

**UNFCCC COP9 – Milan 2003**

**High Level Roundtable discussion among Ministers and other Heads of Delegation.**

**11 December 2003**

**Statement by Nick Campbell (ICC) on behalf of Business and Industry.**

Thank you Mr President, Business and Industry appreciates the opportunity to comment on an issue that is very close to our hearts, that of technology, and technology development. I should stress that, as a group, we represent a wide range of views, which would be impossible to reflect in this short comment.

Business has been, and will continue to be, the main source of innovation, development, commercialisation and wide spread dissemination of technologies, led by successful and profitable companies. Such companies bear the costs of developing such technologies and need to realise a return on their investments for them to be sustainable. For every one successful innovation many good ideas fall by the wayside – some taking substantial funding with them. Business must be encouraged to take this risk.

From a business point of view there are two distinct types of technology transfer: private and public. Most companies engage in bi-lateral, company to company commercial arrangements. We enter such transactions based on many factors, the “right” partner, an “attractive” market, access to raw materials, transparent, stable and equitable legal and financial structures, safe and secure working conditions and, a good local workforce. In these situations, companies are encouraged to make a long-term commitment and to integrate with local culture and values.

And what technology should be transferred ? – to Business it is very evident that today the widespread use of existing, efficient technology is indispensable. This should not be ignored in our drive towards “break-through” and “leading edge” solutions. The 2 billion people in the world without access to electricity are not asking for a “state of the art solution”, but clean and practicable solutions now.

A wide range of technologies will be needed, with the choice of technology being dependent on local circumstances. There is no “one size fits all” solution. Many technologies can make a difference now, and, in many cases, are available now given the right enabling frameworks. For the long term, innovative currently non-commercial technologies will be necessary.

Technology and investment alone are necessary but insufficient by themselves to combat climate change. Projects must integrate with social, political and environmental needs. There is no simple solution to climate change without sustainable development, poverty eradication, business development and investment in developing countries, leading to greater availability and affordability of climate-friendly technology and energy in Asia, Africa, Latin America and worldwide.

Economic growth will generate resources and stimulate investment in research, development and commercialization of new and advanced technologies. Industry is ready to play its part in researching, developing and bringing to market technologies that will address climate change. Governments should also play their part in providing the necessary enabling frameworks to which I have previously referred.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak.