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Outreach is a multi-stakeholder newsletter which is published daily at the COP15. The articles written are intended to reflect those of the authors alone or where indicated a coalition's opinion. An individual's article is the opinion of that author alone, and does not reflect the opinions of all stakeholders.

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Outreach on Wednesday 9th December featured a cover story on 'Cognitive Dissonance at COP15'. The authors were listed as Hannah Stoddart, Emily Benson and Steven Downey, Stakeholder Forum. Steven Downey in fact represents the Global Water Partnership (GWP).

Climate Justice for a Changing Planet



By: Zak Bleicher, United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Service (UN-NGLS)

Photo courtesy of UN-NGLS

There is little doubt that climate change will lead to unprecedented changes in the natural environment, which will in turn affect the way we live, with potentially devastating consequences on our health, energy sources and food production systems.

But, you know this – that's (hopefully) why you're in Copenhagen right now.

Climate Justice for a Changing Planet: A Primer for Policy Makers and NGOs, a new publication from UN-NGLS, makes the case that as we craft our responses to this reality we root our actions in justice and equity for all.

Climate Justice for a Changing Planet shines a light on the important intersection of

equity and justice in the context of the current climate change debate. The book explores the emerging concept of climate justice and how it helps to better understand the current discourse at the international level. In the process, demonstrates that climate justice is not only an ethical imperative, but also an economic and social one.

The concept of climate justice acknowledges that because the world's richest countries have contributed most to the problem, they have a greater obligation to take action and to do so more quickly. However, many fear that whatever international agreement is reached between governments, it will compound the already unjust burden on the poor and

Continued on page 2...

vulnerable. A rapidly growing number of social movements and civil society organizations across the world are mobilizing around this climate justice agenda.

Climate Justice for a Changing Planet examines how to move towards a climate justice agenda and to ensure that equity is at the core of any solution to climate change. It compiles the latest research and analysis made by several international organizations and by the aforementioned civil society movement, highlighting in particular the need for climate change to be addressed simultaneously with the furthering of the international development agenda, achieving poverty reduction goals and respecting international human rights norms.

While not prescriptive, the book does lay out a set of key principles and 'starting points' to begin reframing the current climate change debate as part of a broader process of people claiming their rights to sustainable development and participation in decisions that affect their lives. Among them:

- **Make justice the starting point.** This is the only approach that is comprehensive enough to tackle climate change, foster sustainable economies, and be politically acceptable to the majority of countries. Climate change talks have been contentious and consensus difficult, but the push to strike agreement at all costs carries the risk that decisions made to reduce inequities will be postponed, while climate change threats continue to grow. There can be no grand global bargain without justice at its core.
- **Build on existing development and human rights agreements.** Both adaptation and mitigation activities should be carried out under the well established development and

human rights frameworks affirmed by decades of national and international policies and actions. Climate change cannot be reversed at the expense of poverty eradication or by thwarting the right to development. The continued tendency to view climate change and development as parallel rather than intertwined issues will hinder progress on both fronts.

- **Step up action—urgently—to slow climate change.** As a whole, the world has the knowledge, resources and technology to counter climate change. It articulated a common political vision in the UNFCCC. Given the escalating pace of global warming, it now has to act with far greater urgency to realize these commitments. Change is possible even if it requires major economic and political rearrangements around the core principles of equity and sustainable development.
- **Aim high—adopt the most ambitious targets.** Climate change predictions have consistently proven to be underestimated. Using the most pessimistic calculations recognizes that some countries and peoples face lower thresholds for threats than others. By aiming for the most ambitious targets, there is a greater likelihood that sufficient steps will be taken in time.
- **Challenge market-based cap and trade, and offset programmes.** These have contributed little to emissions reductions. There is a lack of conclusive evidence on whether the problem is the models being used or current approaches to implementation. To be warranted, both systems need to make clearly demonstrable contributions to lower emissions and climate justice – such as through significant transfers of resources to adaptation for vulnerable groups.

- **Reduce exclusion in global decision-making.** Climate change talks and actions have featured a few voices and priorities, and neglected many others. The small island developing states (SIDS), least developed countries (LDCs) and indigenous peoples face particular threats that are not being adequately addressed, in addition to the injustice of being low emitters struggling to cope with severe impacts on development and even territorial integrity. The notion of developing countries being at the table should be refined to emphasize that this must include those who do not have a powerful role in the global economy.

All major climate change decisions should take place within the UN system, as the most democratic international forum, including those related to the use of adaptation and mitigation funds, and the setting of targets. At the same time, new accountability mechanisms need to be developed to ensure that these decisions accord with the fulfillment of the broadest spectrum of human and sustainable development needs.

A climate justice agenda is founded on the principle of equity, across all aspects of climate change, but beyond that point it must be a living agenda. The elements will likely shift over time to fulfill the needs and priorities of different peoples and nations, as they define them, and to protect the environmental resources on which we all depend. ❖

For more information and to order or download the publication: www.un-ngls.org/climatejustice

In Copenhagen, look out for Jolanda Groen, UN-NGLS (jolanda.groen@unctad.org), or Barbara Adams, Co-author of the book (barbaraadams@globalpolicy.org), for more information as well.

