

REVISED
DEC 9 / 10 PM

CANADA 11:12:03

I would like to begin by expressing the regrets of Canada's Minister of the Environment, the Honourable David Anderson, that he has been unable to ~~join~~ attend this WP due to the transition in government which is happening in Canada tomorrow. ~~And also to~~

Technology, including technology use and development and transfer of technologies

~~I~~ ^{pleased to be} I am joined this morning by the Minister of the Environment from the province of Quebec, the Honourable Thomas Mulcair, ~~who~~ ^{who} will be ~~with~~ ^{sharing} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~few minutes~~ ^{available} ~~for~~ ^{for} ~~Canada~~ ^{Canada}.

- The key to addressing climate change is through technology, but I think it would be useful, here today, to talk a bit about what that means.

Technology

- It is a sexy topic, and indeed, the race to make the hydrogen economy real, to turn wood waste economically into ethanol, or to learn to burn coal as clean as gas are all races filled with the visions and dreams about a world that is fuelled in a way that is substantially differently than today.

- IPCC scientists have, over the years, sent us clearer and clearer messages about what we must collectively achieve if we are to have any hope of harnessing the forces that are changing our climate – anything on the order of a 50% global reduction in GHG emissions while seeing ongoing development in the developing world and ongoing growth in the developed world, demands that these efforts be successful.

The climate change challenge

- There is an extraordinary level of investment ^{being made in} in the research and development work needed on these transformative technologies. There is an impressive array of collaborative and inclusive multilateral processes ^{that} have emerged over the past few years.

- Canada is pleased to be contributing actively to these efforts, because this is how we will all meet the goal of the Framework Convention on Climate Change.

- But what about today?

- All of our countries' plans for reducing greenhouse gas emissions are, in one way or another, about more pervasive deployment of the technologies that exist today. For Annex I countries this can be as simple as substituting low wattage light bulbs; constructing smart buildings; bringing hybrid vehicles to market in all shapes, sizes, and performance standards; or

and we know how to do this thru appropriate government policies.

~~systems optimization of manufacturing processes – to name but a few examples.~~

- The potential contribution of off-the-shelf climate-friendly technologies is ^{tremendous} huge and we must all find ways of pushing them into use. This sounds like ^{even more aggressive} such an obvious point – but the glamour of leading edge innovation can easily distract us from

these ~~the~~ basics. There is no excuse for not making significant and immediate progress on improving the emission intensity of our economies.

- ~~We need to walk and chew gum at the same time.~~

- Let me give you one example in the Canadian context – there would be a 20% improvement in the efficiency of the fleet of vehicles on the road (and a 20% reduction in related GHG emissions) if, within the class of vehicle each individual wants – SUVs included -- everyone had bought the most efficient vehicle available.

- And if all the fuel efficient technologies that are currently on the road today were put together into one car, that would be a pretty remarkable vehicle.

- Technology transfer is a subject of much discussion at these meetings, ~~and much effort under this climate change agreement~~

- Government to government collaboration has an important role to play. But the real game is ~~under~~ the market mechanisms of the Protocol – CDM and JI.

It has been said many times but needs to be said again:

- ~~Generally speaking~~, governments don't own technologies. The private sector does. And the private sector's investment in projects under these two Kyoto Mechanisms ~~are how~~ the needed technologies that are in use – or should be in use – in developed countries will make their way to the rest of the countries in the world.

all
will be the main way

- But what is key to ensuring this happens is a receptive investment environment – one where there is good governance, respect for the rule of law, a stable business environment and respect for intellectual property rights.

- Technology transfer is a two-way street ^{needing} where the demand-pull of a sound business environment is ~~fundamental~~ and ~~as critically important as~~ the supply-push of the private sector searching out profitable business opportunities.

- Technologies address mitigation. They address adaptation. They can improve quality of life. But they don't grow on trees, free for the picking. They need to go through the normal technology deployment cycle.

Mr Chair, there is no silver bullet ^{more} that we have not yet found on this matter of technology ^{work harder to}

- We need to invest ^{and} in developing them, we need to promote their use, we need to create a nurturing environment. ~~We need to entice consumers to seek them.~~

- If we don't do all of those things we will not achieve our climate change goals.

• These are all things we know how to do.

• Minister Mulcair will speak of some of the climate friendly ~~specific~~ technology ^{efforts} ~~initiatives~~ under way in Canada.