



THE BASICS

This document provides answers to many of the frequently asked questions regarding the United Nations climate change negotiations taking place in December 2009 in Copenhagen, Denmark.

What is the UNFCCC?

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is an international treaty that the U.S. ratified in 1992. The convention established a long-term objective of stabilizing greenhouse gas (GHG) concentrations below harmful levels and set a voluntary goal for developed countries of reducing emissions to 1990 levels by 2000, but contained no mandatory limits. Recognizing that stronger action was needed, participating countries negotiated the Kyoto Protocol to the UNFCCC in 1997.

Why is the Copenhagen meeting called a COP?

Each year a Conference of the Parties (COP) to the UNFCCC is convened to enable environment ministers (equivalent to U.S. cabinet members) from around the world to discuss developments in the convention, and coordinate international actions to combat global warming. This year's meeting will be the 15th meeting of the Parties to the UNFCCC and it will take place in Copenhagen, Denmark from December 7th through 18th.

The meeting is organized by the Secretariat of the UNFCCC, hosted by the Government of Denmark and coordinated by the Danish Ministry of the Environment. It is expected that the two-week session will be attended by 15,000 to 20,000 participants. They include more than 190 government delegations headed by the ministers for the Environment or Climate Change, as well as international institutions, environmental business, non-governmental organizations, and media.

What is the goal of the COP?

Representatives from around the world will meet to negotiate a global agreement to limit greenhouse gases. The Copenhagen climate talks mark the endpoint of a two-year process, which began in Bali, Indonesia, in 2007. Countries have agreed that in Copenhagen an ambitious climate change deal will be reached to address the effects of climate change. The agreement will be based upon the Bali Action Plan which describes the foundation of the agreement as finance, technology transfer, adaptation, mitigation, and shared vision. The final agreement should be fair, ambitious, and binding.

How are the negotiations structured?

In Copenhagen, there are two different negotiating tracks working to draft a new agreement: a Kyoto track for countries that ratified the Kyoto Protocol, and a Convention track for those countries who are not a party to Kyoto. The U.S. is in this track.

Kyoto Track [Ad-hoc Working Group on further commitments for Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol (AWG-KP)]: At the United Nations Climate Change Conference in 2005, Parties to the Kyoto Protocol initiated a process to consider further commitments by industrialized countries (as defined in Annex I) for the period beyond 2012. The resulting decision established an open-ended ad-hoc working group of Parties to the Kyoto Protocol to conduct that process and report to each session of the Conference and Meeting of Parties on the status of this process.

Convention Track [Ad-hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention (AWG-LCA)]: The United Nations Climate Change Conference in 2007 culminated in the adoption of the Bali Road Map, which consists of a number of forward-looking decisions that represent the various elements that are essential to strengthening international action on climate change. Central to the Bali Road Map is the establishment of a two-year process to "enable full and effective implementation of the Convention." This is taking place in a new negotiating group called the AWG-LCA, which has been charged to reach an agreed outcome by 2009 in Copenhagen. Under this process, several countries have suggested new treaties that will either enhance or replace the Kyoto Protocol. The U.S. has submitted draft treaty language and has indicated its desire to participate in this new agreement.

How does the actual work of the Conference get accomplished?

Much of the actual negotiations do not take place in large groups. As the need arises, smaller working groups splinter off in to what we in the U.S. would call committees, but are called Subsidiary Bodies under the U.N. process.

SBSTA and SBI: The Convention established two permanent subsidiary bodies: the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA), and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI). These bodies give advice to the COP and each has a specific mandate. As its name suggests, the SBSTA's task is to provide the COP with advice on scientific, technological and methodological matters. The SBI gives advice to the COP on all matters concerning the implementation of the Convention.

Who are the key U.N. figures in the UNFCCC negotiations?



Ban Ki-moon (Baa-hn key MOON)

is the United Nations secretary general and his job is to oversee the entire UNFCCC process.



Yvo de Boer (EE'-voh duh BOHR)

is the executive secretary of the UNFCCC. His job is to help shepherd the Framework Convention on Climate Change toward a global agreement that reduces greenhouse gas emissions.



Connie Hedegaard

is the president of COP 15 and the Minister of Climate and Energy of Denmark. The president is often a senior official or minister from the state or region hosting the meeting. The president may not participate in the negotiations as a representative of their home country.



Michael Zammit Cutajar (Ku-ta-har)

is the chair of the LCA negotiating track. Cutajar has been instrumental in the development of the current draft negotiating text.



John Ashe

is the chair of the KP negotiating track. Ashe took on this role in June of this year.

Who are the key U.S. figures in the UNFCCC negotiations?



Todd Stern

is the special envoy on climate change and will serve as the U.S.'s chief climate negotiator during high-level segments.



