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In order to stabilize CO<sub>2</sub>, a long term strategy beyond the Kyoto Protocol is needed. It should promote and develop the dissemination of radical changes in the energy technologies and in global energy policies, promoting both research and innovation to reduce the “carbon intensity” of the economy. In this new framework new renewables, energy efficiency technologies, hydrogen, carbon sequestration, and new generation of nuclear power will play a key role.

New clean and safe energy sources and technologies should be available and cost effective in the emerging economies and in the developing world, to address both energy security and emissions reduction.

Considering the IEA estimated dimension of the investments in the global energy system in the next 20-30 years (20 trillion USD) the time for development of new clean energy sources and technologies to supply the increasing energy demand, and to orient the trend of future of global emissions IS NOW !

The trade-off between the current and future measures is a key issue in the complicated game of the post Kyoto regime and the challenge is to combine short-term measures for meeting Kyoto targets with long term global strategy.

In this framework, bioenergy has a key role to play in the future global energy system: it can both help to meet the increasing energy demand in the short-term, it can be “carbon neutral”, effective in reducing the net carbon emissions.

Furthermore, Bioenergy can change the geography of the global energy market by:

- increasing
  - diversity of geographic and fuel sources;
  - energy security;
  - economic role of developing countries;
  - development of fuels and technologies towards a low carbon economy
  - challenging the fossil fuels economy.

The key issue is producing biofuels in a sustainable way. Life cycle analysis, labelling and “certification of origin” of biofuels should be agreed internationally and introduced into the global energy market.

Labeling and certification should be used to ensure sustainable development, environmental gains and to promote social equity.

At the same time, sustainability criteria should not represent way to the introduction of unnecessary trade barriers and protectionism against developing countries export opportunities.

The Global Bioenergy Partnership (GBEP) was launched during the G8 + 5 Gleneagles Summit and was invited by the G8 Heiligendamm Summit to “continue its work on biofuel best practices and take forward the successful and sustainable development of bioenergy”.

In light of this new mandate, GBEP could work towards the sustainable development of bioenergy contributing in the following areas:

1. Life cycle analysis, labelling and “certification of origin” of biofuels to ensure that “sustainable bioenergy” production does not affect biodiversity and food security;
2. Classification of “sustainable bioenergy” should be introduced in the WTO rules in order to reduce or, as appropriate, eliminate tariff and non tariff barriers according to the Doha Development Agenda, paragraph 31 (iii)
3. Research and development of innovative technologies to produce biofuels from cellulose that should be supported by the International Financial Institutions in the developing world

In autumn 2007, as an initial step, the Global Bioenergy Partnership will issue the first GBEP report, providing an overview of current bioenergy policies, data and best practices in G8 +5 countries.

The Report will present an overview of key policies, data and best practices related to bioenergy development in G8+5 countries, covering the entire bioenergy chain (production, conversion and use). The overview will consider not only energy sector policies, but also policies in related sectors, in particular agriculture/forestry/land use, environment, trade and industry, waste management, poverty reduction/rural development/employment, education and information and research and development.