

NGO STATEMENT

30 OCT, 2002

CLIMATE CHANGE IS A REALITY

THE SCIENCE SHOWS THAT MUCH WORSE IS TO COME.

THE POOR AND THE DISADVANTAGED ARE THE MOST VULNERABLE.

WE MUST ACT NOW WITHOUT FURTHER DELAY.

WE, THE CLIMATE ACTION NETWORK, A COALITION OF NGOS REPRESENTING THE CIVIL SOCIETY WORLDWIDE BELIEVE THAT

DESPITE DIFFERENCES IN RESPONSIBILITY AND CAPABILITY BETWEEN NORTH AND SOUTH, WE MUST WORK TOGETHER TO SOLVE THIS GLOBAL CONCERN.

WE NEED, MOST OF ALL, TO GET ONTO AN EMISSIONS PATH THAT HOLDS TEMPERATURE CHANGE WELL BELOW 2 DEGREES C WHILE ALLOWING FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

TO ENSURE THIS HAPPENS, WE DEMAND

- IMMEDIATE RATIFICATION BY RUSSIA AND CANADA, SO THAT KYOTO PROTOCOL ENTERS INTO FORCE. AND UNITED STATES AND AUSTRALIA MUST ALSO RATIFY
- THE CONVENTION AND THE PROTOCOL MUST BE IMPLEMENTED EFFECTIVELY, AND MUST INCLUDE RAPID REDUCTION OF EMISSIONS IN THE NORTH, AND SUBSTANTIAL AVAILABILITY OF FINANCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE SOUTH
- RECOGNITION THAT, GIVEN CURRENT SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE, DEEP CUTS IN EMISSIONS WILL BE NECESSARY TO AVOID DANGEROUS CLIMATE CHANGE.

THESE MUST BE ACHIEVED WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF EQUITY AND COMMON BUT DIFFERENTIATED RESPONSIBILITIES.

- INCREASED CAPACITY AND FINANCING FOR ADAPTATION MUST BE ENSURED. IN PRACTICE, ADAPTATION SHOULD BE INTEGRATED WITH SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.

HOWEVER, WITHOUT FAR DEEPER EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS, NO AMOUNT OF ADAPTATION CAN STAVE OFF CATASTROPHIC IMPACTS.

- FAIR AND ADEQUATE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN DECISION MAKING AND IMPLEMENTATION, WHICH REQUIRES INCREASED PUBLIC AWARENESS, EDUCATION AND TRAINING.
- REAFFIRMATION THAT THE RIGHT TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IS FUNDAMENTAL TO ACHIEVING THE GOALS OF THE CONVENTION AND THE PROTOCOL. THIS INCLUDES MAKING POVERTY ERADICATION A GLOBAL PRIORITY, JUST AS IT INCLUDES SHIFTS TO EQUITABLE AND SUSTAINABLE PATTERNS OF CONSUMPTION.
- RECOGNITION THAT THE NORTH'S HISTORICAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE PRESSING NEEDS OF THE SOUTH ARE THE BASIS FOR SUBSTANTIAL FINANCIAL TRANSFERS TO SUPPORT ENERGY EFFICIENCY, NEW RENEWABLES, AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE SOUTH.

THE SCIENCE, THE PRINCIPLE OF COMMON BUT DIFFERENTIATED RESPONSIBILITIES, AND THE NEED FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT ALL REQUIRE THAT PARTIES LAUNCH A PROCESS AT COP8, BASED ON THE CONVENTION AND THE PROTOCOL, THAT MOVES FORWARD TO A JUST, EQUITABLE AND ADEQUATE GLOBAL CLIMATE AGREEMENT