Human Rights Day:

Indigenous Peoples Condemn Human Rights Violations at COP 15

December 10, 2009, marked the 61st anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the first global enunciation of human rights. These are basic rights and freedoms to which all humans are entitled. Examples of these rights include but are not limited to the right to life, the right to economic, social and cultural rights, the right to water, the right to food, and the right to education.

By: IIPFCC

In January 2009, the Human Rights Council issued a study on the relationship between climate change and human rights. Chapter 2 of this report is titled "Implications for the Enjoyment of Human Rights".

"Climate change, together with pollution and environmental degradation, poses a serious threat to indigenous peoples, who often live in marginal lands and fragile ecosystems which are particularly sensitive to alterations in the physical environment. Climate change-related impacts have already led to the relocation of Inuit communities in polar regions and affected their traditional livelihoods. Indigenous peoples inhabiting low-lying island States face similar pressures, threatening their cultural identity which is closely linked to their traditional lands and livelihoods.

Indigenous peoples have been voicing their concern about the impacts of climate change on their collective human rights and their rights as distinct peoples. In particular, indigenous peoples have stressed the importance of giving them a voice in policymaking on climate change at both national and international levels and of taking into account and building upon their traditional knowledge. As a study cited by the IPCC in its Fourth Assessment Report observes, "Incorporating indigenous knowledge into climate change policies can lead to the development of effective adaptation strategies that are cost-effective, participatory and sustainable".

The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples sets out several rights and principles of relevance to threats posed by climate change. Core international human rights treaties also provide for protection of indigenous peoples, in particular with



Indigenous peoples have stressed the importance of giving them a voice in policy-making on climate change at both national and international levels and of taking into account and building upon their traditional knowledge.

regard to the right to self-determination and rights related to culture. The rights of indigenous peoples are also enshrined in ILO Convention No. 169 (1989) concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries.

Indigenous peoples have brought several cases before national courts and regional and international human rights bodies claiming violations of human rights related to environmental issues. In 2005, a group of Inuit in the Canadian and Alaskan Arctic presented a case before the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights seeking compensation for alleged violations of their human rights resulting from climate change caused by greenhouse gas emissions from the United States of America. While the Inter-American Commission deemed the case inadmissible, it drew international attention to the threats posed by climate change to indigenous peoples."

We, INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' representatives from around the world participating in the ongoing climate change

meeting under the International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Climate Change (IIPFCC) condemns the violations of our rights in the ongoing negotiations on climate change. On the occasion of Human Rights Day we seize this opportunity to call on all State Parties to respect our fundamental rights in these negotiations.

The climate crisis threatens our very survival, particularly forest-dependent, ice-dependent peoples, peoples in voluntary isolation, and the indigenous peoples of small island states and local communities.

Although we are the most affected by climate change effects our voices, our propositions, on the various negotiating texts are currently being ignored because not only are we kept outside the room but no one is listening to the cries and suffering of our peoples.

The IIPFCC affirms our global unity and solidarity to realize the enjoyment of our collective rights and the recognition of our vision, indigenous knowledge and our contributions in solving the climate change crisis.

On December 10, 2009, the International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Climate Change (IIPFCC) launched a petition called "I Respect Human Rights! Human Rights Day 2009". The petition reads:

On the occasion of Human Rights Day, 10 December 2009, I affirm my commitment to the universal human rights, including the human rights of Indigenous Peoples as embodied in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Sign our petition online at:
<http://www.petitiononline.com/IPRights/petition.html>

Climate and Development Goals:

Is there need for a post-Copenhagen Framework?

By: Richard Sherman, Stakeholder Forum

One of the key challenges for the Copenhagen Outcome is how to integrate the development context of climate change. In recent months we have seen issues such as water, agriculture and gender featuring more prominently in the negotiations. While this is welcomed, one must surely wonder why it has taken so long for these issues to feature on the climate stage. Furthermore, the current negotiating text merely references the important relationship between development and climate change, and currently lacks specific details to mobilize the development and climate communities. The challenge is not only to integrate development issues into the climate debate, which most countries are happy to elude towards, but to craft a climate and development framework that can mobilize international, regional and national action towards a set of goals and targets which are aligned with the existing global development agenda.

Jan Vandemoortele, one of the architects of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), described the MDGs as being “tremendously successful in galvanizing political leaders, civil society organizations, private sector actors, the media and donors in the pursuit of human development. The conceivers of the MDGs never expected the support to spread so wide and so deep.” He also stated that the “MDGs were not conceived as a comprehensive or near-perfect expression of the complexity of human development. Rather, they offer a version of it that can be easily understood by a general audience.” For example, between 17-19 October 2009, more than 100 million people mobilized under the slogan ‘Stand Up-Take Action’ to demand that world leaders do not use the financial crisis as an excuse for breaking the promises they made to achieve the MDGs.

Herein lies the argument for a set of complementary climate and development goals. At a time when climate change is dominating the global multilateral landscape and citizens around the world are making climate change an electioneering issue, there is an urgent need for a set of goals and targets that can be easily understood and can translate the technical climate negotiations into a powerful force to mobilize international and national action.

Much has already been written about how climate change will impact on the achievement of the MDGs, however, less has been said about how climate actions can complement the development agenda, and even less mentioned regarding the option of an indicative set of goals or targets, enumerated, specifically, to ensure that climate actions support global development. Without drawing attention away from the important task that lies ahead in Copenhagen, is it time to begin a discussion on how the intergovernmental community and stakeholders could frame a comprehensive set of indicative climate development goals and targets?

