissions), and Italy has the lowest CO₂ emissions compared to all industrialized countries, due to the very high energy efficiency of our national economy, which followed the oil crisis in the '70s.

Data provided by AIE and IPCC clearly show that the commitments taken by industrialized countries could have scarce results on reduction of global emissions, if the growth of economies such as China, South and East Asia, Latin America and Eastern Europe, will not be "managed" with energy efficiency criteria.

Indeed the present developing countries will absorb, in the next 20 years, more than 60% of global energy consumption, compared to the 27% in 1991.

This growth will have effects on CO₂ emissions and other greenhouse gases, in relation to the energy production technologies that will be used.

According to the scenario of business as usual, without the introduction of energy efficiency criteria and environmental sustainability in the development process of these economies, by the next 30-40 years the global CO₂ emissions will duplicate in spite of stabilization in industrialized countries.

Taking account of these data, it is necessary to update and make more efficient the global strategy for the climate change prevention.

Italy has identified and approved measures to reduce energy consumption and CO₂ emissions in different sectors, and is preparing a new programme that will be approved with the elaboration of the Second National Communication to the Convention on Climate Change.

But our national engagement has no sense if it is not part of a more engaged world context.

Italy believes that a more decisive initiative is necessary in the framework of the Convention, in order to give global relevance and effectiveness to the stabilization and reduction objectives.

The Protocol that has to be adopted by the COP3, should contain commitments for Annex I Parties but should also identify the path to be followed by the year 2000 in order to involve all Parties in the prevention strategy of climate change.

If we will not be able to identify the procedures, and to find the agreements necessary to grant the development of newly industrialized countries following the criteria of energy efficiency and using energy efficient technologies, we will have to accept the worst climate scenarios, both as direct and indirect damages and as growth of variability, already described by the international agencies: global risks for the Planet and not only for single geographical areas.

Industrialized countries, which are the principal responsible for the climate changes, must orientate their role and initiative in this direction.

In this context Italy is going to promote and develop programmes and actions in the Mediterranean Region as bridge between Europe and Africa, aiming at sustainable development and accordingly to the objectives and commitments foreseen by the Convention on Climate Change and the Convention to combat Desertification and Drought.

Furthermore Italy wants to promote concrete joint implementation experiences, in order to consolidate a new and constructive way of cooperation between industrialized and developing countries, and to obtain significant reductions of the expected CO₂ emissions from newly industrialized countries.

The strategies of industries in industrialized countries, which have the technologies to offer a qualified and "sustainable" answer to the tumultuous increase of the demand request for consumption and products by the newly industrialized countries, have to follow this direction.

RECORD OF MINISTERIAL SEGMENT

COUNTRY: Italy NAME OF SPEAKER: H.E. Mr. Valerio Calzolaio
 DAY: 18 July TIME: _____ NOTE-TAKER: Paralel STATEMENT PICKED UP? ☒

AGBM-RELATED ISSUES		
The speaker indicated:	<input type="checkbox"/> a preference for an amendment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> a preference for a protocol <input type="checkbox"/> that s/he cannot indicate a preference at this time <input type="checkbox"/> AOSIS <input type="checkbox"/> EU	Comments: <u>that</u> the COP3 should also identify the path to be followed by the year 2000 in order to involve - wants commitment from Annex I Parties.
The protocol/ other legal instrument should include:	<input type="checkbox"/> mandatory policies and measures <input type="checkbox"/> voluntary policies and measures <u>calls for a legally binding protocol - all parties should endorse the declaration.</u>	Policies or measures specified: Italy has identified & approved measures to reduce energy consumption & CO2 emissions in different sectors & is preparing a new programme that will be approved in the elaboration of the 2nd Natl. Comm. to the Convention.
Does the country support any particular target?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: _____ % by _____ year <input type="checkbox"/> no	Comments: <u>But Int'l cooperation is needed</u> EU will stabilize its CO2 emissions by 2000 at 1990 levels. Italy will further reduce its emissions by 2005 & 2010.

SBSTA-RELATED ISSUES	
Reaching targets within the country by the year 2000 (Annex I Parties)	Comments: <u>As EU, Italy is preparing to adopt further commitments for a significant reduction of their emissions by the year 2005 and 2010. Hopes other industrialized countries, particularly U.S.A. will follow</u>
Development and transfer of technology	Comments: <u>Italy is going to promote & develop programmes & actions in the Mediterranean Region as a bridge between Europe & Africa aiming at sustainable development & accordingly to the objectives & commitments foreseen by the Convention on C.C. & the Convention to Combat Desertification & Drought.</u>
IPCC Second Assessment Report (SAR)	Comments: <u>Stated that as IPCC clearly showed that the commitments taken by industrialized countries could have scarce results on reduction of global emissions if the growth of economies such as China, S.E. Asia, Latin America & Eastern Europe, will not be "managed" w/ energy efficiency criteria.</u>

SBI-RELATED ISSUES		
Should the GEF be the permanent financial mechanism?	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no	Comments:
Activities Implemented Jointly (AIJ)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in favour of pilot phase <input type="checkbox"/> distinction made between JI/AIJ	Comments: <u>Italy wants to promote joint implementation experiences in order to consolidate a new & constructive way of coop. between indus. & developing countries to lessen CO2 emissions from NDCs.</u>
Preparation of non-Annex I communications	Comments:	

OTHER COMMENTS: Italy has the lowest CO2 emissions compared to other industrialized countries due to the very high energy efficiency of their ~~rather~~ national economy.