

A STATEMENT BY THE RESEARCH AND INDEPENDENT NON-GOVERNMENT
ORGANIZATIONS (RINGOs)

AT THE EIGHTH CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

NEW DELHI, INDIA

NOVEMBER 1, 2002

Thank you, Mr. President.

It is my great honor to speak to you today on behalf of a group of nongovernmental organizations that recently have come together in support of the work and the objectives of the Conference of Parties. These organizations, like my own, are engaged in independent research and analysis aimed at developing sound strategies to address both the causes and consequences of global climate change.

As you know, nongovernmental organizations have played a critical role in contributing to our understanding of climate change and to advancing the work of the parties. To date, NGOs have had the opportunity to participate directly in the negotiating process primarily through one of two channels – either as environmental NGOs or as business NGOs. Some of our organizations, however, are not directly affiliated with or a full member of either constituency and would prefer the opportunity to participate in our own right.

Earlier this year, a request was submitted to the Secretariat for the recognition of a new category of NGO known as Research and Independent NGOs, or RINGOs. The Tata Energy Research Institute was one of about 30 organizations from all parts of the world supporting this request. We are very grateful to the Executive Secretary, Joke Waller-Hunter for her kind and supportive consideration of our proposal.

Our groups are distinguished and united by a common commitment to forging constructive responses to climate change. Among our groups, perspectives and views on specific matters vary. Accordingly, we believe that our contribution as a constituency is to help identify and clarify issues as well as to develop and analyze options for addressing them, not to advocate specific views or approaches.

It is clear from the discussions here in Delhi that climate negotiations, much like the issue itself, are becoming increasingly complex. This is particularly true as we begin to look beyond the first commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol towards building a sustainable climate change regime that can fulfill the ultimate objective of the Framework Convention. This effort can move forward only if we succeed in establishing a climate of trust. It is our objective, as a group of research and independent NGOs, to help build that trust by exploring a range of options that can bridge differences and build synergies – for

example, between science and policy, developed and developing countries, mitigation and adaptation strategies, and environmental and business perspectives.

We are hopeful that by working with the Parties, and with other stakeholder groups, we can help forge consensus on effective response measures that address the causes and consequences of climate change while promoting sustainable development for all nations. We look forward to pursuing those goals as full and active participants.

Thank you Mr. President.

Organizations that support the creation of the RNGO constituency

Association de Recherche Climat Environnement
Algeria

Bariloche Foundation
Argentina

Center for Clean Air Policy
United States of America

Center for Sustainable Development in the Americas
United States of America

Central Research Institute of Electric Power Industry (CRIEPI)
Japan

Centre for Environmental Strategy, University of Surrey
United Kingdom

Centre for European Economic Research (ZEW)
Germany

Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS)
Belgium

Centre for International Climate and Environment Research – Oslo (CICERO)
Norway

Centre International de Recherche sur l'Environnement et le Développement (CIRED)
France

Centre for Project Preparation and Implementation (CPPI)
Russia

Center for Sustainable Development in the Americas (CSDA)
United States of America

COPPE/Federal University of Rio de Janeiro
Brazil

Energy and Development Research Centre
South Africa

Environmental Development Action in the Third World (ENDA)
Senegal

Environmental Institute, Dept. of Environmental Studies, University College Dublin
Ireland

Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei
Italy

Fridtjof Nansen Institute
Norway

Global Industrial and Social Progress Research Institute (GISPRI)
Japan

Göteborg University, Environmental economics unit
Sweden

Groupe d'Etudes et de Recherche sur les Energies Renouvelables et l'Environnement
Morocco

Hamburg Institute of International Economics (HWWA)
Germany

Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad
India

Institute of Energy Economics (IEEJ)
Japan

International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED)
United Kingdom

International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)
Canada

Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)
Japan

Institute of Energy Economics, Japan (IEEJ)
Japan

Joanneum Research
Austria

Joint Implementation Network
The Netherlands

National Technical University of Athens (NTUA)
Greece

Oxford Institute for Energy Study
United Kingdom

Pew Center for Global Climate Change
United States of America

Potsdam Institute for Climate Change (PIK)
Germany

RIVM (Het Rijksinstituut voor Volksgezondheid en Milieu)
Netherlands

Royal Institute of International Affairs (RIIA)
United Kingdom

Stockholm Environment Institute/Tellus Institute
Sweden

Southern Centre
Zimbabwe

Tata Energy Research Institute (TERI)
India

Yayasan Pelangi Indonesia (Pelangi)
Indonesia