भारत सरकार
पर्यावरण एवं वन मंत्रालय
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS

सत्यमेव जयते

जय हिन्द

Mr. Yvo de Boer,
Executive Secretary
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March 8, 2010

Dear Mr Yvo de Boer,

Please refer to your letter vide no. YdB/DBO/JBU/eps/log286-10 dated 3 February, 2010 regarding listing in the chapeau of the Copenhagen Accord.

It may be recalled that India actively participated in the discussions on the Copenhagen Accord. India stands by the contents of the Accord. Our clear understanding is that the Accord is a political document. It is not legally binding. The Accord is meant to facilitate the ongoing negotiations in the two tracks in accordance with the principles and provisions of the UNFCCC, the Kyoto Protocol and the Bali Action Plan.

The Accord was not adopted by the Conference of Parties but just taken note of. However, the Accord could have value if the areas of convergence reflected in the Accord are used to help the Parties reach agreed outcomes under the UN multilateral negotiations in the two tracks, i.e., the Ad-hoc Working Group on Long Term Cooperative Action and the Ad-hoc Working Group on Kyoto Protocol. The Accord is only an input into the two-track negotiations. The Accord is not a new track of negotiations or a template for outcomes.

With the above understanding, India may be listed in the chapeau of the Copenhagen Accord with the understanding indicated in an appropriate footnote.

(Rajani Ranjan Rashmi)
Joint Secretary
Ministry of Environment & Forests
Government of India
(National Focal Point)