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Agenda item 6**

Climate Change

**Summary of the thematic debate
in the UN General Assembly on**

**“Addressing climate change:
The United Nations and the world at work”**

New York, 11–13 February 2008

Analytical summary / Overview

1. The GA President opened the debate on 11 February by commending the Secretary-General for quickly responding to the request for a report on the United Nations activities in relation to climate change (A/62/644), which he said should serve as a good basis for Member States to set out their views on the way forward. He described the purpose of the thematic debate as an opportunity for Member States to provide the necessary strategic vision and political direction that the United Nations system needs. While steps taken to improve coordination through the CEB, under the Secretary-General’s leadership, were a good beginning, Member States had clearly expressed the desire to support and develop this process by setting out the general principles of a policy framework for the United Nations activities on climate change, the President noted. At the same time, he cautioned that the General Assembly/Member States should not try to micromanage.

2. The two somewhat competing themes presented by the GA President, that is, support for a CEB-driven coordination effort and Member States' desire to be more involved, were evident throughout the debate, at least its part concerning directly the work of the UN system and the CEB. Developing countries, in their collective statement through the G-77 (Antigua and Barbuda as current Chair), as well as individually, put more emphasis on the prerogative of Member States to mandate the specifics and oversee such UN system coordination. Developed countries, on the other hand, tended to defer to the prerogatives of the Secretary-General in managing the work of the Secretariat and coordinating the work of the UN system through the CEB. Beyond the underlying debate of a rather constitutional nature, all countries emphasized the primacy of the UNFCCC and the importance of calibrating the work of the UN system so as to serve the goals of the Framework Convention and its Kyoto Protocol, as well the implementation of the Bali Plan of Action/Roadmap and previously reached agreements. Developing countries in particular emphasized the importance of firmly anchoring the response to climate change in the broader context of sustainable development, and of mobilizing new financial resources, additional to those for development/ODA.
3. The Secretary-General's report was welcomed by many countries (Tuvalu, Slovenia/EU, Haiti, Tonga/Pacific Islands Forum SIDS Group, USA, UK, Japan).^{*} Some explicitly expressed their support for CEB efforts at UN system coordination under the leadership of the Secretary-General and encouraged their continuation (Slovenia/EU, Netherlands, Italy, USA, UK). Others focused more on the need for the UN system entities to act under the guidance of, oversight by and according to mandates provided by Member States (Antigua and Barbuda/G-77, Brazil, India). Specific references were made to what should be the priority areas of UN system action, in particular support to vulnerable countries for adaptation, facilitation of technology and fund transfers to developing countries, and capacity building. Importance was also attached to worldwide awareness raising and fostering partnerships among all stakeholders, involving in particular the private sector and local authorities.
4. In his concluding remarks on 13 February, the GA President summarized the discussion, stressing among other things the importance of Member States' working "speedily and cooperatively to agree on the principles of a strategic policy framework to steer the United Nations system's activities on climate change." He suggested that there should be, in due course, a further, more detailed briefing to the General Assembly by the Secretary-General on efforts to strengthen and coordinate the United Nations activities on climate change. Moreover, and in order to give continuous consideration to climate change within the General Assembly, the President announced his intention to convene two meetings so that the Assembly could have the opportunity to consider specific aspects of the climate issue in more detail. One of these meetings would "focus on the needs and concerns of vulnerable countries and the other one on corporate responsibility and sustainability."

^{*} Country lists in parentheses are provided for illustrative purposes and are in no way exhaustive.

5. Annex I below provides a summary of the proceedings of the first day of the GA thematic debate (11 February), which included the opening statements by the GA President, the Secretary-General and New York City Mayor Bloomberg; two panel discussions on “Rising to the challenge: Partnerships on climate change” and “Responding to a multifaceted challenge: The United Nations at work” respectively; as well as a closing statement by the UNFCCC Executive Secretary. Annex II is based on national statements by some 110 Member States, plus eight more statements by observers, made during 12 and 13 February. The Annex presents in bullet format the main concerns expressed by Member States, as well as suggestions made by them regarding priority activities for the UN on climate change. A comprehensive summary of the entire debate is expected to be circulated by the GA President to Member States and to be posted on the General Assembly web site. The archived webcast of the debate is available online at <http://www.un.org/ga/president/62/ThematicDebates/webcast1.shtml>, while the texts of most statements are available at <http://www.un.org/ga/president/62/ThematicDebates/statements/statements.shtml>