Take for example, the issue of increasing financing for research and development in low carbon technologies. In the 2005 UN World Summit Outcome Document, Member States agreed to “promote innovation, clean energy and energy efficiency and conservation; improve policy, regulatory and financing frameworks; and accelerate the deployment of cleaner technologies (UNGA WS2005. Para 55 (a)).” Furthermore, the impetus for a transition to a low-carbon society has been recognized and specific goals agreed to in a number of other multilateral fora, such as the International Labour Organization’s 2009 Global Jobs Pact, which called for

“-friendly economy that helps accelerate the jobs recovery, reduce social gaps and support development goals and realize decent work in the process (ILO Global Jobs Pact, Para 21 (3)).” However, these stated objectives will remain ambiguous until we reach a point where specific action-oriented targets have been developed to firstly mobilize action for the goal, and secondly, to monitor progress towards its achievement. The 2009 MDG Gap Task Force stated that the world invests “barely US\$2 per person per year in energy-related research, development and deployment activities. This needs to increase by a factor of 2 to 3 in order to enable the transition towards new and advanced technologies in energy systems.” So instead of ambiguously stated language calling for increased investments in low carbon technologies, would it not be more effective to frame issues in a manner which responds to the figures presented by the MDG Gap Task Force, such as a climate and development goal that states “to increase financing for research and development in clean and low-carbon technologies to US\$6 per person per year by 2020.” Following the approach with the MDGs, this would then be complemented by a set of measurable indicators to benchmark global and national progress.

At present the most articulate set of climate and development goals have emerged from the disaster risk reduction community. The UN Secretary-General has already proposed the goal to “halve the losses of lives from disasters annually from 2015, when the term of the Hyogo Framework for Action ends.” Complementing the Secretary-General’s views, a number of targets were proposed and adopted under the Second Global Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction. Under the Platform, targets were proposed for undertaking national risk assessments, municipal disaster recovery plans, early warning systems, water risks, and the

enforcement of building codes. In addition, the Platform identified other targets, namely that: “a minimum of 30% of the adaptation finance available to developing countries should be applied to weather- and climate-related risk reduction projects;” and “by 2015, all major cities in disaster-prone areas should include and enforce disaster risk reduction measures in their building and land use codes.” In addition, targets have also emerged out of the 2008-2009 World Disaster Reduction Campaign on Hospital Safe from Disasters, including that: “by 2011 national assessments of the safety of existing education and health facilities should be undertaken, and that by 2015 concrete action plans

for safer schools and hospitals should be developed and implemented in all disaster prone countries. Similarly, disaster risk reduction should be included in all school curricula by the same year.” However, before the international community can move forward on an MDG-type approach for climate and development, negotiators at Copenhagen must first agree on the most important of all targets – “to reduce developed country emissions, by 2020, of at least 40 per cent below 1990 levels, and, by 2050, by between 80 and 95 per cent below those levels.” Without such an agreement, the option of a set of climate and development goals will easily be misconstrued as an attempt to bypass

intergovernmental agreement, and could be manipulated by forces unwilling to support legally binding international action. Second, assuming that there is agreement in Copenhagen, the UN system, working under the Chief Executive’s Board for Coordination, should initiate work on an indicative set of climate and development goals, in coordination with the UN Environment Programme’s work on developing a comprehensive framework of already agreed set of intergovernmental global environmental goals. This work could serve as an important contribution to Rio +20 in 2012, as well as discussions on how to take the existing MDGs beyond 2015.

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Towards a ‘NICE’ future

By: Claire Hamer and Janine Passley, ‘E18HT’

Copenhagen is a city with a keen sense of its own history: a succession of green plinths line its pretty cobbled streets in homage to celebrated figures of the past. A fitting venue, therefore, to seek out modern-day heroes; a new school of leaders whose energy and ideas will inspire a generation to live cleaner, greener lives.

The fashion industry may seem an unusual place to seek out such role models - it is, after all, a business whose very survival relies on feeding the insatiable appetite of a trend-obsessed consumer— but the Nordic Fashion Association’s Fashion Summit at the magnificent Copenhagen Opera House attempted to do just that. Several hundred delegates assembled for the launch of NICE, a ten-year action plan for fostering and promoting a sustainable and ethical Nordic fashion industry.

An impressive roster of speakers offered their vision of what a sustainable future might look like, including the Managing Director of Business for Social Responsibility, PederPrusan-Jorgensen. Acknowledging that 70% of our ecosystems are degrading faster than they are recover-



ing partly as a result of excessive water use, Jorgensen declared blue the new black, and called for the development of new cotton cultivation technology to help curb the industry’s water consumption.

Vanessa Friedman, Fashion Editor of the Financial Times, sought a similar efficiency in the industry’s method of communication. She argued ‘sustainability’ is often a confusing term, and that consumers are crying out for a lexicon that is clear, concise and consistent. “Every revolution needs a language,” she stressed.

Fittingly, it was the Vice President of high-end department store Barney’s New York who returned our attention to the most important topic of discussion:

the product. Julie Gilhart urged delegates not to forget the romance of fashion, and explained that the success of Barney’s 2007 ‘Have A Green Holiday’ campaign boiled down to good old-fashioned story telling. Every purchase made of their special 22-carat gold necklace, for example, meant ten trees were planted; a symbolic but meaningful gesture that resonated well amongst consumers.

