

SWEDEN

Panel 1 – The Convention after 10 years: accomplishments and challenges

Thank you Mr. Chairman,

Colleagues, on the eve of the entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol, we should reflect upon what we have accomplished together this past decade. The Kyoto Protocol is a key achievement. I am proud that, in spite of our different perspectives, we have built this framework that enables us to confront one of the major environmental threats of our times. When we now initiate our discussion on the future, a point of departure must be that we should **build upon the institutions**, principles, and technical frameworks already designed and developed under the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol.

When designing the future framework to combat climate change, we are already able to draw from experiences gained. I will point to three lessons learnt under the past 10 years, that I think should guide us for the future.

The first lesson is, that targets and timetables are helpful and important.

Targets and timetables have pushed us to act. They have triggered technological innovation and laid the ground for cost-effective approaches to cut green house gas emissions. In addition, they have contributed to **long-term certainty** with regards to the rules of the game. This is essential for allowing not least the decision-makers within the business community to be able to integrate climate concerns in investments, research and planning.

The second lesson is, that such targets can go hand in hand with successful economic growth.

In my own country, Sweden, we have stabilised green house gas emissions since 1990. At the same time, the economy has grown with more than 20 percent. Policies and measures to increase energy efficiency and promote renewables, have been introduced in all sectors. The CO₂ tax, in particular, has been

important. Our most important achievement is a substantial reduction of green house gas emissions in the household sector, where biofuels have replaced oil in our district heating systems.

I am convinced that it is possible to combine successful growth policies with low-carbon technologies in all countries, and at all levels of economic development. The choice of policies is key.

The third lesson from the first ten years of the Climate Convention is, that we must strive to build institutions and frameworks that respects the diversity of conditions and circumstances of the world.

It is of utmost importance that dialogues and an exchange of experiences and views take place between representatives from industrialized and developing countries at all levels. We need to co-operate, and we need to build confidence. Climate change is a global threat that requires a co-ordinated **global response**.

Now it is time to start discussions on how to best combat global warming beyond 2012. These discussions should build on the insight, that climate change must be fought at the same time, as we fight poverty and strive to attain economic welfare, justice and prosperity for all people on this globe. Climate change policies must be part of a broader effort, to shape a future where human welfare and dignity are at the centre of our concerns.

We have great challenges ahead of us, but also great opportunities to change the course of history. We know that it is possible to build a future prosperity for all the people of this world on the basis of new, environmentally friendly technologies. Together we must now reinvigorate the process on how to combat climate change in the future. And the future starts now. Thank you.

här: kom idag
- Björn Ström!
HöK: Sverige
- Pakistan - CDUs

Miljödepartementet

Lena Sommestad

COP 10, Buenos Aires.

Roundtable 3: Technology

Mr chairman,

the discussion here today reminds us all about the great potential of technological change as a driving force in combatting climate change.

[I would particularly like to underline the point made by, that.....

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Let me add to the discussion.... observations.

First: if we want to change the direction of technological development in this century, by replacing technologies based on fossil fuels with renewables, we must act now.

There is a window of opportunity wide open.

At this moment, many regions of the world experience rapid economic growth.

Poor, rural countries are transformed into urbanized, industrialized states.

In this process, investment are made that will shape our energy future for decades to come.

It is a common responsibility for industrialized and developing countries alike, to see to that we make choices, that opens a path to a future of clean, low emitting technologies.

According to the IEA World Energy Outlook, 16 trillion dollars investments in energy production will be made until 2030.

These investment decisions will largely determine what achievements will be made in terms of emission reductions during this century.

However, the IEA believes, that most of these investments will relate to fossil fuels.

How can we steer these investments into long term viable climate friendly solutions?

This is the challenge ahead of us.

Second: Governments have a key role to play. Markets alone cannot make the switch from a fossil society, to a future society based on renewables. We need to promote markets for low-emitting technologies and make them competitive.

There is a large potential of existing technologies. The urgent problem today is that these technologies are not chosen when investments are made.

A key achievement by governments worldwide to promote low-emission technologies on the market is, of course, is the The Kyoto Protocol.

The protocol is a major driving force for technological change.

The protocol must be complemented, however, by political action on local, national and regional levels.

Technology transfer is key, as noted by the dec. min. of Malaya
To achieve the necessary shift in to modern, low emission technologies, ~~development~~ *we need*
more development assistance - all countries should attain 0.7% / include assistance in this area
assistance and development partnerships (within the context of the CSD) ~~are important~~. Also
we need
the CDM (Clean Development Mechanism) should be put to use. Modern technology can
allow developing contris to leap-frog and go down the sustainable, low-carbon, path.

In addition, all of us, should
We need to promote low-emitting technologies in our own countries *That can be done,*
thorough public
investments, public procurement, environmental legislation, and economic instruments, such
as CO2 taxes.

Every country should choose a policy mix suited to national circumstances and priorities.

We should be united, however, in our commitment to contribute to a technological switch to
low-emitting technologies, worldwide.