Jonathan Pershing

is the deputy special envoy for climate change and serves as the U.S. negotiator during the majority of U.N. negotiations.

What are the main negotiating bodies in the UNFCCC?

Each Party to the Convention is represented at sessions by a national delegation, consisting of one or more officials empowered to represent and negotiate on behalf of their governments. In addition to individual parties, groups of parties negotiate together to increase their negotiating strength. Below is a list of traditional negotiating bodies:

Group of 77 and China:

Developing countries generally work through the **Group of 77** to establish common negotiating positions. The G-77 was founded in 1964 in the context of the U.N. Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and now functions throughout the U.N. system. It has over 130 members. The country holding the Chair of the G-77 in New York (which rotates every year) often speaks for the G-77 and China as a whole. However, because the G-77 and China is a diverse group with differing interests on climate change issues, individual developing countries also intervene in debates as do groups within the G-77, such as the African U.N. Regional Group, the Alliance of Small Island States and the group of Least Developed Countries.

The Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS)

A coalition of some 43 low-lying and small island countries, most of which are members of the G-77, that are particularly vulnerable to sea-level rise. AOSIS countries are united by the threat that climate change poses to their survival and frequently adopt a common stance in negotiations. They were the first to propose a draft text during the Kyoto Protocol negotiations calling for cuts in carbon dioxide emissions of 20% from 1990 levels by 2005 and are now calling for a reduction of at least 45% below 1990 levels by 2020.

Least Developed Countries (LDC):

The 49 countries defined as LDCs by the U.N. regularly work together in the wider U.N. system. They have become increasingly active in the climate change process, often working together to defend their particular interests, for example with regard to vulnerability and adaptation to climate change.

European Union (E.U.):

The 27 members of the E.U. meet to agree on common negotiating positions. The country that holds the E.U. presidency - a position that rotates every six months - then speaks for the European Community and its 27 member states. As a regional economic integration organization, the European Community itself can be, and is, a Party to the Convention. However, it does not have a separate vote from its members.

The Umbrella Group:

A loose coalition of non-E.U. developed countries, which formed following the adoption of the Kyoto Protocol. Although there is no formal list, the Group usually consists of Australia, Canada, Iceland, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, the Russian Federation, Ukraine and the U.S.

The Environmental Integrity Group (EIG):

A recently formed coalition comprising of Mexico, the Republic of Korea, and Switzerland.

Quick Facts

- Copenhagen, Denmark's capital and one of Scandinavia's liveliest cities, has a population of around 1.2 million.
- Weather: December will be cold but the coldest month is usually February.
- Languages spoken: Danish, English, German
- Currency: Danish Krone (DKK).
One Danish krone is divided into 100 øre.

Coins are circulated in the denominations of 50 øre (copper), 1 krone, 2 kroner, 5 kroner (silver, each with a hole in the center), 10 and 20 kroner (both brass).

Bank notes are issued in denominations of DKK 50, DKK 100, DKK 200, DKK 500 and DKK 1,000.

- Exchange Rate: 1 Danish krone = ~ U.S. \$0.20
- Currency can be converted at the airport.
- Smoking is banned in public buildings, private businesses, and public transportation.

Transportation

Kastrup Airport lies about eight miles south of the city. Copenhagen has a fast and cheap airport-to-city-center rail link and metro - just 13 minutes - and it costs only DKK 31.50. The 12-minute shuttle train to Copenhagen Central Station from Terminal 3 costs only \$5. Otherwise, a 20-minute cab ride (longer during rush hour) will cost approximately \$30.

The best way to get around Copenhagen is by public transportation. The metro runs 24 hours and operates on two lines M1 and M2. Taxis are tightly regulated and operate with fixed prices.

Points of Interest and Closest Metros

Bella Center - Bella Center Metro (M1)

Vartov - Kongens Nytorv Metro (M1, M2)

Airport - Lufthavnen Metro (M2)