As the event drew to a close, the NFA was keen for the Summit’s attendees to make a similar connection to its own manifesto, copies of which were distributed to the crowd. The extent to which this aim is realized shall be revealed as the next decade unfolds. ❖

Guiding The Process Of Adaptation To Climate Change In (Transboundary) Water Management

By: Sonja Koeppel, UNECE

The socio-economic impacts of climate change are significant: between 2000 and 2006, the frequency of disaster from extreme climate events worldwide increased by 187 per cent as compared with the previous decade, accounting for 33,000 deaths and 1.6 billion people affected (2000–2008). In the same period, global economic damage from flooding events and heavy storms was estimated at about US\$ 25 billion. There is consequently an urgent need for countries to jointly adapt to climate change. This is the main message of the Guidance on Water and Adaptation to Climate Change, developed under the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention) that will be launched on 16 December at 11:00 in the Holland Climate House.

Most extreme climate events involve too much or too little water. Like climate change, water knows no borders. In the UNECE region and worldwide, most watercourses cross borders: there are more than 150 transboundary rivers, 50 major transboundary lakes and more than 170 transboundary groundwater systems. The danger is that dwindling water resources will increase the risk of conflict.

Adaptation measures, especially structural measures such as dams, reservoirs or dykes can have significant effects on other riparian countries. What to do if an upstream country unilaterally builds a dam to retain water for its population during droughts, but the water downstream is drastically reduced? What can be done if an upstream country is bound by an agreement stipulating the delivery of a specific amount of water downstream, but the overall amount of water is reduced?

The Guidance describes how to prevent such situations and how to deal with

them should they arise: for instance, by empowering existing institutions for cooperation on transboundary waters with the required authority to address climate change impacts, by opening consultations, pooling knowledge and initiating joint action. Cooperation on adaptation can help to find better and more cost-effective solutions, by enlarging the geographical area considered in planning measures, broadening the information base and combining efforts. Transboundary cooperation on adaptation strategies is currently almost non-existent, however.

The Guidance is more than “just another paper”, it is a unique tool to deal with climate change issues. It explains step by step how to develop and implement an adaptation strategy in the transboundary context addressing possible impacts on flood and drought occurrences, water quality and health related aspects. Based on the concept of integrated water resources management, the Guidance provides advice to decision makers and water managers on how to assess impacts of climate change on water quantity and quality, how to perform risk assessment, including health risks, how to gauge vulnerability, and how to design and implement appropriate adaptation strategies. The Guidance builds on the experiences of more than 80 different experts from many countries and disciplines. It features nearly 40 case studies – illustrating, for example, how river basins like the Rhine or the Danube are preparing for climate change. The Guidance describes for example how the transboundary water agreement between Portugal and Spain was revised to take into account climate change impacts and why elaborating joint scenarios is so important, but at the same time difficult as in the Caucasus.

One example from a case study in the Guidance is the Finnish-Russian agreement on the Discharge Rule of the River Vuoksi, the largest transboundary river between Finland and Russia, where

floods are a risk for industries and settlements and which is very important for both countries for hydropower production. In 1991, after long negotiations the two countries have adopted very detailed rules for discharge in the river aiming at reducing flood damages and maximising hydropower production. This also includes the possibility of compensation in case damages are caused in Russia. Implementation has been really successful: flood peaks have been lowered seven times and low water levels raised three times. Damage prevented in Finland has been about €10 million while compensation for reduced electricity production by the Russian hydropower plants has been about €1 million.

Having the Guidance is not enough, it needs to be used and applied. Implementation of the Guidance will be promoted through a programme of pilot projects and by establishing a platform for exchanging experiences with adaptation on transboundary waters. Projects on the ground will be developed to strengthen capacity to adapt in different transboundary basins, particularly in South-Eastern Europe, and in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia. Preliminary plans include projects for the Dniester River basin, shared by Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova, and for the Chu and Talas basins, shared by Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan, the Sava River, shared by Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia Herzegovina and Serbia, and possibly others.

Please come and join us at the launch of the Guidance which will take place on 16 December at 11 a.m. in the Holland Climate House (Hall C7)! ❖

The Guidance is available online at: <http://bit.ly/4E5UmU>

For more information contact: Sonja.koeppel@unece.org or water.convention@unece.org
www.unece.org/env/water

Green Jobs & Women Workers

Employment, Equity And Equality

The promotion of green jobs and investments in green components seem to be gaining momentum. And for a new generation of workers, the growing environmental awareness is fuelling hope of more and decent, green jobs in energy sectors, agriculture, transport and construction. But without the full integration of the social pillar of sustainability in terms of labour standards, pay equity and gender equality, this trend will not be an engine of sustainable development.

By: Sustainlabour

Green economy initiatives which aim at creating more environmentally-sound economies do not automatically incorporate fundamental social requirements such as income equity, job quality and gender equality. If they do not take these social factors into account, they may maintain or even aggravate the negative social and distributive trends of the traditional economy including existing inequalities and gender gaps.

