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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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# Cognitive Dissonance at COP15

**How policy-makers are simultaneously championing and disregarding the role of water in climate change.**



**By: Emily Benson, Hannah Stoddart and Steven Downey, Stakeholder Forum**

During the opening session of the much-anticipated COP15 in Copenhagen, two prominent figures took the floor to make the case for why the world should commit to ambitious action to tackle climate change. Yvo de Boer, Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC, recounted the impressions of a young girl who was separated from her family during a cyclone as an example of the kind of tragedies that are likely to beset communities in the near future as a result of climate change: *'The wind and the rain became stronger and the tide level covered the bank. We dipped our legs in the mud so we*

*wouldn't drift away in the tide. When the water level was up to my dad's chest, we decided to climb trees. Suddenly the tree fell because of the strong winds. Then I was separated from my mum and dad'.*

Dr Rajendra Pachauri, Chairman of the IPCC, went on to describe the effects of current climate change projections. He stressed that in Africa, by 2020, between 75 and 250 million people are projected to be exposed to water stress, and in some countries on the continent, rain-fed agricultural could be reduced by 50%. He noted that in line with sea-level rises, the

*Continued on page 2...*

Maldive Islands and other small island states such as Bangladesh will find that every storm surge and major up-welling of the seas represents a serious danger to lives and livelihoods.

An emotional video was also shown by the Danish hosts that depicted a girl experiencing all the projected (some would say present) impacts of climate change: floods, glacier melt, hurricanes, severe storms, and drought displaced by a major flood. What all these presentations had in common was quite clear; that climate change will make itself felt through the water, whether too much or too little.

However, despite the widespread recognition that water will be the primary medium through which climate impacts will be felt, the current manifestation of the negotiating text pays little regard to the role of water management in adapting to climate change. The current version of the adaptation negotiating text, 'Non Paper 53', includes one reference to water resources in one of its annexes. Non-Paper 53 is an amalgamation of Non-Paper 31, which was on the table for the negotiations in Barcelona in November, and Non Paper 41, which was issued at the end of those negotiations. Non-Paper 31 doesn't include any reference to water at all.

**So why is it a problem if the role of water is not mentioned in the adaptation text?** The answer is easy, if unwelcome. The current adaptation text contains no clear vision for what constitutes adaptation action, and the UNFCCC more broadly is offering little direction on the elements and considerations that would ideally be included in any adaptation plans. In short, the current adaptation text falls short of providing Member States with guidance on how to adapt to climate change. Worryingly, there seems to be a tacit assumption that water management considerations will be taken into account in adaptation plans, when in many cases this either isn't happening, or there isn't the capacity to make it happen. Analysis by the World Water Assessment Programme on the role of water in National Adaptation

Programmes of Action (NAPAs) shows that integration of NAPAs with Integrated Water Resource Management Plans is often significantly lacking. As the imperative to adapt to unavoidable climate change becomes more urgent, and funds gradually begin to flow to assist developing countries in their adaptation efforts, the identification of the kinds of priority activities that must be undertaken will be crucial, and the role of water management must be recognised in this regard. Not talking about water management in response to an impending climate crisis is tantamount to not talking about food production in the face of famine.

**But what will this actually mean for people's livelihoods? How will flagging the importance of water at COP15 help improve people's lives?** As with all international policy, understanding how sentences, words, commas and semicolons in a convoluted negotiating text really affect people's lives requires a significant leap of the imagination. However, the case can be made by taking a simple cognitive step and recognising that climate impacts are fundamentally felt through the water cycle. The GPPN report for Copenhagen makes this case clearly – Water World: why the global climate challenge is a global water challenge outlines how climate impacts through the water cycle are relevant to livelihoods, land, eco-systems, energy, trans-boundary relations and gender. Responding effectively to all these impacts and therefore protecting the most vulnerable requires effective and well governed water management arrangements that prioritise water usage for basic social needs and ecosystem functions in times of adversity.