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Annex I

Opening session and thematic panels (11 February 2008)

Opening of the thematic debate

1. In opening the thematic debate on “Addressing climate change: The United Nations and the world at work” the President of the General Assembly, Mr. Srgjan Kerim, drew attention to the important contributions that the General Assembly could make towards a global strategy for action and in promoting more effective partnerships to address climate change. He recalled that the UN system was committed to supporting the UNFCCC process, to implementing existing agreements and to supporting Member States’ own initiatives. He also emphasized that climate change was not only an environmental but a sustainable development issue with clear links to the ongoing initiatives on Financing for Development, achieving the MDGs and improving international environmental governance.
2. In his statement, the Secretary-General underscored that, as 2007 had been the year when climate change had risen to the top of the global agenda, 2008 should be the year for concerted action. He recalled that the IPCC had clearly spelled out that the cost of inaction would far exceed the cost of action and that the Bali conference had resulted in an agreement to launch negotiations on a new international climate change agreement by the end of 2009. He stated that he had made it a personal priority to work with Member States in ensuring that the United Nations system was up to this challenge. He informed that his overview report, which reflected the commitment to strengthening and coordinating the work of the United Nations system in a common approach, stemmed from discussions in CEB and was the outcome of consultations among all relevant United Nations system entities. The report would help guide the UN system in preparing to take on the additional mandates and tasks that were expected to result from the negotiations for a framework after 2012. The aim of the United Nations system was to develop a coordination structure with key clusters of activity and specific lead agencies.
3. The Mayor of New York City, Mr. Michael Bloomberg, stressed that addressing climate change would require that both developed and developing countries change their policies. Ambitious but achievable targets for reducing carbon emission should be set. While he was of the view that the United States should take the lead in this endeavour by imposing a carbon tax, China and India should follow suit. Efforts, in this regard, would not only be beneficial for cleaning the air, but would also improve economic and social well-being.

Panel discussion 1:

“Rising to the challenge: Partnerships on climate change”

(Moderated by Timothy Wirth, UN Foundation)

4. The panellists participating in this debate, which focused on partnerships for addressing the climate change challenge, included Mr. Hans-Gert Poettering, President of the European Parliament; Ms. Letizia Moratti, Mayor of Milan; Mr. Youba Sokona of the Sahara and Sahel Observatory; Ms. Chen Ying, China Enterprise Confederation; Mr. Martin Khor, Third World Network; and Ms. Fiona Harvey, Financial Times. Mr. Poettering focused his intervention on how partnerships at the local, regional and global level had benefited the European Union’s work on climate change. Climate change was a sustainable development challenge that required thinking beyond traditional lines and the European Parliament was, in this regard, open to engaging in partnerships beyond its membership to address this challenge. Ms. Moratti underscored the important role of cities in the context of climate change, as half the world’s population lived in cities and as cities were responsible for 80% of greenhouse gas emissions. She outlined the environmental initiatives and partnerships that Milan had engaged in and was of the view that the United Nations global reach was important for raising awareness. Mr. Sokona in turn drew attention to water and land degradation in the arid regions of Africa and to the need for partnerships at a national, regional and global level to assist affected countries move from reaction to planned adaptation. He stressed that this was an equity issue, as the sub-Saharan Africa countries were suffering the consequences of a problem to which they had contributed little. Ms. Ying stated that good faith in partnerships, sincerity about the lessons from science and a new spirit of entrepreneurship were key components to effective collaboration on climate change. She provided several examples of how the business sector in China was advancing in this regard. Mr. Khor underlined that partnerships should be based on solidarity. The NGO community had an important role to play in pushing governments to be proactive and in holding developed countries accountable for the promises they had committed to in Kyoto and Bali. Finally, Ms. Harvey focused on the business community which had become very active on climate change issues during the last few years. She suggested that voluntary sectoral agreements among the biggest companies in an industry could present a possibility for reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
5. During the discussions that followed the panellists’ interventions, several Member State delegates, private sector and civil society representatives, UN officials, as well as special guests of the GA President took the floor. Mr. Robert Orr, Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Planning, Executive Office of the Secretary-General, stressed that the United Nations system would take the lead in engaging and organizing partnerships with national and local governments, as well as with the private sector and civil society. In their interventions, several participants stressed the urgency of the situation and the need for immediate action as well as the need to move away from a reactionary approach. There was particular urgency for action in the case of Small Island Developing States that were immediately threatened by sea