Yet, green jobs offer the possibility for a more equitable sharing of revenue between capital and labour and restored growth with greater distributive justice. But only long as green jobs are in line with the ILO Decent Work Agenda, and have four basic attributes, will they contribute to sustainable development:

1. **Adequate pay:** green jobs should have adequate remuneration and equal pay.
2. **Accessibility:** green jobs should offer opportunities for women and men to escape poverty.
3. **Accountability:** green jobs should guarantee high labour standards.
4. **Advocacy:** green jobs should provide the right to organise and collective bargaining.

Green Growth Potential

Most green jobs will derive from the transition to low-carbon economies, including the development of renewable energy sources, production of fuel-efficient vehicles, investments in public transport infrastructure, and retrofitting buildings. It is estimated that over 40% of green employment will be linked to investments in renewable energy – wind power, solar, biomass, small-scale hydro-power, and geothermal.

A third of green jobs are projected to

be created in the construction sector as efforts are made to reduce energy waste through the retrofitting and upgrading of buildings. Lowering the carbon intensity of transport systems can contribute substantially to green jobs growth. In the manufacturing sector, numerous green jobs will be linked to production and use of clean processing techniques.

Reducing waste generation and developing approaches for the safe and clean handling, transfer, storage and disposal of waste will provide new business opportunities. Recycling and green processing of a variety of materials will employ millions of people worldwide.

Lastly, green jobs will be created in resource-based sectors including agriculture, fisheries and forestry, particularly in developing countries in conserving ecosystems.

But how many of these jobs actually target women?

Realising the Potential of Women in Green Sectors

The green economy can be an opportunity for women to gain their rightful place in the workforce through better-paid, non-traditional jobs, where women normally represent less than 25% of the workforce. However, women may be excluded from the green economy due to gender-segregated employment, discrimination, and traditional attitudes. Also the lack of gender equality is diminishing the access of women to green employment positions.

Most green jobs are expected to be in the secondary sectors of construction, manufacturing and energy production, where women are significantly underrepresented. In addition to more manual positions, the green economy can create a range of administrative and service em-

ployment opportunities, for example in ecotourism.

However, men dominate the better paid jobs in engineering, financial and business services, where the bulk of green service positions are likely to be created. As a result, the green economy may unintentionally exclude women.

Increasing the Green Female Workforce

Government and union action is required to raise the proportion of green jobs filled by women and to ensure the quality of those jobs. To increase the proportion of green jobs filled by females and ensure the quality of those jobs, a five-step process should be taken to get more:

1. **Employed:** through anti-discrimination laws and family-friendly mandates;
2. **Recruited** for non-traditional jobs: through quotas and targeted schemes;
3. **Trained** in green jobs skills: through specialized apprenticeship and training initiatives;
4. **Paid equitably:** by reducing gender-based job segmentation and wage gaps;
5. **Organised:** through increasing the union membership of women in green sectors.

A combination of traditional and innovative strategies is needed so that women as well as men can benefit from the green economy. This involves a paradigm shift to link the environmental and social consciousness of women with the wide range of jobs expected to emerge from a just transition to a low-carbon economy. ❖

To read more:
www.sustainlabour.org

Bolivia: En la COP-15 no hay democracia

By: Por Raúl Pierri (IPS/TerraViva, original printed 9th October)

¿Quién resolvió que 30 países escogidos a dedo pueden decidir por 190? Este es un proceso que me llama mucho la atención porque es falta de democracia”, dijo a TerraViva la jefa de la delegación boliviana en la COP-15, Angélica Navarro.

La negociadora jefa del Estado Plurinacional de Bolivia se refería a la forma en que se llevan a cabo las conversaciones para alcanzar un nuevo pacto climático en la conferencia iniciada el lunes en Copenhague.

Bolivia denunció el miércoles un intento de los países ricos de controlar el resultado de las negociaciones y la “falta de transparencia” en las gestiones, a la vez que llamó a reconocer y respetar “los derechos de la Madre Tierra”.

Navarro expresó especial preocupación por el borrador de un acuerdo elaborado por la delegación de Dinamarca y que se filtró a la prensa esta semana.

En la Conferencia sobre Cambio Climático, que se lleva a cabo hasta el 18 de este mes en la capital danesa, países en desarrollo criticaron la propuesta señalando que favorece la postura de Estados Unidos y transfiere al Sur obligaciones de recortar sus emisiones de gases invernadero.

También temen un intento de marginar a la Organización de las Naciones Unidas (ONU) del proceso negociador.

“Me preocupa sobremanera por dos razones. Primero, ¿quién resolvió que 30 países escogidos a dedo pueden decidir por 190? Este es un proceso que me llama mucho la atención porque es falta de democracia, de participación, de inclusividad, de transparencia, y es algo a lo que no estamos acostumbrados de nuestros amigos europeos. Por eso les queremos decir que vuelvan al camino democrático”, dijo Navarro a TerraViva.

“También tenemos mucha preocupación por el contenido, pues habla de un solo nuevo acuerdo. ¿Qué pasa con el Proto-

colo de Kyoto. ¿Lo quieren matar? Y segundo, ¿este acuerdo tiene nuevas obligaciones en financiamiento, mitigación y adaptación para los países en desarrollo? Es decir, ¿tenemos que pagar por el daño que ellos causaron?”, añadió.

El Protocolo de Kyoto, cuya primera fase de compromisos termina en 2012, no incluye obligaciones de recortes de gases invernadero para el Sur. Estados Unidos promueve otro marco en el que se distribuyan responsabilidades en la reducción de emisiones, y se resiste a un tratado de carácter vinculante.

