

COP9 - 10th DECEMBER 2003 - STATEMENT
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on behalf of *Local Non Governmental Organizations*

The Italian Coordination Body of environmental associations and local NGOs present at COP9 urge all the Parties to adopt firmer and more effective policies to combat climate change and to reduce more effectively the greenhouse gases emissions, on behalf of present and future generations. All national Governments have to take on their own responsibilities, particularly starting from United States of America, the biggest greenhouse gases emitter.

There are no political or economical reasons not to support the Kyoto Protocol: it must enter into force! All Countries have political and moral duty to enforce article 2 of the Convention in order to reduce emissions.

The Developed Countries are the first which have to move towards much more effective reduction targets (at least 50%) as suggested by IPCC on sound scientific basis. Through crucial anthropogenic emissions control policy, energy saving, energy efficiency and renewable sources, we are also convinced that going beyond 50% of global emissions reduction can be a realistic goal! Moreover, we are sure that, without shortcuts, these policies are also a big opportunity for cultural and social behavior innovation and for a radical technological revolution. The direct emissions reduction is possible! It's a big scientific, technological, political, economical, cultural and ethical challenge.

The developed Countries have to promote adoption of climate friendly development models, to support pilot scientific research projects. In particular for Countries non Annex I, the richest Countries should provide financial and technological transfer, encourage the local training and capacity building.

We, local NGOs, are strongly worried about the present weak efforts of developed Countries, for instance the importance given to technical approaches like GMO which are much less relevant to reach a substantial emission reduction.

The Kyoto route should rely on renewables, sustainable mobility, new patterns of production and consumption, the knowledge economy, new qualitative industry, the research and innovation technology, proceeding towards a fossil fuel free economy. This route should be followed by EU and Italy as well. Public policies need to encourage environmental and social responsible behaviors.

Representing an independent critical conscience, the local NGOs urge the Italian Government to get free from pure economic logics and industrial pressures, in order to drive the emissions reduction action from local synergies, starting from people participation and associations involvement.

In relationship with other national and international climate and scientific associations networks, the local NGOs will continue to promote and to participate on concrete actions for climate protection, to control, monitor and urge Governments to meet the Kyoto targets.

Thank you!