Developing Countries' Perspectives on Setting Long Term Emission Reduction Targets

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Outline

- Realities in GHG emissions growth and basic premises
- Comments on Martin's presentation
- Comments on Marleen's presentation
- Some thoughts on setting long term targets in DCs
- Concluding remarks

Some Realities on GHG emissions

- Both emissions and the capability to emit carbon to the atmosphere are unevenly distributed around the world. A dozen countries approximately control 95% of conventional carbon resources and 15 nations emit more than 75% of the world's annual carbon emissions.
- Nearly all countries continue to increase their emissions irrespective of differences in rates of economic growth. The IEA World Energy Outlook 2004 predicts that CO2 emissions will increase by 63% over 2002 levels by 2030.
- Annex 1 OECD – Energy-related CO2 emissions will be 30% above Kyoto targets by 2010.
- Technology development and transfer has not led to lower global GHG emissions so far.
- Per capita emissions have not reduced in any country experiencing positive economic growth.

Some Realities – contd.

- Leapfrogging of technologies in GHG reduction has not been proven so far.
- Non-carbon solutions are not yet competitive.
- ICs alone cannot solve the problem of CC, but they may cope with consequences to a large extent.
- DCs cannot solve the problem alone and cannot cope with consequences. Even for the higher stabilization levels beyond 550 ppm, DCs would not be able to use fossil fuels for their development in the manner that the ICs used so far.
- Climate-friendly development is currently under-funded worldwide.

Basic Premises

1. Climate change is a long-term global problem demanding a long-term global solution *but there is no consensus yet on equitable burden sharing*.
2. The scientific case for setting a long-term emission reduction target (temp/conc.) is clear *but quantification of the target remains controversial*.
3. No one country can achieve the transformation to a lower carbon economy alone, *but ideal ways of political/stakeholder process to build consensus on setting targets are unclear*.
4. Discussions on setting targets for DCs may sound premature due to several reasons *but it is important to break the stalemate through proactive cooperation between ICs and DCs*.

Martin's Presentation - Positive Features

- Both Multistage and Triptych approaches are conceptually good and ambitious, seeking emission reductions in ICs of 30% by 2020 and 80-90% by 2050.
- Role of DCs
  - Most DCs have to start reduction relative to their BAU path by 2020.
  - Reasonably fair differentiation of DCs and flexible modes of their participation
  - Extended CDM
  - Bottom-up strategies
- Attempt to build trust between ICs and DCs, as DCs might favorably consider some elements.

Martin's Presentation – Some concerns

- Political pragmatism – proposal is very complex and requires decision making at multiple levels
- No discussion on resources required, and on ways to address DC concerns adequately (right to development, national circumstances, etc.); Feasibility not examined from a economic, technical and societal point of view.
- No suggestions on ways to entice US to commit more!
- Some DCs may even consider that proposed targets may not be high enough! As it is still 2.5 times more than an average DC citizen!

Marleen's Presentation - Positive Features

- Participatory integrated assessment - Conceptually good to enhance the legitimacy and accountability of decision making
- Identified key elements of a successful dialogue
- Attempts to build trust between diverse stakeholders on a common challenge

Marleen's Presentation – Some concerns

- CC is not a priority topic in DCs; How to involve and maintain the interest of stakeholders in DCs remains a challenge.
- No discussion on costs and benefits of stakeholder participation; or on optimal ways to gain political support or get people's commitment to participate and deliberate – More crucial in DCs
- DCs are not adequately consulted even in the Kyoto negotiations; How can we avoid this in future discussions?
- From DCs view point, how to optimize overlapping influences and balance conflicting interests of diverse stakeholders remains crucial.

Lessons from IGES Climate Policy Dialogues in Asian DCs

- Technical nature of dialogues sometimes prevented new role players participate effectively.
- Accommodation of diverse views led to compromise for progress.
- Lack of enough and diverse stakeholder representation despite our best efforts.
- Deliverables: Lack of visible progress particularly to those not involved in the process
- No clear role for monitoring or follow-up

Is there a need for DCs to set long-term emission reduction targets?