**So what does 'effective water management' really look like? What does it mean in practice and how will prioritising this improve people's lives?** Just a few scenarios might be of use here. Responsible water resource management will ensure that farmers in already water scarce areas of the world such as Sub Saharan Africa will have access to information, resources and technologies to respond to irregular rainfall, such as

climate appropriate crops and more water efficient irrigation systems. Water resource management will mean that neighbouring states relying on a single water resource, such as Pakistan and India, will be supported to develop robust and flexible water-sharing treaties that take into account depleting flows due to shifts in glacier snow-melt. More progressive water resource management will mean that the poorest communities in urban centres such as New Orleans or Nairobi will have access to more resilient water and sanitation systems to ensure that they are better equipped to deal with extreme weather events. Water resource management will mean that river basins, such as the vast Amazon river which covers over 350,000 square kilometres and is home to the largest rainforest on Earth, is managed as an entire river basin rather than divided between a disparate set of users and sectors all competing against one another without any knowledge of the damage that they are causing the ecosystem.

In its current state the UNFCCC adaptation text is contradictory and incomplete. Climate change adaptation means adapting to changes in water availability and distribution. If we fail to recognise this simple connection then we risk undermining the larger objectives of the UNFCCC negotiations. This is our opportunity to recreate the vision for the future and put in place the frameworks to prepare communities around the world for the coming decades. ❖

### Side Event at COP 15

Presented by the GWP  
and the GPPN  
Wednesday 9th December  
18:15 till 19:45  
Halfdan Rasmussen Room  
"Bridging the Water and  
Climate Change Agendas"

# Bridging Climate Change and Desertification

**By: Sergio A. Zelaya-Bonilla, UNCCD**

Every day the recognition and awareness of challenges on sustainable development issues increases as these challenges put direct pressure on our livelihoods, be it in Europe, Africa, Latin America, Asia, Australia and North America.

Some of these challenges [1] are food security, water availability, drought and flood risks, land degradation and biodiversity loss, all exacerbated by poverty and global warming.

The current political and social conflicts in the developing world are correlated with all these global challenges, threatening security within their own territories and conflict with their neighbours, while also accentuating new security issues in developed countries.

A common denominator in addressing all these issues is agriculture, with the simultaneous role of, supporting the livelihoods of 75% of the poorest populations in the world and representing 14% of the global total GHG emissions. Agriculture is closely linked to populations (rural and urban communities) and land (soils, water and vegetation).

According to the UNCCD drylands cover around 41.3% of the land surface [2] with a growing population of around two billion people. Vulnerabilities and associated risks to climate change and variability may negatively impact agricultural yields and practices, biodiversity, and livelihoods in these areas.

The role that land plays in sequestering carbon is of interest for the three Rio Conventions. The recognition of the potential of soils in carbon sequestration can help to achieve the ultimate objective of the UNFCCC to reduce GHG emissions while guaranteeing the priority issues of sustainability. The contrary is also true; carbon release that happens in drylands generates more

land degradation and negatively impacts sustainable livelihoods, ecosystem management, and loss of global benefits.

The need to raise awareness on the common issues of the dryland agenda and of climate change can be prominently highlighted. The three Rio agreements recognize that drylands are among the most vulnerable areas. Impacts of climate change and biodiversity loss in dryland countries are also negatively influenced by the chronic poverty suffered by the populations in these countries.

The international community has to find practical solutions to minimize all these risks. One simple way is to effectively address poverty with a focused approach on land and water. Climate change action on mitigation, adaptation, capacity building, technology transfer and sustainable management of resources (forest and sustainable land management, SLM, among others) must be addressed holistically.

SLM actions influence directly, through the soil component, the increased capture and sequestration of carbon and other greenhouse gases that can help to mitigate climate change. Conversely, unsustainable land practices that lead to land degradation in drylands can cause further disturbances in carbon storage and management. Policy frameworks that target the conservation of soils in a sustainable way in degraded ecosystems, such as drylands, can increase the capacity of ecosystem services from these lands, the generation and the availability of other goods that improve the living conditions of people living off the land, thus contributing to sustainable food production. The enhancement of soil and water storage capacities and mitigating risks of drought and flood prevention are other direct long-term environmental benefits that SLM can help to achieve.

At COP15, when packaging the final decisions, negotiators can capitalize, among others, on the linkages between

climate change, drought, land degradation and desertification. For this to happen there is the need to allow for action on the "green economy", with policy frameworks that complement responses, increase governance and improve ecosystem resilience, in drylands, island and mountain ecosystems.

