

**Public-Private Partnerships for Technology Innovation**  
**Statement of Robert G. Card**  
**United States of America**  
**Roundtable 2**

Thank you.

The United States has placed great emphasis on partnerships to translate policies into concrete actions that can help reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

To achieve our shared goal, it is vital that these partnerships include the private sector. Since most of the investment in new technologies will be coming from the private sector, it is important to engage them from the beginning.

For example, we are working with 13 energy-intensive industry sectors in the Climate VISION program. This is a voluntary public-private partnership designed to support President Bush's goal of reducing U.S. greenhouse gas intensity by 18 percent over 10 years. Climate Leaders is another program that works with private sector companies on ways to reduce emissions.

We also believe that partnering with other countries will accelerate the development and application of new technologies. We have initiated or stepped up our participation in several key international initiatives.

International cooperation is a key feature of our effort to develop carbon capture and storage technology. The Carbon Sequestration Leadership Forum is a multinational collaborative effort to develop cost-effective methods to sequester carbon from coal, which for many countries remains an abundant, economical energy option. The related FutureGen program will help lead to the development of zero emissions fossil fuel power plants.

To realize the promise of hydrogen, the International Partnership for the Hydrogen Economy has brought together 16 developed and developing countries to coordinate international research, development, and commercialization of hydrogen technologies. And in nuclear energy, the 11-member Generation IV International Forum is working on new, even safer reactor designs that could play a role in hydrogen production.

Through such international collaborations, we seek to ensure that our efforts are coordinated, standards are harmonized, and the rich diversity of national capabilities is tapped. Additionally, all of these initiatives include a significant private sector component.

We are also at work on government and private sector partnerships for technology transfer. A good example is our Clean Energy Initiative, launched in Johannesburg, which seeks to improve access to clean, reliable, and efficient energy services for the developing world.

Together, these initiatives represent a new model of targeted collaboration with specific and ambitious—but achievable—goals.

11/12/2003 PM

Delegation of the United States to the  
Ninth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the  
UN Framework Convention on Climate Change

Milan, Italy  
December 1-12, 2003

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**Remarks by Paula Dobriansky,  
Under Secretary of State for Global Affairs and  
Head of the U.S. Delegation to COP-9**

**at the Roundtable discussion on:  
“Assessment of Progress at the National, Regional and  
International Levels to Fulfill the Promise and  
Objective Enshrined in the Climate Change  
Agreements, Including the Scientific, Information,  
Policy and Financial Aspects”  
December 11, 2003**

- Experiences in addressing climate change offer a number of useful insights about international cooperation.
- These insights are reflected in discussions under the Framework Convention and elsewhere.
- Since Delhi, discussions under the Convention have emphasized the link between climate change and sustainable development.

- This reflects an important reality. As countries implement climate actions, they are increasingly focusing on the importance of integrating these actions with those designed to achieve other important objectives, such as economic growth and energy security.
- We are recognizing that we need to increase our commitment to investing in technologies necessary to meet the objective of the Convention.
- We also find that countries are also experimenting with many types of international cooperation that can complement Framework Convention activities as we pursue effective solutions to specific goals.
  - International technology partnerships are an example of cooperation that is tailored to meet technology goals, such as the transition to the hydrogen economy.
  - Similarly, international scientific partnerships, like the ten-year effort to achieve a comprehensive, coordinated and sustained Earth observation system through the Ad Hoc Group on Earth Observations, will be key to assuring that we can effectively monitor the climate over time.
- We welcome the increased focus on adaptation in the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change.

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- Evolving discussions increasingly show that the key to successful adaptation lies in integrating climate change considerations into development planning. Future international efforts need to reflect this insight.
- Finally, it is useful to consider that many countries are now embarking on different national approaches, and these activities will provide further lessons for the international community over time.
- To promote the objectives of the Framework Convention, we should consider practical approaches that recognize differences in countries' perspectives and national conditions.