Los países que conforman la Alianza Bolivariana para los Pueblos de Nuestra América (ALBA) sostuvieron el miércoles en una declaración que el Norte debe asumir los costos del cambio climático, ofreciendo significativos recortes de emisiones y colaborando con financiamiento y tecnología para la mitigación y adaptación en el Sur.

Son miembros del ALBA Antigua y Barbuda, Bolivia, Cuba, Dominica, Ecuador, Honduras, Nicaragua, San Vicente y Granadinas y Venezuela.

“Los países desarrollados, al haber sobreconsumido el espacio atmosférico y al haber emitido más de dos terceras partes de las emisiones, tienen una deuda climática con los países en desarrollo”, dijo Navarro a TerraViva.

“Esto puede ser pagado de dos maneras: la primera es a través de reducciones internas sustanciales y la segunda es... con financiamiento adecuado y tecnología. No con las cifras que están poniendo en la mesa de negociaciones en este momento”, afirmó.

“Lo que nos preocupa es que las ambiciones están demasiado bajas. Las cifras que están poniendo son tan bajas que no alcanzaría realmente para combatir el cambio climático”, añadió.

Mientras, el embajador de Bolivia ante la ONU, Solón Romero Orozca, subrayó en conferencia de prensa la importancia de reconocer los “derechos de la Madre

Tierra”.

El diplomático, acompañado de dos representantes de los pueblos indígenas, sostuvo que el mundo debe reconocer que la Tierra está siendo “esclavizada”. Romero Orozca exigió metas más ambiciosas, como poner un límite al aumento de la temperatura media global de entre uno y 1,5 grados centígrados, y no de dos grados, como se maneja en las conversaciones.

“Si decimos que nuestra meta debe ser dos grados y (hasta) 450 partes por millón (de partículas de dióxido de carbono en la atmósfera), eso para África significa más que dos grados, significa que se viene una catástrofe”, sostuvo. “¡Hayaya Pachamama!” (por la vida de la Madre Tierra, en quechua), exclamaron los delegados bolivianos al poner fin a la rueda de prensa. ❖



Three days of seminars, workshops and debates with trade unions from all over the world will take place from 14-16 December at the LO-Denmark building (on the COP15 bus route). See full programme at: <http://bit.ly/89a8xS>

There will be sessions on just transition, transforming industrial jobs, sustainable mobility, women workers & green jobs, climate solidarity and on how to finance climate change among others.

Finland Receives Gender Champion Award

By: Tina Nyfors, Gender CC

The first Gender Champion of the Week award was given to the government of Finland for their contribution to the UNFCCC process in terms of gender justice.

- We want to recognize Finland for playing a commendable role in bringing the women voices to the international climate change negotiations process, said Minu Hemmati from GenderCC who gave the award on behalf of the Women and Gender Constituency on Thursday.

The award was received by Sirkka Haunia, head of the Finnish delegation, and Aira Kalela, a special representative on gender and climate change in the Finnish delegation.

We have done good work and we are sure that gender will stay in the text. We will continue to support the participation of female delegates. Now we also focus on NAPAs since women certainly have a big role here, Sirkka Haunia said after receiving the award.



Sirkka Haunia, head of the Finnish delegation (pictured above) and Aira Kalela special representative on gender and climate change in the Finnish delegation received the first gender award. Photo Tina Nyfors

At COP15 Finland financially supports the participation of 21 women from developing countries. During the past

year Finland has also given financial support for events on climate change and gender. ❖

CJN Deliver Strong Intervention at CMP

Sylvia Wachira of Clean Energy and Safe Environment Initiative and a Kenyan member of the Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA) and Climate Justice Now! delivered an intervention at the CMP yesterday on Agenda Item 5.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.

I am speaking as a member of the Pan-African Climate Justice Alliance and Climate Justice Now!

Africa stands on the frontline of climate change. It is a cruel irony indeed that a people who have lived for so long in harmony with nature are now suffering the disastrous effects of greenhouse gases emitted by developed countries.

For over two centuries the industrialized world became wealthy by drenching the atmosphere in carbon and plundering resources from every region of the world.

The current proposal and pledges by Annex I Parties are supposedly aimed at limiting global warming to 2 degrees. They will not, and 2 degrees is a death sentence for Africa. According to the IPCC, Africa will warm by more than the average global level. 2 degrees globally means 3 or more degrees for my continent.

Such an increase in temperature would lead to widespread devastation.

It will lead to massive reduction in crop yields in some areas, cutting food outputs in half. More than 600 million people left without adequate water supplies. Our coastlines, villages and cattle will be ravaged. Literally millions of people will die.

The injustice does not stop here. Based on Annex I Parties current proposals and pledges, the 20% of people living in developed countries would consume over 60% of the Earth's atmospheric space while the 80% who are poor will be consigned to live within

the remaining 40%. You are literally stealing from us the very sky over our heads.

A mere \$10 billion is proposed under the Convention negotiations in so-called short-term financing, while the rich countries seek to appropriate from poor countries an atmospheric resource worth trillions. Your 10 billion will not be enough to buy our coffins.

We are expected to accept this deal. Worse still we are expected to celebrate this as success.

We will not.