- No, because most DCs are already low carbon societies.
- Per capita emissions are low and will continue to be low in the foreseeable future.
- More urgent priorities than emission reductions.

- Yes, because total emissions in DCs will exceed those of ICs in the near future.
- BAU scenarios in some DCs may increase emissions to such a level that efforts by Annex 1 will be totally inadequate.

Emission Reductions – Some arguments from DCs

- Why should DCs shoulder responsibility now for a problem largely created by ICs?
- What have ICs delivered in terms of their climate commitments so far?
- How far are ICs ready to forego their “luxury emissions” to allow the growth of “survival emissions” by DCs?
- GHG emissions in DCs will exceed those of ICs by 2020s – So what?

All questions point out the need for building trust between ICs and DCs.

CANADA
2.3%

UNITED STATES
30.3%

EUROPE
27.7%

FORMER SOVIET UNION
13.7%

MIDDLE EAST
2.6%

CHINA, INDIA, AND DEVELOPING ASIA
12.2%

JAPAN
3.7%

AFRICA
2.5%

SOUTH AND CENTRAL AMERICA
3.8%

AUSTRALIA
1.1%

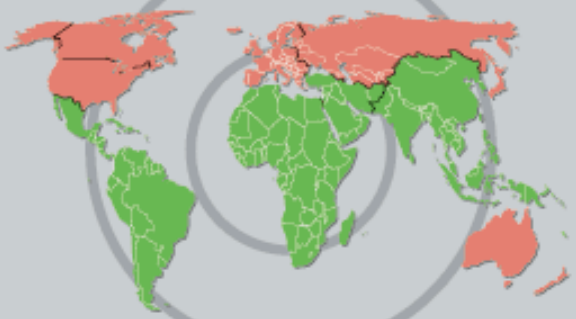
Contributions to Global Warming

Areas are proportional to historic carbon dioxide emissions from fossil fuel combustion, 1900–1999

INDUSTRIALIZED

DEVELOPING

EQUAL AREA WORLD: areas are proportional to actual physical sizes



Underlying data sources:
United States Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration and the Carbon Dioxide Information Analysis Center

Map by Equator Graphics, Inc.