level rise. The notion of partnerships was said to go hand in hand with the notion of solidarity. It was pointed out that the climate change business was flourishing and that there was a growing trend in the business sector for companies to provide information on their carbon footprint in their annual reports. It was suggested that the international community should do more to promote public-private partnerships to bring electricity to the 1.6 billion people who still did not have access. If a sustainable and equitable solution to the climate change challenge was sought, the rich countries needed to provide greater assistance to the developing countries and the developing countries needed to learn from the past mistakes of the industrialized countries. It was said that the UNFCCC could play a critical role in promoting effective collaborative mechanisms on adaptation. It was suggested that collaborative efforts on early warning mechanisms at the regional level would be of interest to both the insurance and tourism sectors. Concern was further expressed over the lack of funding for the Adaptation Fund. It was believed that the United Nations could be reorganized and adapted to face the climate change challenge. Mobilizing and educating citizens to both take and demand action on climate change was identified as a challenge in moving forward. The focus on climate change came at a time when the UN system was facing its own challenge regarding system-wide coherence and delivering as one on sustainable development.

6. In responding to questions and comments from the floor, the panellists conveyed that while technology transfer was indeed a complex issue, including the intellectual property rights aspect, various possibilities were available to resolve this challenge. One such option, proposed by India, was to consider special exemptions for developing countries with regard to climate-change technology. All Member States had a role to play in addressing the climate change challenge. The need for planned adaptation measures was stressed. The United Nations had an important role to play in raising awareness. As voluntary measures were not considered sufficient, there was also need to regulate. The time had come to move beyond rhetoric towards concrete partnerships and action. There was a need to link the climate change debate with that on sustainable development and achievement of the MDGs. There was also a need to make progress with regard to the financial assistance required by developing countries in addressing the climate change challenge. Doing so would necessitate increased awareness in the developed countries of the threat that climate change posed to international peace and security. The media could help by providing a forum for debate on all relevant issues.

Panel discussion 2:

“Responding to a multifaceted challenge: The United Nations at work”

(Moderated by Ricardo Lagos, Special Envoy of the Secretary-General on Climate Change)

7. A second panel debate focused on how the United Nations could best respond to the climate change challenge. The panellists included Mr. Sha Zukang, Under-Secretary-General, UN-DESA; Mr. Achim Steiner, Executive Director of UNEP; Mr. Kemal

Dervis, Administrator of UNDP; Ms. Josette Sheeran, Executive Director of WFP; and Ms. Monique Barbut, Chief Executive Officer and Chairperson of the Global Environment Facility. Mr. Sha said that the objective of the United Nations system was to help mobilize constituencies and shape the climate change debate so as to meet challenges in key areas. By integrating climate change into the United Nations development agenda, the activities of the United Nations system could be leveraged in a strategic and coherent way to help those most affected. While climate change was a threat to sustainable development, it was also an opportunity for the United Nations to focus on pro-poor development. According to Mr. Steiner, the climate change agenda had evolved in a way that suited the United Nations well. Climate change was at the heart of the development agenda. Addressing this challenge presented an opportunity for the United Nations system to provide an integrated and coherent response. Mr. Dervis stressed that fighting climate change should reinforce rather than compete with the needs of low and middle income countries for growth and development. The 2007 Human Development Report *Fighting Climate Change: Human Solidarity in a Divided World*, which had been produced through a collaborative effort between UNDP and UNEP, was illustrative of this. Ms. Sheeran focused on the humanitarian aspects of climate change and drew attention to the drops in crop yields due to droughts, floods and temperature rises, and the resulting hikes in food prices, coupled with population growth. This provided the ingredients for a “perfect storm” with dire consequences for those most vulnerable to hunger, she noted. Finally, Ms. Barbut highlighted the need for better coordination of financing for meeting the climate change challenge. Donors needed to step up their contributions. The developing countries, who had contributed the least to the climate change problem but would be the worst affected, should be given adequate representation in the governance of the Adaptation Fund for which the GEF provided secretariat services.

8. In their interventions, Member State delegates drew attention to several key issues. The proliferation of international environmental bodies was viewed as reflective of the evolution of the climate change agenda and the need for enhanced coordination. Given its socio-economic impact, climate change was seen as a cross-cutting issue with links to both sustainable development and security. It was felt that achieving the MDGs would not be possible without addressing climate change. The special needs of Africa, as well as the existential nature of the climate change challenge for the Small Island Developing States, were highlighted. With regard to resources for addressing climate change, it was said that government funding could play a catalytic role, but that the extent of the resources required necessitated that the bulk come from the private sector. The United Nations role with regard to building partnerships, fundraising, scientific data systems, early warning, negotiating intellectual property right arrangements and institutionalizing successes was also underscored. Taking the United Nations system’s obligation to deliver as one forward in the CEB was viewed as important in this context. As co-chairs of the General Assembly’s Informal Consultative Process on the Institutional Framework for the United Nations Environmental Activities, Mexico and Switzerland further informed that they

intended to facilitate a draft resolution in the near future based on the consultations they had undertaken.

9. Mr. Michel Jarraud, Secretary-General, WMO, said that the United Nations was ideally placed to respond to the climate change challenge and pointed to the fact that virtually all socio-economic sectors both contributed to and were affected by climate change. He also drew attention to the need to address the climate change challenge on the basis of scientific observations as well as to the need for United Nations, civil society, media and private sector partnerships. Mr. Kandeh Yumkella, Director-General, UNIDO, noted the work that the CEB had undertaken on climate change. He underscored that integrating the MDG and climate change agendas was of top priority. He also suggested that the United Nations should look into the impact on climate change of the extractive industries in poor countries, as well as the relationship between production practices and poverty. Mr. Mats Karlsson, Vice-Chairman of HLCP, conveyed that the Committee's preparations for Bali had proved that climate change was an issue on which the United Nations system could collaborate in addressing effectively through a cluster approach headed by lead agencies. A representative of WHO further drew attention to the "human face" of climate change and its affects on human health also through the negative impacts on food, water and air quality. A UNWTO representative noted that 2008 had been designated as the year of "Tourism Responding to Climate Change".
10. In summarizing the debate, the panellists noted that the discussions had highlighted that: (i) enhanced coherence, governance and cooperation on climate change is imperative; (ii) climate change is a sustainable development issue; (iii) it is a equitable, moral and ethical imperative to address the concerns of the poorest countries; (iv) climate change is the peace and security issue of our time; (v) the entire United Nations family has a role to play in addressing climate change; (vi) economic orthodoxies should be reviewed, e.g. the focus on the cost of responding to climate change had since the *Stern Review on the Economics of Climate Change* shifted to focus on the cost of inaction; (vii) the impact of climate change was directly linked to the possibilities of achieving the MDGs; and (viii) addressing climate change presented the United Nations system with an opportunity to come together and deliver as one.

Closing remarks

11. In his closing remarks, at the end of the first day of the thematic debate, Mr. Yvo de Boer, Executive Secretary of UNFCCC, recalled that the breakthrough in Bali had resulted in an agreement on a two-year negotiation process to strengthen the international response to climate change, as well as an agenda for the key issues to be negotiated up to 2009. It was now up to the world to make the Bali Roadmap a success. Given that climate change had been recognized as an area that required broad action, the United Nations, under the leadership of the Secretary-General, should continue its efforts to deliver as one. The UNFCCC negotiating process was open to

receiving support from other international processes. Mr. de Boer stressed that it was important to bear in mind that the most vulnerable communities in the poorest countries, those who have contributed nothing to climate change, would be worst affected by its impacts. There was no time left to lose. All efforts should now be focused on getting the negotiations on the climate change deal off the ground to be ready by 2009.

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Annex II

Statements by Member States (12-13 February 2008)

Concerns expressed by Member States

The following points were brought up in expression of concern by Member States, especially the G-77 and China speaking through their current Chair, Antigua and Barbuda; through the Chairs of smaller groups like the Arab States and CARICOM; as well as individually, in the latter case with India among the most vocal ones:

- a. UN system coordination efforts should in no any way weaken the UNFCCC process but should assist in the effective implementation of the provisions, commitments and action plans of the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol;
- b. Coordination mechanisms, and structures or frameworks, including clusters of activity or lead agencies, must be subject of intergovernmental consideration and decision prior to implementation;
- c. Discussions on climate change should not attempt to influence any other processes, such as the system wide coherence debate or the discussions on international environmental governance;
- d. Climate change is a sustainable development challenge, thus the discussion on climate change has to be placed in its proper context so that it does not undermine the overall discourse on sustainable development;
- e. Financial resources for adaptation and nationally appropriate mitigation actions should not be considered as official development assistance (ODA), nor should financing for adaptation to climate change and the impact of response measures come from a reallocation or realignment of existing development financing, but such resources should be additional and in compliance with existing binding commitments under the UNFCCC;
- f. The UN system should assist in fostering and promoting multi-stakeholder partnerships in support of national efforts, but such partnerships should not replace ODA or international cooperation.