This grab of our shared atmospheric resource is nothing less than climate colonialism.

Yesterday, African civil society marched alongside Parliamentarians from across the continent chanting: "Two degrees is suicide" and "One Africa, One Degree". You must all be absolutely clear: we will not die in silence. ❖

Sustainable Consumption and Production Central to Global Sustainability

introNitin Desai, the former Secretary General of the World Summit on Sustainable Development believes that most of the problems on earth and climate change are related to unsustainable consumption and production patterns, and the PLATFORM should be pushing hard for an 'International Agreement on Sustainable Consumption and Production' by 2012. After participating in the Climate Sustainability PLATFORM he then joined me yesterday in an exclusive dialogue to discuss our approach towards global agreements in 2012.

By: Uchita de Zoysa, Convener,
Climate Sustainability PLATFORM

This is the year when the Kyoto Protocol may come to an end, and when the UNCSO will be starting to implement a Ten Year Framework of Programmes on Earth. In fact this is the year that the world will be celebrating 20 years since the Earth Summit and when Rio+20 UN Summit is proposed.

It was Mr. Maurice Strong as Secretary General of UNCED in 1992 who said that "It is the last chance to save the earth". It was during his leadership that the Climate Convention was born. But perhaps it was Mr. Desai who had the best chance to enforce an agreement to eradicate poverty in 2002 at the WSSD. So can we do that at least in 2012 and a Rio+20 give us a binding agreement on poverty eradication? Mr. Desai says "you have to worry about poverty, and then you also have to worry about energy poverty. Whether it is climate change or poverty eradication, we need to ensure that sustainable consumption and production gets the main focus".

"In 2012 the interest would be on two themes, the Green Economy and Sustainable Consumption and Production. There is no way to talk about a green economy simply by talking about taxes and subsidies. You have to ask your self, what is the underlying consumption and production base? The time is right for this sustainable consumption and production to become central to the UN agenda".

"We have reached a point where nobody can say that our way of life is not for negotiation". Nitin Desai wanted movements like the PLATFORM to lead the way in driving global agreements to focus on sustainable consumption and



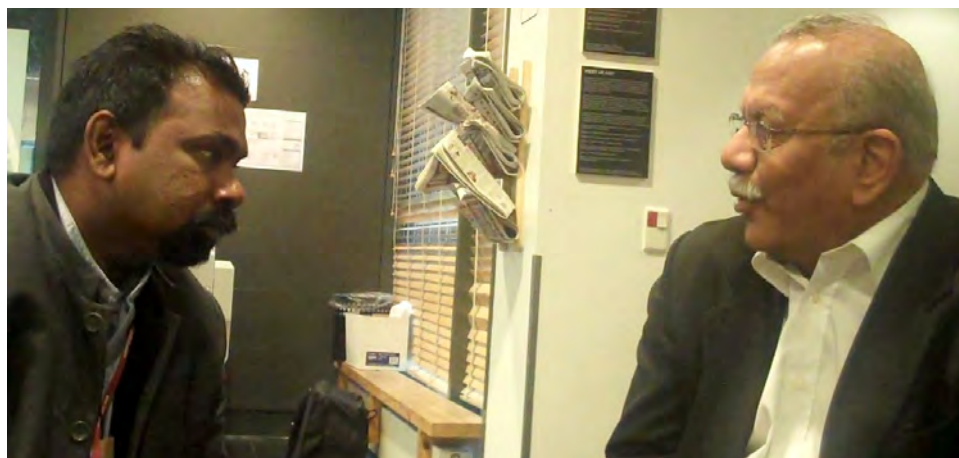
production. "Change comes from the global opinion and global consensus. Therefore, civil society groups would be the ones to drive this cause, and today my efforts in India too are with civil society action".

But has global opinion been heard? A colleague from Sri Lanka, Mr. Harsha Ratnaweera was totally unimpressed with what is happening at the COP15 in Bella Centre. "After 20 years of talk and activities, what progress is being made? This is another circus that is costing an enormous amount of money. Who is paying for all this? The tax paying citizens!"

After twenty years of campaigning for sustainability in and around the UN Summits, I have to agree with him. Nothing seems to be changing in the approach of UN conferences. They are not just a waste of money and re-

sources, but are becoming more and more distant to the people and their aspirations. It is inspiring to have Mr. Desai joining civil society to drive the real issues such as consumption and production within the UN agenda. So are we joining forces as citizens of one world and to create a better world? Mr. Desai, by joining the PLATFORM shows that all of us may have a common desire to fight together as a single human race against climate change. But, how can we convince the negotiators at COP15 that we are not just simply asking for emission reductions, but Climate Sustainability? The PLATFORM, together will be working towards making sustainable consumption and production inclusive in all global agreements. ❖

(Please send comments to uchita@slt.net.lk)



A Lesson in Trust for China and the U.S.

By: Ben Wessel, SustainUS

I am an American - a statement that comes with a bit of baggage at these climate negotiations. For decades, my government has dropped the ball a little bit when it comes to looking out for the future of our climate - a fact I'm not too proud of. Thankfully, it looks like we're getting closer to a real international climate deal, and I'm happy to say that it seems the United States is picking up the pace a little bit again. Unfortunately, there's one "dirty word" that makes diplomats and politicians from Washington to Copenhagen shudder a little bit: China.