Climate change funding to vulnerable countries, and other targeted funding of the Bretton Woods institutions as well as other financial mechanisms, must also consider synergy approaches that support comprehensive responses to climate change, food security, land degradation, biodiversity loss and water availability. In the particular case of UN institutions, according to their own mandate, they should be adaptive enough to support targeted implementation of COP15 decisions.

The UNCCD 10-year strategic plan has as objective to implement action to increase carbon stocks (soil and plant biomass) in dryland affected areas. The incomparable capacity to sequester carbon in drylands must be linked with the available potential for long-term cooperative action of the Bali Roadmap. This can be a priority concern for implementation of the decisions that will be produced in Copenhagen in providing the required signals for agricultural investment in drylands and rural communities, as has been called for in other circumstances, such as the millennium development goals and the food security summit recently held in Rome. ❖

- [1] Other challenges are population growth, migration, social conflicts, human rights.
- [2] Including hyper-arid regions. Antarctica and Greenland not included.

## Side Event at COP 15

UN-LAND Revitalizing Drylands: Benefits from Coordinated Action

9 December 2009, 18:00 hrs  
Room: Victor Borg

# Working for a well-prepared society

The Education Caucus was founded at the CSD in the immediate aftermath of the Rio Earth Summit, 1992. Its primary objective was to support and further the development of education in support of sustainable development. Over the years, it has extended its sphere of action to all relevant UN forums. In relation to climate change, it has lobbied at the two major, lead up conferences: Bali, 2007, and Poznan, 2008, as well as many of the lesser meetings, most recently Bonn and Barcelona. Now, of course it continues its work at Copenhagen. Those interested in working with the Caucus should contact delegation leader, Richard Ballhorn, emailing him at [richardballhorn@yahoo.ca](mailto:richardballhorn@yahoo.ca)

By: Education Caucus

## A Human Agenda

As a Caucus, we locate education for climate change in the context of education for sustainable development. We focus on climate change in terms of building a **well-prepared society**. The Caucus emphasises the need to engage people in adapting to, and mitigating climate change and its impacts.

The Caucus has also stressed the need to bring learning to centre-stage. Learning societies and learning organisations lie at the heart of addressing the global problems that we face.

## The Missing Fifth Building Block

However, the major change for which the Caucus has lobbied is strategic. In relation to combating climate change and its effects, UNFCCC policy recognises just four building blocks: mitigation, adaptation and technology. Education is the missing fifth building block, and the furtherance of a well-prepared society is at the core of this block.

Therefore the post-2012 agreement requires strong commitments from the UN to the following priorities:

- **Moving the human agenda** for building a **well-prepared society** to centre-stage
- **Mainstreaming education for sustainable development** as it relates to climate change into integrated policy approaches, for example, eco-effectiveness programs, and national and international cooperative activities

in relation to climate change;

- **Preparing and adopting** a clear strategy, together with a linked action-plan to implement the above;
- **Including funding mechanisms** to finance and facilitate the building of **human capital**.

## Progress and Aspirations

One of our principal activities at Copenhagen is to ensure that strong language, in support of education, and related topics, is contained in the final negotiated text - the only tangible outcome of Copenhagen is the final agreement, so this is vitally important.

Fortunately the Caucus working in tandem with supportive governments in the lead up meetings, the draft text is favourable.

## The Scope for Action

We are encouraged by the references in the current text and hope the language on education, public awareness and participation will be maintained and wherever possible strengthened.

The outstanding issues appear to be whether legally binding obligations should be created or whether the language is only a recommendation. Most of the other unresolved issues relate to differences over the precise word to be used for instance framework or programme.

We will continue to lobby to ensure the maintenance and inclusion of strong and legally binding language.

For those interested, the main

document for education related text is: FCCC/AWGLCA/2009/14, 20 November, 2009.

You will find it here: <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2009/awglca7/eng/14.pdf>

## Side Event

As part of the Caucus's activities, a major Side Event is currently planned for Tuesday, December 15th, 09:00 am to 14:00 pm. Entitled, *A Working Forum on Climate Change - Engaging Stakeholders in Civil Society*; this is designed to show how policies advocated by the Caucus can work in practice.