Priority activities that should be pursued by the UN system according to Member States

- Assistance with the effective implementation of the provisions, commitments and action plans of the UNFCCC, including implementation of the Bali Plan of Action. (Antigua and Barbuda/G-77, Brazil, India)*
- Increased support for capacity building in developing countries to enhance national efforts to promote an integrated approach to climate change response measures and sustainable development planning. (Antigua and Barbuda/G-77, Slovenia/EU, India, UK)

* Country lists in parentheses are provided for illustrative purposes and are in no way exhaustive.

- Facilitation of clean/climate-friendly technology transfer, including through a review and/or revision of the intellectual property rights (IPR) regime. The UN can provide technical support to developing countries in conducting technology needs assessments, as well as in transforming such assessments into bankable technology transfer projects. (Antigua and Barbuda/G-77, Angola, Bangladesh/LDCs, China, India)
- Special assistance to vulnerable developing States, including Small Island Developing States, Least Developed Countries, countries in Africa and countries with deltas, to include the facilitation of the flow of mitigation and adaptation technologies and resources, as well as infrastructure requirements/ The UN to work on this along with other international development partners. (Philippines, Tuvalu, Haiti, Egypt, Bangladesh/LDCs, Tonga/ Pacific Islands Forum SIDS Group, Barbados/CARICOM, Brazil) Support should be demand-driven, with strong national and regional ownership embedded in the UN's work. Also assistance in the exchange of adaptation "best practices" between developing countries. (Barbados/CARICOM) A model for UN - LDCs cooperation could be the EU initiative "Building a global climate change alliance between the European Union and poor developing countries most vulnerable to climate change". However, support should not merely deal with studies and assessments, which is usually the practice, but should go beyond that in terms of implementing the projects and programmes, including investment projects. (Bangladesh/LDCs)
- Clear linkage between climate change and the achievement of international frameworks such as the Millennium Development Goals, the Barbados Programme of Action and the Mauritius Strategy of Implementation for SIDS. Extend support for preparing national Adaptation Plans of Action (NAPAs) to SIDS that are not also LDCs. There is also a need to support the implementation of projects identified by existing and future NAPAs. (Tonga/ Pacific Islands Forum SIDS Group)
- Assistance in implementing actions in support of the GEF Capacity Development Initiative. (Tonga/ Pacific Islands Forum SIDS Group)
- Addressing the fact that LDCs are not getting CDM projects. (Bangladesh/LDCs) CDM has the potential to play an important role for sustainable development and poverty alleviation in Sub-Saharan Africa. (Cameroon/African Group)
- Fostering and promoting multi-stakeholder partnerships in support of national efforts (but developing countries caution that partnerships should not replace ODA or international cooperation). (Antigua and Barbuda/G-77, Egypt, Australia, Tonga/ Pacific Islands Forum SIDS Group, Brazil, India) Making full use of such channels as the Commission on Sustainable Development to encourage the establishment of partnership between governments and business community, the academic community and non-governmental organizations, so as to make joint efforts in responding to climate change. (China)