Chinese-American relations have been strained at best in recent years. Our leaders look uncomfortable when they hold events together - often they are stiff and nervous. Essentially, I think it boils down to a fundamental lack of trust between our two countries. America is the classic global hegemon, hoping to keep its spot at the top of the heap for as long as possible. China is the young upstart, cranking out the best and brightest minds, technology, and innovations. Both countries are massive polluters. Neither have shown they are up to the task of fighting climate change - not only because of the perceived detriments climate policy may have, but mostly because of the lack of trust between our governments. Nobody wants to take the first step into the unknown.

So, yet again, the young people of these two countries are doing something about it. For the first time, young Americans and young Chinese are together at COP: forging relations, sharing ambitions, building trust. We will be the leaders of our countries in the decades to come, when the climate crisis ramps up and our nations need to work together more than ever. We do not agree on everything - heck, we don't even agree on most things, but we are making friends with one another and talking about the tough issues, rather than sweeping them under the carpet or hiding them in the closet. At first, we were-



Photo by Robert van Waarden

n't sure about each other - we were too different, too skeptical, too unconfident. But we are making progress. Climate change is truly the biggest problem my generation will ever face, and we need to be able to trust that other countries - even some of our supposed adversaries - will take action if we do too. We see a need to be ambitious, and we challenge our elders to do this too.

Young people know what our countries can do. Together, China and the United

States can unleash a sustainable economy and a safe climate future. We are so impressed by the drive, creativity, and power of our country men - and we are excited to participate in the coming clean energy economy. But we will not have these opportunities until we trust each other and share our ambitions for the future. So, may the meetings of Chinese and American youth in Copenhagen be a first step towards a fair and ambitious future -- they certainly won't be the last. ❖

China Youth Speaks

By: Xixi Sun, China Youth COP15

The China Youth COP15 (that's us) is the first-ever Chinese youth-led team to participate in COP15. We feel very proud to be here to represent a youth population of 400 million people and to ensure the voices of Chinese youths are heard. Our team has 42 members coming from more than 20 different universities and organisations. Most of us have never been to COP before, and we really appreciate this opportunity to interact with youths from the rest of the world.

China and the US are among the most influencing countries in the world, and their strategic positions on all issues including climate change will have a huge impact on the world. The US - China workshop tonight will be an

excellent opportunity for youths from both sides to get to know each other personally by first sharing the defining moments in our lives and our own "road to Copenhagen", then move on to the subject of "our shared future" and gain more understanding of the broader picture. We will be talking about youth movement, which is directly related to us. Policies of our countries will be we will probably have a mini debate if we disagree, and we will finally look at collaborative solutions for the challenges.

I hope that the connections developed tonight between youths from the two countries can be sustained and carried forward into the future. Above all, Copenhagen is not the end. It is only a beginning. And we need to work together in tackling climate change. ❖

Food for Thought... *Felix Dodds, Stakeholder Forum*

Strong Words

In June 2009, the Global Environmental Governance Project brought together for the first time, all five successive Executive Directors of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). Maurice Strong, Mostafa Tolba, Elizabeth Dowdeswell, Klaus Töpfer, and Achim Steiner to take part in a forum of 80 environmental leaders in Glion, Switzerland. It was a gathering of four generations of environmental leaders, brought together under the vision of "Reflecting on the Past, Moving into the Future" and sought to rediscover the past, analyze the present and imagine the future of global environmental governance.

For me the most interesting contribution came from Maurice Strong, who is of course not only UNEP's first Executive Director but also Secretary General of both the Rio and Stockholm Earth Summits. His CV is one of the most interesting one might read. Constantly he has fought for the environment over the past forty year whether as a Canadian Government official, a UN junior security officer – returning later to his second UN job, as Secretary General to the Stockholm Conference, or as President and Chairman of the Extension and Inter-movement Aid of

the World Alliance of YMCAs or as Chairman of the World Resources Institute not to mention his work in business as head of Petro Canada and CEO of Ontario Hydro.

Over the last year as we approached Copenhagen he is starting to outline a link between Copenhagen and Rio+20 he has said that:

"By 2012 hopefully such binding commitments and the economic changes required to effect to them will already have been achieved in Copenhagen, although this is far from certain. Then in a very real sense Copenhagen will be part of preparatory process for 2012.

It is my conviction that 2012, both in its preparations, and its goals, will need the full involvement of those responsible for the economic, industrial and financial policies, including industry itself. As you well know it has always been difficult to secure participation and commitment of these parties in UN events and processes, including the CSD. While the CSD and other structures now in place can contribute to the process, the decisions to be taken on behalf of governments must be at the highest level. 2012 must go well

beyond the environmental and sustainable development communities to include the principal policy and decision-makers on the range of systemic issues that will determine the future and sustainability and security of life as we know it.

2012 may indeed be the last opportunity we have to achieve such ambitious but necessary goals before the risks we face become irreversible. Thus I see 2012 as a milestone in the process of ensuring sustainability and security and we must learn from past conferences and processes, which have not produced commitments that governments observed, that we must create a new and a more effective model that will produce binding commitments that address the importance and urgency of the issues it must settle."

Are we ready for that honesty? For a call to arms? After all climate change is not the whole picture the need to focus on changing the economic model is what would address how we can live sustainably on this planet.

We need not only Strong Words but Strong Action. ❖

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