The programme is presently scheduled to include the following sessions:

- Overview: Dr Leonard Sonnenschein
- Outline and Purpose: Richard Ballhorn
- Event 1: *Community workshops in India through WHO and UNESCO* - Dr Leonard Sonnenschein, and Dr Ram Boojh
- Event 2: *The UN Decade on Education for Sustainable Development* - Professor Daniella Tilbury and Bernard Combes
- Event 3: *Global Warming and Communities of Faith* - Father Paul Mayer
- Event 4: *Climate Change and Social Entrepreneurship* - Dr Bremley Lyngdoh

Co-sponsors with the Education Caucus are the World Aquarium and Conservation of Oceans Foundation, and UNESCO

Venue - Crowne Plaza, Copenhagen Towers Hotel (10 minute walk from the Bella Center).

Do come and join us!

Trevor Harvey. ❖

# A Fair, Ambitious and Binding Agreement Needs to Include a Just Transition for the Workforce

## Summary of key trade union priorities presently in the negotiation text

### By: Trade Union Organisations

Currently the Long-Term Cooperative Action Non-Papers contain the most important demand from the unions. This is the demands that reflect the commitments and concerns of millions of workers worldwide and they are shared by some government and a large part of civil society.

The large trade union delegation in the Bella Center is working intensively to maintain the specific text aimed at improving the social and labour dimension of current climate change negotiations – we need a just transition for a fast and fair shift to a low-carbon and climate-resilient society.

However, the coming days and hours in Copenhagen will be crucial. The negotiators in the informal working groups in the LCA will be under immense pressure to reach a fair and ambitious outcome document for ministers by the end of the weekend. As key political discussions begin, lines are being drawn up, and many proposals that are currently on the table might be withdrawn in order to reach consensus.

Trade unions have made a commitment to support strong and ambitious greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction targets in developed countries, combined with effective action for achieving GHG emission reduction or controlled increases to bring about low carbon development in developing countries.

We call for adaptation strategies to be well-funded and to target vulnerable communities, and for research and development and deployment of new green technologies to be scaled up. We believe this is a crucial time to seize the opportunity for repairing and rebuilding national economies on the basis of

socially and environmentally responsible investment that can create jobs, stimulate economic growth, and reduce GHG emissions.

If the outcome agreed in Copenhagen is to send a message of social justice and hope to workers worldwide in order to gain their support for the necessary and far-reaching transformation that is needed, this text on Just Transition must be retained:

**Shared vision** (Paragraph 9 – Non paper #43):

*“Realising that harmonising sustainable development while addressing climate change and demands for a more equitable utilisation of the global atmospheric resource necessitate a paradigm shift that adjusts global economic growth patterns towards a sustainable climate-resilient development, based on innovative technologies and more sustainable production and consumption, while ensuring a just transition of the workforce which creates decent work and quality jobs, and seeking the active participation of all stakeholders (...).”*

Two other non-papers (response measures and technology transfer) currently on the table mention additional key aspects of the “Just Transition” framework which needs support:

**Economic and social consequences of response measures** (Paragraph 7 – Non-paper #44)

*[Parties recognise the importance of avoiding and minimising negative impacts of response measures on social and economic sectors, promoting a gradual and just transition in the most affected sectors, the creation of decent work and quality jobs, and contributing to building new capacities for both production- and service-related jobs.]*

**Technology transfer** (2b, page 19, non-paper 47, “Climate Technology Hub and Corps”):

*“Provide training, information and workforce development programmes to build and/or strengthen domestic capacity in developing countries to identify technology options, make technology choices, and operate, maintain, and adapt technologies, including through training of trainers and on-the-job technical and vocational training.”*

Without a specific reference in the negotiation text to training and workforce developments to strengthen capacities, trade unions worry that the indispensable absorption and deployment of new, clean processes and technologies will not happen as quickly as called for by scientists and governments.

Trade unions of the South and the North are urging negotiators to consider the vulnerability of the workforce, be it in Bangladesh, Cook Islands or Denmark. Workers should not lose their livelihoods because of climate change impacts or in the transition to bring down GHG emissions.

We are all conscious of our shared responsibility in reaching a fair, ambitious and binding outcome in Copenhagen. Yet, we believe that references to decent work, training and a just transition for the workforce are essential in creating a broad consensus and mainstreaming social needs in the future planning of climate policies.

