

**The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)  
Conference of the Parties: Sixth Session (COP6)  
The Hague, 13-24 November, 2000**

**Statement on behalf of Business and Industry Organizations  
20 November 2000**

Mr. President, Honored Ministers, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen. My name is Juhani Santaholma, Chairman of the International Chamber of Commerce's Energy Commission. We appreciate this opportunity to address you on behalf of companies and business associations from all over the world.

Why are business groups and representatives here? Primarily, we are here to encourage you to come to practical solutions that will allow protection of the environment, the continuation of economic growth, and improving standards of living worldwide – especially in developing countries.

We believe that the most economically feasible way to meet the long-term challenge of climate change is through the development, commercialization and global implementation of technologies and services to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Such technologies and services will be developed primarily by business and industry within a free-market setting.

Business and industry have already taken major steps to address the climate issue through research, investment and voluntary initiatives and agreements to improve efficiency, and have deployed new processes and products with lower or no emissions in both developed and developing countries. Innovation leading to the development of climate friendly technologies and services will also continue independently of the Framework Convention as part of business' ongoing research and development process.

The right decisions here could stimulate that innovative potential and help provide the framework that is necessary for technology development and dissemination.

The outcome of COP6 should establish procedures that:

- Ensure the environmental integrity of the Kyoto Protocol;
- Allow society to meet emissions obligations at least cost;
- Keep the global economy moving ahead, and encourage development. That means creating and preserving jobs and spreading prosperity, and importantly, accelerating the development and global distribution of the next generation of environmentally friendly technologies;
- Address the legitimate concerns of developing countries regarding the Convention and Protocol;
- Allow business to understand how the Kyoto Protocol would work in practice.

These environmental and economic objectives can best be achieved provided that:

- Business, with its skills, ideas and resources, becomes part of the solution;
- The Clean Development Mechanism encourages all projects that meet sustainable development needs as determined by the host countries and that reduce or avoid greenhouse gas emissions;
- Markets are kept free to encourage development, commercialization and global dissemination of new technologies;
- All technology options are kept open, as they may be required to enable Parties to meet their Kyoto Protocol commitments and address the long term climate issue;
- It is recognized that sinks are an important tool for reducing atmospheric carbon, and their operational aspects can be managed. Inclusion of sinks is important for all countries and should be part of the global climate solution.

Business and industry expect COP6 to take decisions that will advance the ability of business and industry to contribute to sustainable development through economic growth coupled with advanced technologies and effective environmental initiatives. Clear rules for the Kyoto mechanisms and compliance should be established which allow governments, citizens and business to understand how these Protocol procedures will work in practice and which enable governments to make decisions on ratification.

Many diverse companies that make up business and industry are present at COP6. Many have clearly expressed their views on the specific items under negotiation and will continue to do so throughout this conference. I would ask you on behalf of the endorsing business groups to take these views into account during your deliberations. It is these businesses and thousands of others that will provide the solutions to climate change.

Thank you for your attention.

#### **ENDORISING BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS:**

AREA Canada

The Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry

The Business Roundtable (BRT)

Eurelectric

The International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)

The International Nuclear Forum

The International Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Association (IPIECA)

The Japan Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren)