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Policy Guidelines for RSWG October Workshop  
on Implementation Measures

The primary objective of the RSWG workshop on implementation measures scheduled for October 2-6 in Geneva will be to produce a report covering the five topics on which participants have been invited to submit papers. The U.S. has submitted papers on all five topics after completing a lengthy interagency process. Although these papers will be important inputs to the final report of the workshop, the report will of necessity reflect a number of viewpoints different from our own. Therefore, it is important that all members of the U.S. delegation follow common policy guidelines as they participate in the workshop discussions and drafting sessions in which the report is prepared.

In following these guidelines, the U.S. delegation should keep in mind the President's desire to lead the efforts of the international community to protect and enhance the quality of the global environment while maintaining acceptable economic growth. Therefore positions taken by the delegation should be presented positively in terms of ultimately contributing to the "decisive action....to understand and protect the earth's ecological balance" called for by the President and other leaders of the Paris Economic Summit.

The following are basic policy guidelines to which all members of the delegation shall adhere:

Legal and Institutional Measures

## (1) Framework Convention

- The provisions suggested in the U.S. paper (attached) should all be included.
- The workshop report should recommend a framework convention which follows the general organization and scope of the 1985 Vienna Convention.
- The framework convention should not in itself contain specific obligations with respect to response strategies, but should follow the Vienna Convention in contemplating the future negotiation of specific protocols containing such obligations.

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- The framework convention should contain provisions providing for ongoing climate monitoring and research. All parties should be required to contribute to strengthening existing global monitoring and research capabilities and to share data and research results on an open and non-discriminatory basis.
- The convention should provide for periodic assessments of the science and impacts of climate change and of the technologies available for minimizing or adapting to it. The Conference of the Parties should be empowered to organize subsidiary bodies to conduct those assessments, including a panel of leading scientists.
- The convention should require each party to develop and periodically update a greenhouse gas emissions inventory for its territory and a national strategy for dealing with climate change. Developed country parties should be urged to provide appropriate assistance to developing country parties in preparing and updating such inventories and strategies.
- The convention should contain provisions encouraging technology transfer, financial assistance to developing countries and public education. It should provide for working groups to address these issues on an ongoing basis. The convention should not, however, recommend creation of new financial mechanisms such as a global climate fund or imposition of specific economic measures such as taxes, fees or performance standards. Such specific implementation measures should be left for later consideration by the parties in appropriate working groups.
- The convention should not contain specific targets or timetables for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. These should be left for future protocols.
- The institutional structure and procedures are provided for in the framework convention should have the effect of formalizing the existing three-track IPCC process-- simultaneous consideration of science, impacts and policy. The convention should not contain provisions providing for new institutions or binding dispute resolution.

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(2) Other Legal Measures

- The report should refer to, call for coordination with, and encourage fuller use of, existing agreements, and institutions. It should not propose a new "Law of the Atmosphere" or other over-arching legal scheme similar to the Law of the Sea.
- The report may wish to address means of improving the effectiveness and status of WMO, UNEP, and other international organizations. It should not propose the creation of new international institutions beyond the Conference of the Parties or subgroups established under the framework convention itself.
- The U.S. delegation should consider the appropriate roles of UNEP, WMO, IPCC, UN regional economic organizations, or other UN organizations in support of Convention Parties in their implementing of the Convention, once it enters into force and for transitional activities between opening for signature and entering into force.

Technology Assistance, Development and Transfer

- The conclusions in the report of the meeting should call for increased cooperation in development and transfer of technologies and management practices to limit and adapt to climate change.
- Intellectual property rights and other rights of firms and individuals owning technology must be protected.
- Maximum use of existing institutions and mechanisms, governmental and nongovernmental, for technology transfer should be encouraged.
- Recipient countries should provide favorable conditions for technology transfer. Some national case studies to determine existing barriers, needs and opportunities to facilitate technology transfer need to be conducted.
- The need for coordinated activities in the areas of education, training and information transfer, especially those associated with the use of modernized technologies and practices in developing and less industrialized countries, should be noted in the technology related conclusions of the report.

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Financial Measures

- The report should describe existing bilateral and multilateral financial assistance mechanisms and encourage their fuller use.
- While the report should not recommend creation of financial mechanisms such as global climate funds or imposition of mandatory fees or taxes, a working group should be established under the convention to examine these and other mechanisms to assist LDCs in limiting or adapting to anthropogenically induced global climate change.
- The report should stress the need to identify specific, projects in individual countries before funding commitments are made.
- Within existing assistance programs and development plans, priority should be given to measures which are desirable on both economic and environmental grounds.
- Consideration of financial mechanisms must recognize both global climate change issues and overall national goals and needs of recipient countries.

Economic Measures

- The report should stress the importance of market mechanisms, including price signals, to be used in combination with regulations and product standards in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The report should note the advantages of giving individual sources maximum flexibility to find the most economically efficient approach to reducing emissions.
- The economics section of the report should emphasize the need for, and the role of, information and educational processes to increase the effectiveness of economic measures.

Education and Information Measures:

- The complementarity of education of the public and market incentives or regulations should be stressed. Effective assistance and transfer of technology and management practices also depend on supporting education, training and information processes.

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- The report should stress the need to present the science of climate change and its impacts on natural resources and socioeconomic conditions in a balanced and objective way which reflects all of the areas of agreement and the uncertainties.
  
- An important element of education and information measures is their supporting and complementary role to other implementation measures. The implementation of technology, economic or financial assistance measures in many countries will require training and education.

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