For more information, see the Just Transition flyer: <http://bit.ly/33KUUm> 

# Sustainable Consumption and Production Should Be Key Consideration of a Climate Agreement

**Uchita de Zoysa, Convener, Climate Sustainability PLATFORM**

Unsustainable consumption and production patterns are a primary cause of climate change and poverty. Yesterday, the Climate Sustainability PLATFORM rallied a diverse group of stakeholders at the KlimaForum in the session titled “Sustainable Consumption and Production Framework”. For the past ten years the UN Marrakech Process has been trying to formulate a 10 year Framework of Programmes (10YFP) on SCP and they are lost once again, and have failed to even get any attention of the UNFCCC. We cannot wait for the different UN agencies to find common interest on issues of the world, therefore the independent sectors may have to develop a relevant framework that guides the world towards Climate Sustainability.

Jeffery Barber, a long time campaigner for SCP from the USA delivering an introductory presentation pointed out, that the mandate for the UN is not to develop a framework of programmes for the world, but to assist governments to do so and build a collective global programme. He stated that it is not the UN or its programmes that could reverse worsening climate trends, but a global movement of people and their own initiatives promoting sustainable production and consumption that can lead to a better quality of life for everyone.

Bas de Leeuw, former head of consumption at UNEP and now Executive Director of the Dana Meadows Sustainability Institute in USA joined the PLATFORM dialogue to share the growing call for action. He said that it is high time that a clear framework of programmes is presented, and pointed to the untapped potential of systems thinking for better achieving the sustainable consumption and production agenda. Individuals need to be empowered to “be the change in the world they want to be.”

Prof. Victoria Thoresen from PERL, a large European network of sustainable consumption research was more optimistic that different UN programmes could be made better. She said, “We cannot discard the programmes available, but make sure that they are better. However, it is important that we build a global movement based on the emerging common principle of sustainable consumption and production.”

Gopal Jain from India could not resist stating that the wasteful lifestyles in the West continue to drag all of us in the world towards destruction. He said, “We come from cultures that do not throw away, but reuse in ways that the lifecycle of the resource is maximised.”

Gail Karlsson, an environmental lawyer from New York joined in the dialogue, saying that reducing wasteful consumption in the US is critical for a sustainable world, in addition to

advertising to people all over the world whose basic needs are not being met. She stressed that climate-related funds to resource clean fuels or technologies and empower women would be an important first step to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and promoting sustainable livelihoods.

Responding to this point, Bruce Davison from the UK representing Global Sustainability Solutions said that a challenge for stakeholders developing sustainable consumption and production patterns is the time taken in decision-making. Decisions taken over a longer time-frame can avoid inefficient expenditures on cheap purchases that have limited usage-time. Likewise, producers taking considered decisions would avoid cost-risks associated with short-term profits.

Flora Ijjas, an environmental economist from Hungary introduced the concept of “virtual water” and how a water footprint”, provides a new perspective on climate change. For example, water efficiency labels based on the virtual water concept could be used to inform consumers about how much water they are really consuming and allow us to respond responsibly in the face of growing demand for water.

Looking more into the future, Ambreen Waheed, Executive Director of Responsible Business Initiative Pakistan, emphasized the need to motivate young people to become the catalyst for bringing about a drastic transformation in lifestyles to more sustainable ones by highlighting role models that are “hip” but do not espouse wasteful lifestyles. It would a long process, but is the only way towards permanently shifting away from the present destructive ways.

So, what are all these people from around the world asking? Development? No, they say. It is happiness that they want for the future generations. For that they demand that wellbeing of all people on earth is first ensured.

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



# Indigenous Peoples' Statement on Shared Vision under AWG LCA

**By: Delivered by Ms. Joan U Carling,  
Co-Chairperson- IIPFCC**

The International Indigenous Peoples' Forum on Climate Change (IIPFCC) here in Copenhagen, which unites indigenous peoples' representatives from all over the world, urges the Conference of Parties (COP) and all other bodies under the UNFCCC to abide by their commitments to achieve a legally binding agreement in this meeting to effectively reduce greenhouse gas emissions that are destroying our Mother Earth. We join the urgent call and appeals of peoples around the world that NOW is the time to ACT, and to ACT with ambitious commitments before it is too late! We only have one Mother Earth, and those most responsible for climate change also hold the greatest responsibility for her protection.

