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The Permanent Mission of Malaysia to the United Nations
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PLEASE CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

STATEMENT BY

THE HON'BLE DATO' ABU BAKAR DAUD
DEPUTY MINISTER OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT
LEADER OF MALAYSIAN DELEGATION

AT THE SECOND CONFERENCE OF PARTIES
UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE
GENEVA, 08- 19 JULY 1996

Geneva, 18 July 1996

Mr President,

My delegation would like to join others, who have spoken before me, to congratulate you on your appointment as the President of the Conference of Parties as well as to congratulate other members of the Bureau on their appointments. We are confident, Sir, that, with your leadership, implementation of the Convention will advance.

Mr President,

Although the Convention has been force for two years, very little progress has been made in its implementation. Of the greatest concern is the inability of many developed countries to fulfil their commitments under the Convention, in particular to return to their 1990 levels of emissions. We believe that the Second Assessment Report of the IPCC provides a reliable basis for action and that it is the most comprehensive and authoritative source on the science, impacts and policy response to climate change. The SAR clearly demonstrates the serious negative impacts of climate change on developing countries, underlining the urgent need for developed countries to take their current commitments seriously as well as to undertake new and meaningful commitments to further reduce and stabilize their emissions after the year 2000.

It is regrettable that the AGBM is still at the stage of exchanging views. The Annex 1 Parties, in the AGBM, are still unable to narrow down needed policies and measures. We must be aware of the short time available to us before the third Conference of Parties. We are disturbed by the suggestions from some Annex 1 Parties that they want to have flexibility in order to meet their commitments. Even more disturbing is the fact that, in the discussion of quantified reduction targets under the AGBM process, some Annex 1 Parties are advocating that developing countries should shoulder additional commitments of reduction of greenhouse gases beyond the year 2000. We would like to stress that the AGBM is only mandated to focus on the strengthening of commitments of Annex 1 Parties under Article 4.2 (a) and (b). If Annex 1 Parties are not able to conclude modalities in strengthening their commitments, they are seriously and irresponsibly undermining the effectiveness of the Convention process.

(disturbing)

Mr President,

Non-Annex 1 Parties have demonstrated that they are keen to fulfil their obligations regarding submission of their initial communications. However, if developed country Parties are not taking the lead in fulfilling their own commitments and if financial resources and technology transfer are not forthcoming, the implementation of developing country Parties' commitments under Article 4.5 will be seriously compromised in the context of Article 4.7.

Malaysia continues to have reservations over the manner that the Global Environmental Facility is carrying out its work as the Convention's interim financial mechanism. Many developing country Parties have not received the financial assistance they have requested because of unnecessary constraints. Despite these problems, developed country Parties are attempting to force an early decision on the COP to accept the GEF as the permanent and sole financial mechanism. We would like to make it clear that this is unacceptable to us as long as the GEF operations remain unsatisfactory to developing country Parties and do not reflect the policy guidelines and programme priorities provided by the COP.

Mr President,

Malaysia is disappointed that so little has been done to implement decision 13/CP.1 on the transfer of technology. We hope that COP2 will move forward decisively on this issue and that Annex 1 Parties will make a serious effort to see transfer of technology expedited. Annex II Parties must include measures taken for the transfer of technology in their national communications to enable the Secretariat to compile and analyse them for submission to future COPs. Substantial work remains to be done on inventories and in assessing the needs of developing countries. Malaysia considers the setting up of the specialized information centres as a basic and prerequisite step for global partnership. A roster of experts should be set up as a first step towards establishing an independent Intergovernmental Technology Advisory Panel.

Mr President,

Malaysia, like other developing country Parties, is keen to obtain technologies relating to energy efficiency; demand side management; transport system and renewable energy. We believe that these technologies will be useful to assist us in meeting our obligations.

