

< Republic of Korea >

H.E. Myung-sook, HAN, Minister for Environment

Round Table 2:

Technology, including technology use and development
and transfer of technologies

Thursday, 11 December 2003

10:00-13:00

④ Co-chairs

Mr. Mohammed Valli Mooosa, South Africa

Ms. Paula Dobriansky, USA

Thank you, Mr/ Madam Chairperson.

It is my great pleasure to speak on behalf of the Environmental Integrity Group(EIG) consisting of Liechtenstein(리히텐슈타인), Mexico, Monaco, Switzerland and the Republic of Korea.

First of all, EIG shares the view that transfer of environmentally sound technologies (ESTs) lies at the heart of our response to climate change. However, little progress has been made so far.

Even the decisions of the previous COPs have not been implemented ^{specifically relevant} decisions of COP1 and COP4.

¹³
(which called for progress report on Technology Transfer)
^{decision 4}
(which called for the transfer of publicly-owned technology)

We urge SBSTA (썸스타) to incorporate these decisions into the ongoing programme of work for the Expert Group on Technology Transfer (EGTT). SBSTA should give guidance to the EGTT in developing practical modalities for the progress report and the transfer of public technologies.

^{publicly-owned}
(stipulated in decision 4 of COP4)
^{mentions}
(stipulated in decision 13 of COP1)

Mr/ Madam Chairperson,

Divergent views held by developed and developing countries regarding the role of governments and the public sector in technology transfer are, to a certain extent, accountable for our

lack of progress. It is true that private sector is the major driving force behind the development and transfer of ESTs. However, governments can also play a catalytic role by providing technical and financial support for key technology research and development. Governments can also prove instrumental in creating or expanding markets for new ESTs through a mix of regulatory and fiscal measures.

EIG maintains that our discussion on technology transfer should not proceed in a way that leaves technology transfer entirely on the dynamics of the private sector. Inaction on the part of governments and the public sector is not to be justified. Instead, our discussion should focus on the specific roles of governments and the public sector in enabling environments for technology transfer. We believe that publicly funded R&D of new technologies can provide us with an avenue for cooperation in terms of joint projects.

Mr/ Madam Chairperson,

Many governments are currently funding R&D for cutting-edge technologies such as hydrogen fuel cells, wind turbines, and electric cars. Joint R&D arrangements in this venture can ^a_{be} a good starting point for technology transfer.

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Finally, we take this opportunity to request SBSTA and EGTT to continue collecting, analyzing, and sharing the components of both successful and failure cases of technology transfer. This would help replicate the successes and avoid time and resource-consuming pitfalls in technology transfer. Thank you.