Within the Shared Vision of the Long Term Cooperative Action that sets the principles and framework for the LCA agreement, we, as indigenous peoples from the world over, who are impacted directly, not only by the effects climate change but also by the decisions that governments take in these negotiations, underscore the urgent need for the inclusion of international human rights standards within the framework of LCA, particularly the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP). The collective rights of indigenous peoples, including our rights to lands, territories and resources, as well as to the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples, subject to our Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), must be explicitly included in the Shared Vision. The protection of the collective rights of indigenous peoples must be guaranteed, including the recognition of our roles and contributions to climate change mitigation and adaptation through our traditional knowledge, innovations and practices.

The inclusion of the collective rights of



**The collective rights of indigenous peoples, including our rights to lands, territories and resources, as well as to the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples, subject to our Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), must be explicitly included in the Shared Vision.**

indigenous peoples consistent with the UN Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) as part of the Shared Vision of the LCA will provide the framework and guarantee for constructive engagements between indigenous peoples and states in addressing climate change. It will also enhance the invaluable contributions of our indigenous communities in finding real solutions to climate change.

We, indigenous peoples, are

rights-holders and not just stakeholders. Our human rights are guaranteed in human rights conventions and other international and regional agreements, including the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, as well as through jurisprudence from human rights courts. Our human rights are affected in these climate change processes, and the UNFCCC Parties must not deny and neglect this fact, nor their obligations.

Finally, Mr. Chair, Climate change and some false solutions being offered by parties threaten to dissolve our rights. If the United Nations recognizes our rights, it must do so throughout the United Nations system. Human rights cannot be selectively recognized or they cease to be rights. We demand Parties and the Conference of Parties of the UNFCCC to protect and recognize our rights, and to uphold their commitments and responsibilities.

Thank you, Mr. Chair. ❖

# “Youth movement inches towards victory as France ups the ante: Will the EU reduce emissions by 40%?”

**By: Senan Gardiner and Emily McGlynn, International Youth Climate Movement**

A new development at Copenhagen has generated a lot of excitement for the youth at COP15 who have been pushing for stronger commitments on EU emissions reductions by 2020. Yesterday French Environment Minister Jean-Louis Borloo announced that 100% of France’s emissions reductions would come from domestic activities (no international offsets needed, though they still could potentially be used complementarily). This is incredible news. No other developed country has come out with a statement like this. Given the cost-efficient attractiveness of offsets, countries like the US have been quick to include them as fat chunks of their emissions reduction plans.

On Thursday and Friday this week, there is a really exciting chance to push all European countries to commit to 30% reductions regardless of what happens in Copenhagen. (At the moment, the EU will only commit to 30% if there is a le-

gally-binding deal in Copenhagen. Otherwise, they will only agree to a completely inadequate 20%.) December 10 and 11 brings together the EU council in Brussels for a final heads of state meeting before they arrive in Copenhagen.

Since before receiving the news from France, we have been stepping up our demands to Europe. We’re not satisfied with the uncertainty of reductions from offsets. Instead, all EU countries need to follow France’s lead and make all of their emissions reductions targets from domestic action (though not necessarily in the nuclear direction that France is likely to take). Likewise they can’t remove these emissions through paperwork, e.g. like not having to account for the carbon emitted from forest management in LULUCF - the greenhouse gas inventory system for land use, land use change and forestry. The atmosphere only sees real carbon reductions.

Time will tell whether these promising trends in emissions targets will continue and result in a satisfactory international

agreement. When they meet in Brussels this week, Sarkozy, Merkel and Brown among others will most likely determine whether or not they can commit to 30% reductions during this time. We’re saying to them that it’s not a matter of whether they can commit to these targets – they must make it happen.

Furthermore we need to get from a 30% target and bring it closer to a 40% commitment to bring policy in line with climate science. A new report from the Stockholm Environment Institute and Friends of the Earth Europe (2009) shows that Europe can feasibly double its emissions reductions to 40% by 2020 at a cost of approximately 2 EURO only per person every day by 2020. Then another 3 EURO per person per day by 2020 will be required for foreign aid to help mitigate climate change in developing countries and this has to be stated as additional to our commitment to Official Development Assistance. We can’t renege on our commitments to the Millennium Development Goals. It would be giving with one hand and taking with the other.