World Resources Institute
http://www.wri.org/
1-202-729-7600

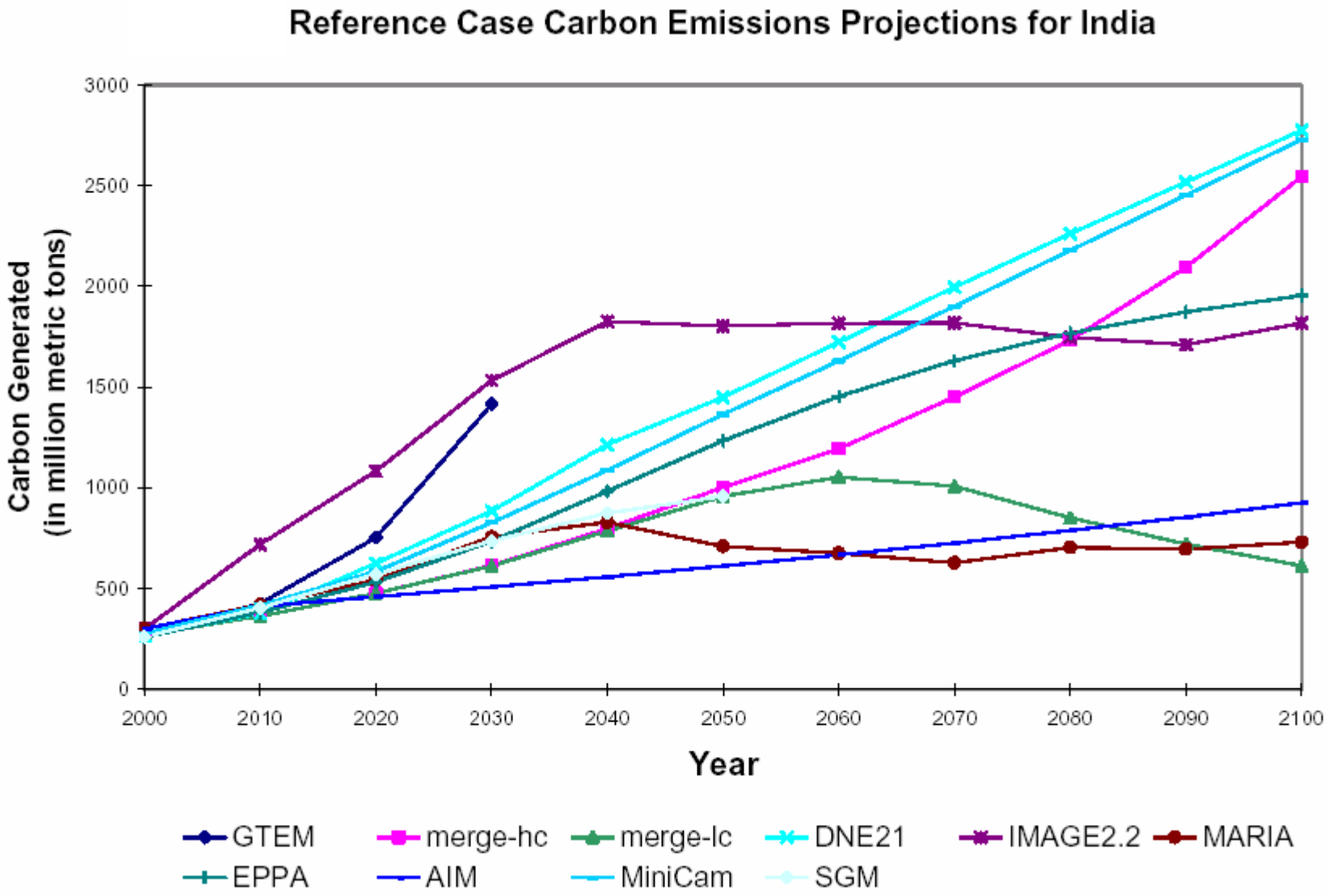
WRI

Article 4.7

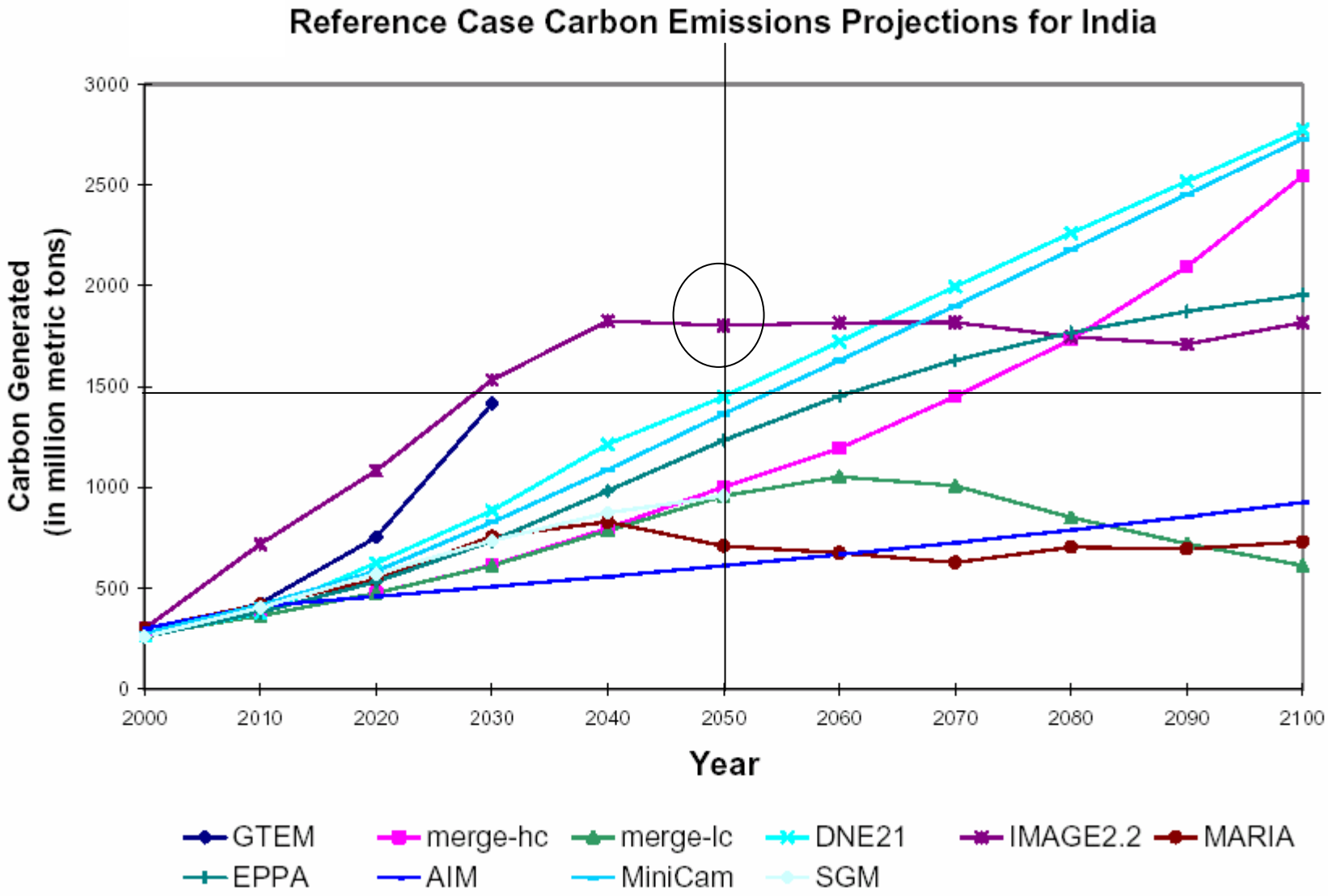
The extent to which DC parties will effectively implement their commitments under the UNFCCC will *depend on the effective implementation by developed country parties* of their commitments under the convention related to *financial resources and transfer of technology* and will take fully into account that *economic and social development and poverty eradication* are the *first and overriding* priorities of the DC parties.

What should be a realistic long-term target for a major DC such as India?

- Should the target be 15% of the global target (10 GtC), as India would have 15% population by 2050?
- Should it be only 5% based on the principle that "followers have an advantage?"
- What should be the target that allows sustainable development so that the energy needs – not greed – of its population are adequately met?
- Should the target be decided by equating India as one Japan or Germany, or by equating it as a coalition of 25 LDCs?



Source: John Weyant, 2004



Source: John Weyant, 2004

India Carbon emissions as Percentage of World Total

		Reference Scenario			550 ppmv Scenario		
Model	**2000**	**2020**	**2050**	**2100**	**2020**	**2050**	**2100**
GTEM	4%	7%			7%		
merge-hc	4%	5%	7%	10%	5%	6%	6%
merge-lc	4%	5%	7%	8%	5%	6%	6%
DNE21	4%	7%	10%	12%	7%	11%	20%
IMAGE2.2	4%	9%	16%	18%	9%	14%	17%
MARIA	4%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	3%
EPPA	4%	6%	9%	9%	6%	8%	9%
AIM	4%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%
MiniCam	4%	6%	10%	14%	6%	9%	10%
SGM	4%	6%	6%		6%	6%	

Source: John Weyant, 2004

Concluding Remarks

- ICs should identify and implement innovative and pragmatic strategies to reduce GHG emissions by 50-80% by 2050.
- It is premature and perhaps counterproductive at this stage to initiate international negotiations on setting long term targets.
- Major DCs should begin to visualize sector-based emission reduction targets by 2050 in their own interest.
- Development of a global framework for resource transfers that provide incentives for the transition away from carbon-intensive economies is crucial.

Thank You.