We would like to emphasize that we are not interested in only the transfer of hardware. We consider that the transfer of knowledge regarding the processes and software as well as development of endogenous capacity as being of equal significance. Malaysia also believes that transfer of technology need not be purely a North to South process. We look forward in future to be in a position to transfer suitable technologies to other countries in our region.

Mr President,

Malaysia has always considered that climate change is a global issue and requires international cooperation. The principle of "common and differentiated responsibility" adopted by the Convention forms the basis of international partnership in addressing the adverse effects of climate

to change. As a Party to the Convention, Malaysia continues to practice a pro-active approach in addressing the climate change issues. Although its greenhouse gas emissions will have to rise as Malaysia continues to develop in order to achieve a minimum living standard for its people, Malaysia continues to implement several measures with a view to address the adverse effects of climate change. We have privatized power production and the independent power producers are using gas fired combined cycling which is more efficient and produces less greenhouse gases. We are also taking action on alternate sources of energy production. Malaysia also has initiated work on the improvement of urban mass transit systems to reduce fossil fuel consumption.

Mr President,

COP2 is eventually a stock taking session, providing us with an opportunity to assess our progress since COP1 and to provide us with guidance for our future deliberations. It is also an important crossroads where we need to reflect on whether, we, as representatives of the global community, are doing what must be done to address the threats posed by climate change. We must be courageous enough to acknowledge that nothing like enough has been done to seriously implement the Convention as well as move the process forward. My delegation appeals to Annex I Parties to demonstrate good faith in fully implementing their commitments under the Convention as well as to begin serious negotiations on concerted additional commitments. They must take the lead in addressing climate change as they have solemnly promised. Unless they do so, there is little hope that Climate Change will ever be effectively addressed.

I thank you, Mr Chairman.

RECORD OF MINISTERIAL SEGMENT

COUNTRY: Malaysia NAME OF SPEAKER: Dato' Abu Bakar Lund
 DAY: 18/07/96 TIME: 11:54 AM NOTE-TAKER: So STATEMENT PICKED UP? ☒

AGBM-RELATED ISSUES

The speaker indicated:	<input type="checkbox"/> a preference for an amendment <input type="checkbox"/> a preference for a protocol <input type="checkbox"/> that s/he cannot indicate a preference at this time <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AOSIS <input type="checkbox"/> EU	Comments: <i>The most favorable protocol available</i>
The protocol/ other legal instrument should include:	<input type="checkbox"/> mandatory policies and measures <input type="checkbox"/> voluntary policies and measures	Policies or measures specified:
Does the country support any particular target?	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: _____ % by _____ year <input type="checkbox"/> no	Comments:

SBSTA-RELATED ISSUES

Reaching targets within the country by the year 2000 (Annex I Parties)	Comments: <i>Inter! cooperation is required. Pro-active approach in addressing issues. Privatization of power production + independent power producers or using more efficient methods. Leadership by developed countries is needed, if not, little hope of the effective address of climate change.</i>	
Development and transfer of technology	Comments: <i>Disappointed that so little has been done to implement the transfer of technology. The setting up of specialized information centers is a basic, prerequisite for global partnership. The transfer of knowledge regarding processes of hardware is of equal significance.</i>	
IPCC Second Assessment Report (SAR)	Comments: <i>reliable basis for action</i>	

SBI-RELATED ISSUES

Should the GEF be the permanent financial mechanism?	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	Comments: <i>Many developing countries have not received financial assistance requested because of unnecessary constraints. The implementation of GEF as permanent mechanism would be unacceptable.</i>
Activities Implemented Jointly (AIJ)	<input type="checkbox"/> in favour of pilot phase <input type="checkbox"/> distinction made between JI/AIJ	Comments:
Preparation of non-Annex I communications	Comments: <i>Demonstrated they are keen to fulfill obligations, but developed countries need to fulfill their own.</i>	

OTHER COMMENTS:

General tone of disappointment. Disturbed at the fact that Annex I Countries are not complying with their promises and lacking much assertiveness in the leadership of the Convention