Nobody said it was going to be cheap or easy... But also, these numbers are not meaningful unless compared to the costs of inadequate action, which Nick Stern has famously estimated could be up to a 20% of reduction in global GDP by 2100 and that’s a “20% reduction” we can definitely do without!



**(Photo left) Day of Action: Youth stage a 'Bed-in' for the climate on the 29th anniversary of John Lennon and Yoko Ono's infamous bed-in for peace.**

# 2<sup>nd</sup>\* UNofficial UNFCCC CROSSWORD

125 ENTRIES FOR UNFCCC JUNKIES ONLY – APRIL 2009

**ACROSS:** 1: decisions provide it; 4: one was agreed in Kyoto; 9: observer Party to the Protocol; 12: used by Annex I Parties for the preparation of inventories; 13: [backwards] COP 11 host's domain; 14: --NGOs; 15: UNFCCC's first "C"; 22: type of bunker fuels emissions; 25: skeptics and climate consultants aside, we all --- with climate change; 27: climate change's one is hosted by WMO; 28: refers to GHG concentrations, often unclear whether CO<sub>2</sub> or CO<sub>2</sub>-eq; 29: [backwards] major developed Party; 30: [backwards] text not approved yet; 32: the landfill approach to mitigation; 34: development agency, lately also climate; 36: COP 10 host's domain; 37: Party sharing island with COP 13 host; 38: daily bulletin that keeps you updated; 39: one of the funds; 40: according to developing countries, not to be confused with Annex I financial commitments under the convention; 43: a type of assessment; 45: can have two or four legs, and in LCA, white hair; 47: areas with different climates; 48: ----, we can believe in, specially for climate; 52: one type of document; 54: a network for climate change information; 57: a GHG; 58: the latest report; 60: work programme agreed in 2/CP.11; 61: one of the funds; 62: operationalized in Poznan; 64: used by the GEF to decide how to shell out; 65: Christ is the Secretary; 67: a GHG; 70: take UNFCCC's logo without text and wavy line, ratio of perimeter to height; 71: a bulletin found at UNFCCC meetings; 72: [backwards] BAP's 1b/ji buzz word; 74: with its instrument, signatories become Parties; 78: [backwards] LULUCF without change or forestry; 80: [backwards] the most basic registry unit; 81: shuttles delegates; 82: [backwards] after IPCC's FAR; 83: a few exist or are proposed under the Convention and Protocol; 86: a clearing house for technology transfer; 89: [backwards] initials of oil or diamond producing Party; 91: [backwards] most urgent adaptation needs of LDCs; 92: initials of the four building blocks (coincides with a proposed technology fund); 93: finance that is not private; 97: before AR4; 99: you could (before Bali) consult them on non-Annex I communications; 101: deals with GHG emissions from ships; 103: initials of what we are talking about; 104: fun party at COPs; 106: a metric to compare climate effects of different GHG; 108: dominates plenary; 110: big hopes that a post 2012 agreement will bear its name; 113: its immunity agreements do not apply to UNFCCC boards; 114: [backwards] emitted from soils along with N<sub>2</sub>O after fertilization; 115: Protocol's governing body; 116: [backwards] the New Zealand 'fix'; **DOWN:** 2: almost AFOUL; 3: often confused with a tonne; 5: [backwards] CO<sub>2</sub> - O1; 6: intellectual property rights agreement; 7: starts offer; 8: refers to reports, not telephones; 9: unit that maintains Secretariat's computers and networks; 10: where delegates get their money; 11: most commonly misspelled version of one of the few UNFCCC "Q" acronyms; 13: they were carried out under a pilot phase that ended in 2000; 16: what Brazil says to CCS under CDM; 17: [backwards] climate consultants tend to charge a high one; 18: contain "unconventional" oil; 19: domain of climate panel Chairman's home country; 20: Spanish climate change office; 21: tulip producing Party's domain; 23: it's more about green than the color it sounds like; 24: [backwards] a flexibility mechanism; 26: one wrote a report, another represents the US; 27: [backwards] 1/CP.13; 29: short version of IPCC reports; 31: district hosting the US government; 33: gases replaced by potent GHGs; 35: COP 14; 41: it will check your CDM project design; 42: hardworking insect or reverse for evaluation of technology needs; 43: MRV Component; 44: morning contact groups; 46: [backwards] IPCC's website country domain; 49: [backwards] what 10DOWN provides; 50: putting trees where there ain't been for at least 50 years; 51: [backwards] agriculture; 53: met from 1990-95; 55: [backwards] controversial whether destruction of ---23 should get CERs; 56: eventually lead to the Marrakesh Accords; 59: pretty good job at UNFCCC Secretariat; 63: building block; 64: MRV component; 66: HQ in Japan, deals with climate technology; 67: building block; 68: 1 metric tonne of CO<sub>2</sub>-eq; 69: [backwards] applicant entity; 73: fashionable acronym after Bali; 75: first two letters of one of the Smallest Island Developing States; 76: [backwards] a fund or short for planting trees in long-time unforested lands; 77: fixed document; 79: [backwards] virtual system for automatic checks; 84: A EU-proposed platform on technology information; 85: observer organization originally based in Stockholm; 87: to find out what technologies you need; 88: KP or LCA; 90: Saudi Arabia's proposal on a NAMA's support and accreditation mechanism; 94: Western Canadian province; 95: often confused with poor, most vulnerable parties, a technology found in many Annex I Party living rooms, the manufacturing of which produces NF3, a potent GHG; 96: Party which hosted Olympics sometime during the past 50 years; 98: [backwards] a good lobbyist has the delegate's ---; 99: [backwards] a GHG; 100: green NGOs; 102: [backwards] one of the many types of NGOs; 105: academic journal dealing with MEAs such as UNFCCC; 107: [backwards] technology information platform; 109: Australia. Or Austria?; 110: a reduced GHG; 111: [backwards] its Secretary General appointed Yvo de Boer; 112: if delegates are, I ---.

