

Talking points for Deputy Minister Alan Nymark to the opening plenary session of the high-level meeting of CoP6 Bis, Bonn, July 19, 2001

Thank you Mr. President.

I am speaking on behalf of Canada's Deputy Prime Minister, Herb Gray, who will be joining us tomorrow morning as head of the Canadian delegation. Mr. Gray is replacing our Minister for the Environment, David Anderson, who is recovering from a serious accident.

And I am pleased to be joined on our delegation by Ministers from the provinces of Alberta, Ontario and Quebec.

Mesdames et messieurs les ministres, distingués délégués, le Premier ministre du Canada, Monsieur Jean Chrétien, a répété à plusieurs occasions, et de façon non équivoque, la position du Canada:

- Le Canada appuie le Protocole de Kyoto
- Le Canada a l'intention d'atteindre sa cible dans le Protocole de Kyoto

Canada is here to negotiate the rules that will enable all of us to implement the agreement we reached almost 4 years ago in Kyoto. This is serious business. It is very important we get it right. Mr. President, some months ago you said, and I will paraphrase, "lets help our neighbours get on board and meet their targets". That comment of yours sums up Canada's approach in one phrase: let's remove barriers to effective action.

This is why Canada puts so much emphasis on an agreement that creates efficient and accessible market mechanisms and recognizes the contribution of clean energy exports and of all technologies that reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Canada is also determined that this agreement must not ignore the source of one fifth of the direct emissions released into the atmosphere each year. Given that forests and agriculture are part of the problem, they must be part of the solution. The IPCC supports this approach.

Some developing countries are making significant strides towards the reduction of their greenhouse gases. We appreciate the need to encourage, engage and help all developing countries in what must be their battle, too. Canada is acutely aware of the fact that no agreement is possible without the G-77 and China. We are working hard to achieve an agreement that responds to the needs of developing countries.

Les nations du monde ont consenti des efforts importants depuis 10 ans pour en arriver là où nous en sommes aujourd'hui. Je trouve très encourageant de voir, depuis quelques semaines, un meilleur niveau de compréhension dans notre dialogue sur les diverses questions. Des gens qui, au départ, défendent des positions très différentes s'efforcent, avec beaucoup de bonne volonté, d'expliquer leurs positions, de comprendre celles des autres et de trouver un terrain d'entente.

The Kyoto Protocol is the expression of our collective determination to take concrete action to effectively address a very real and urgent problem. Canada is here in Bonn to work with all Parties to achieve a positive and balanced result.

Thank you Mr. President.