- Greater support for South-South Cooperation, especially in the area of adaptation (however, South-South Cooperation should not be considered within the context of multi-stakeholder partnerships; furthermore, South-South cooperation on climate change should complement North-South cooperation). (Antigua and Barbuda/G-77)
- Securing the required additional resources for adaptation, estimated by Oxfam International at a minimum of US\$50 billion per year (more than the US\$10.40 billion per year estimated by the World Bank), or a minimum of US\$86 billion a year according to the UNDP Human Development Report 2007. One way could be through the creation of a “Burden Sharing Mechanism” that would introduce a levy on international aviation and maritime transport in a cooperative arrangement between the UN and ICAO and IMO, in consultation with UNDP and UNFCCC. (Tuvalu, Bangladesh/LDCs (partly), Barbados/CARICOM)
- Convening of a special session of the UN General Assembly to allow the development of and endorsement of a resolution to facilitate the implementation of ideas on strengthening adaptation efforts. (Tuvalu)
- Avoid a proliferation of funds and better harmonize existing resources, improving access to available financing throughout the UN system. The UN system – especially UNEP, UNDP, the World Bank and the IMF – is uniquely equipped to support Member States in putting in place mechanisms to manage the necessary additional and predictable public finance. (Netherlands, Angola, Mexico, India) However, the fact that mechanisms in the areas of finance and technology transfer remain in the hands of the private sector or in fora not bound by United Nations resolutions, foremost the World Bank, the Global Environment Facility and the Adaptation Fund recently established under the UNFCCC, does not allow the UN system to play an effective role as long as the situation remains as it is. (Egypt) International Financial Institutions should be concretely involved in programmes to fight climate change. (Italy)
- Collaborative action among UN institutions and NGOs to develop a comprehensive approach to long-term adaptation action. As a first step, a collaborative programme between the UNFCCC Secretariat and Parties and ISDR and participating countries. Establishment of “Climate Change Adaptation Implementation Committee” under GA auspices, to also include other UN agencies such as UNDP, UNEP, UN-HABITAT, FAO, WHO, as well as the IFRC and various NGOs with experience in the field of adaptation. (Tuvalu)
- Establishment of an “International Climate Insurance Pool”, an internationally sourced pool of funds for an insurance mechanism to provide support to the most vulnerable communities with meeting the costs of rebuilding after climate-related disasters; to be administered by a special group within UNDP under the guidance of existing re-insurance companies. (Tuvalu, Barbados/CARICOM (partly))

- Leading the process to generate global consciousness, including through the voice of the Secretary-General, who has effectively galvanized the international response over the last year. (Slovenia/EU, Italy) The UN should play an active role in advocacy by urging developed countries to meet their commitments, and to take further ambitious GHG reduction commitments. (India)
- UN intervention as the custodian of an international fund to activate research by a multinational group of scientists to develop a gas or a sophisticated sequestration process that can restore the balance in our atmosphere to pre-industrial levels. (Philippines)
- Development of continuous observation capacities and systemic analysis of the effects of climate change, especially on developing countries (Angola), including the Arab States (Algeria/LAS) and the Caribbean States (Barbados/CARICOM).
- Provision of technical and financial support in the areas of disaster preparedness, early warning, risk management, disaster mitigation and disaster recovery and rehabilitation. (Barbados/CARICOM, Angola)
- Measures supporting sustainable tropical forestry, reducing deforestation and fighting desertification. (Angola, Tonga/ Pacific Islands Forum SIDS Group)
- Ensuring that practical, on-the-ground support provided through UN system entities is well coordinated and does not duplicate efforts or lead to wasted resources. It is imperative that available funding and support is properly targeted and utilized in a manner that maximizes the sustainable development benefits for the regions, countries and local communities in question. (Australia, UK)
- To maximize the UN's contribution, we need a strategic vision of how the different parts of the UN can best contribute to the Bali Action Plan, a coherent UN Climate Engagement Strategy, under the leadership for the Secretary-General. Information-sharing is not enough. We need real co-ordination that identifies comparative advantages and sets out a clear division of labour. In the light of the broader strategy, agencies should work out their own strategies, taking a fresh eye to what they are doing now. Consultation with their governing bodies may be needed. (UK)
- The UN to convene a high-level meeting of all international development agencies in order to align priorities and programmes within a holistic framework, while being mindful of institutional boundaries and mandates, to guarantee efficiency and strategic impact in the allocation of resources. It is even conceivable that an information technology giant like Google, Yahoo or Microsoft would willingly provide the engine by which to map out the whole range of available technology and financing options in real time, side by side with the evolving demand picture at the global, regional and national levels. If such a virtual market for climate-oriented interventions can be pulled off, "that would be a partnership made in planetary heaven". (Philippines)

- The UN must now embark upon a systematic mechanism for monitoring implementation of solutions to address climate change. (Grenada/AOSIS)
- The campaign to reduce the UN's carbon footprint can contribute to making the UN an overall more efficient organization and have beneficial environmental impacts as well. But UN agencies should explore the use of extra-budgetary funds, rather than regular budgetary funds, should they decide to purchase carbon credits, as this would avoid the diversion of precious resources from UN agencies' core functions. (USA)

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