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Solution: MIQUEL@BU.EDU  
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\* 1<sup>st</sup> UNofficial UNFCCC Crossword can be downloaded at [http://www.iisd.ca/c/unfccc\\_crossword.pdf](http://www.iisd.ca/c/unfccc_crossword.pdf)

## Food for Thought...

Felix Dodds, Stakeholder Forum

# EPA, the Senate and Green Jobs

Well, day two of Copenhagen seems to have been interesting ... after some of us had given up on the US ... a little ... they surprise us. On Monday the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency declared that greenhouse gases endanger human health and therefore they could act to reduce the amount of green house gases produced in the US.

Some of us non-Americans wondered where this came from.

This all started with Massachusetts, NRDC and 11 other states vs. the Environmental Protection Agency which resulted in the US Supreme Court decision in 2007, in a 5-4 ruling, that carbon dioxide and other heat-trapping emissions are "air pollutants" under the Clean Air Act, and that the U.S. government already has authority to start curbing them. All that was left was for the US EPA to issue its view.

Now that that has happened, it will strengthen the President's hand in

trying to persuade the Senate to pass a bill. If they don't, then the EPA can go ahead targeting particular industries.

Where does that put those opposing the legislation in the Senate? They surely will have to review their stance. A strong EPA intervention would be better for the planet considering the present legislation on offer and would hurt their friends more. I know which I would prefer.

Just a thought as I was writing this column: I always wondered how many lawyers there are in the US. It seems there were in 2007 nearly one and a half million lawyers registered at the bar — this compares with five million teachers and three million nurses. It does seem rather a lot of lawyers.

U.S. Energy Secretary Steven Chu told CNBC: "The United States has the ability to lead in creating these new technologies that can give us the energy we need with the low carbon emissions, or we can

follow. If we lead, that will add to our economic prosperity."

But then again as I think about it, there is no reason why he couldn't go for both. Persuade the Senate to pass the bill – a 4% cut on 1990 levels and then over the coming years EPA could ratchet it up, taking on different industries one by one. If he linked that to a big push for more green jobs then, as Chu says, it "will add to our economic prosperity."

As we go to press, President Obama this evening announced a new jobs stimulus around three key areas: small business, infrastructure and green energy. Perhaps more a new stimulus package wrapped up as a jobs package, but it will be interesting to see how much of that is targeted at greening the economy. The last one was around 20%. Not a bad first 48 hours for the Copenhagen COP. ❖

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