

Mr. Chairman,

India welcomes the opportunity to participate in the discussions in this inter-governmental meeting, convened to follow up on the Third World Climate Conference (WCC-3), in order to consider the Terms of Reference for the Task-Force for elaborating a Global Framework for Climate Services and to consider the panel of names proposed by the Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) for the Task-Force. At the outset, India aligns herself fully with the statement made on behalf of the Like-Minded Group (LMG).

02. The declaration adopted at the WCC-3 had decided to establish a Global Framework for Climate Services to strengthen production, availability, delivery and application of science-based climate prediction and services.

03. We hope that the constructive deliberations during this meeting will assist in finalizing the Terms of Reference for the Task-Force and approving nominations proposed by the Secretary-General for its composition.

04. At the national level, India has launched several initiatives in the recent months to put in place a comprehensive, legislative and administrative framework to address energy and climate change-related issues. These include the unveiling of national action plan on climate change and the setting up of several national Missions.

05. India hosted a high level "Global Conference on Climate Change: Technology Development and Transfer" on October 22-23, 2009 in cooperation with the United Nations. Regionally, under SAARC, India is sharing its technology in establishing weather-stations for prediction of severe thunder storms whereby the first weather-stations are expected to be established in Bhutan and Bangladesh by mid 2010.

06. We believe that the Terms of Reference for the Task-Force must ensure the primacy of national governments in being the 'demandeurs' and recipients of the Global Framework for Climate Services, as it is primarily at the national level that the services are to be put full use. India and other developing country delegations have articulated this and other principles of importance to them in the informal discussions and consultations convened by the WMO Secretariat prior to this meeting. We trust that these principles are incorporated unambiguously in the Terms of reference to be considered and approved by this meeting.

07. The Indian delegation reiterates its readiness to engage constructively with other delegations in order to ensure constructive outcome of our deliberations.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
