Overview of U.S. Actions to Address Climate Change



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U.S. Climate Policy Overview



- Integrated into the broader context of development agenda
 - > Alleviation of Poverty
 - > Rule of Law
 - Investment in People
 - Stable Economic Institutions
- **Reaffirms the U.S. commitment to the United Nations Framework** Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).
- Recognizes the need to take near-term actions, while maintaining economic growth that will improve the world's standard of living.
- Grounded in the reality that addressing climate change will require the sustained effort by all nations over many generations.
- Promotes advances in climate science and accelerated development of transformational energy technologies.

U.S. Climate Policy Components



- Slowing the Growth of Net Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions
- National Goal: Reduce GHG Intensity by 18% Over 10-Year Period (2002-2012)

Reduce GHG Emission Intensity 18% Between 2002-2012



- Laying the Groundwork for Current and Future Action: Investments in Science and Technology
 - Climate Change Science Program (~\$2 billion/year)
 - Climate Change Technology Program (~\$3 billion/year)
- Promoting International Cooperation

Near-Term Domestic Actions



- More than 60 Federal programs designed to help reduce emissions by 500 million metric tons of carbon- equivalent through 2012:
 - Fuel Economy Standards
 - Energy Efficiency Standards
 - **Renewable Energy Tax Incentives**
 - Hybrid/Clean Diesel Tax Incentives

- **Clean Air Rules**
- Biological Sequestration
- Clean Coal Technology
- > Nuclear Power 2010
- Numerous U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) voluntary programs to help consumers and corporations reduce their GHG emissions:
 - Climate VISION > SmartWay Transport Partnership
 - Climate Leaders > Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program
- U.S. Fiscal Year 2006 budget request of nearly \$5.5 billion for climate change programs and energy tax incentives
 - Supports the near-term objective and future actions through major investments in science and technology



Trends in GHG Emissions: 2000-2003



Source: 2005 National Inventory Reports and Common Reporting Formats at http://unfccc.int/national_reports/ annex_i_ghg_inventories/national_inventories_submissions/items/2761.php

Principles for Effective International Action—1



- Action must focus on broad development agenda, not climate change alone:
 - Promote economic growth and reduce poverty
 - Enhance energy security
 - **Reduce pollution**
 - Mitigate greenhouse gas emissions
- We have shared goals, and our areas of agreement are numerous.
- The greatest progress will be assured by a cooperative effort that combines our strategies with the best strategies of other nations to improve economic and energy security, reduce harmful air pollution, and reduce greenhouse gases.

Principles for Effective International Action—2



- The President firmly believes that economic growth is essential to success.
 - Only economic growth provides the resources for investment in the next generation of cleaner, more efficient technologies.
- Climate change is a serious long-term issue, requiring sustained action over many generations by both developed and developing countries.
 - Developing innovative technologies that are cleaner and more efficient is the key to addressing our climate challenge.

Principles for Effective International Action—3



- We oppose any policy that would achieve reductions by putting Americans out of work, or by simply shifting emissions from one state to another, or from the U.S. to another country.
 - Like us, many countries—developed and developing—are unlikely to join in approaches that foreclose their own economic growth and development.
- G8 Gleneagles Plan of Action for Climate Change, Clean Energy and Sustainable Development (June 2005)

Reinforced 2002 WSSD Johannesburg Plan of Action

• Asia-Pacific Partnership on Clean Development and Climate (July 2005).

Focus Now on Implementation!



U.S. Climate Change Bilaterals



Innovative International Technology Partnerships



• *Methane to Markets Partnership* —17 members: Recovery and use of methane from landfills, mines, agriculture, and natural gas production systems. Aims to capture 50 million metric tons CO₂ equivalent by 2015.











- **Group on Earth Observations** 59 members and more than 40 participating organizations: Design and implementation of a new Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS).
- *Carbon Sequestration Leadership Forum (CSLF)* 21 members: Focused on CO₂ capture & storage technologies
- **International Partnership for the Hydrogen Economy (IPHE)**—17 members: Organizes, coordinates, and leverages hydrogen RD&D programs
- **Generation IV International Forum (GIF)** —11 members: Devoted to R&D of next generation of nuclear systems
- **ITER**—6 members: Project to demonstrate the scientific and technological feasibility of fusion energy.

Asia-Pacific Partnership on Clean Development and Climate





"This new results-oriented partnership will allow our nations to develop and accelerate deployment of cleaner, more efficient energy technologies to meet national pollution reduction, energy security, and climate change concerns in ways that reduce poverty and promote economic development."

-President Bush, July 27, 2005