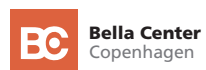
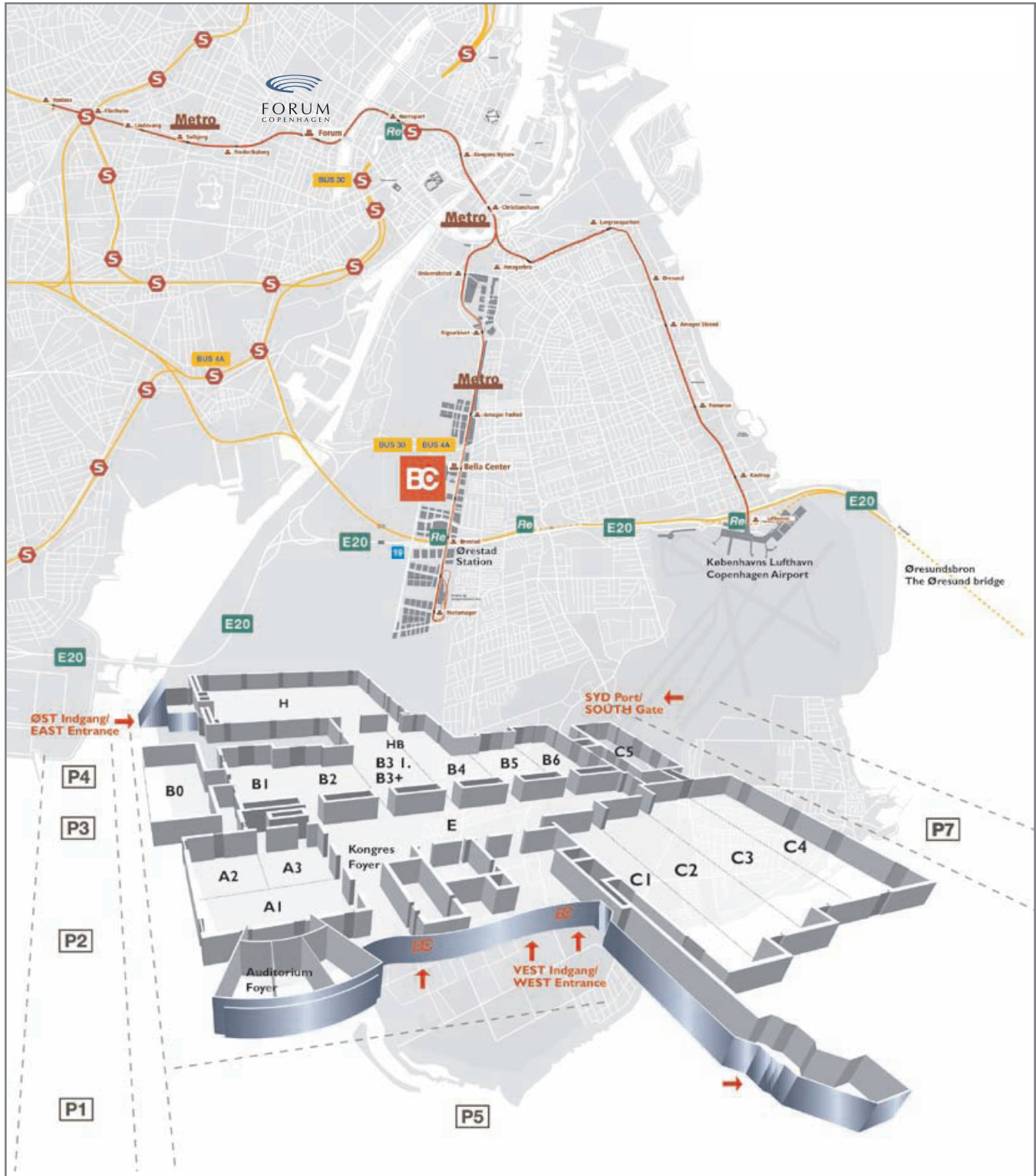
Quick Translator

- Good Morning Good Day, Good Night!
Godmorgen! Goddag, Godnat!
- Thank you!
Tak!
- Please / Please can you?
Vær så venlig / Vær så venlig kan du?
- Do you know the way to...?
Kender du vejen til...?
- How are you?
Hvordan har du det?
- How much does this cost?
Hvor meget koster det?
- Where is it?
Hvor er det?
- What time is it?
Hvad er klokken?
- What time does it start / end?
Hvad tid starter den / Hvad tid slutter det?
- Can you recommend a good restaurant?
Kan du anbefale en god restaurant?
- Now, Later, After.
Nu, Senere, Efter.
- Today, Yesterday, Tomorrow.
I dag, I gaer, I morgen.
- Bye!
Farvel!

Copenhagen Metro Map



Bella Center Map



Bella Center AVS • Center Boulevard • DK-2300 Copenhagen S
Phone: +45 32 47 23 30 • Fax: +45 32 51 71 81 • E-mail: bc@bellacenter.dk • Web: www.bellacenter.dk

INSIDER'S GUIDE TO THE NEGOTIATIONS

The United Nation's Framework Convention on Climate Change is a process steeped in diplomatic nuance and arcane vocabulary. To the new observer, the blizzard of terms may seem like an entirely new language and the process can be dreadfully puzzling. However, with the help of this document and others in this Briefing Book, the careful observer can build the foundation for being well-informed and effective during the two weeks of COP 15.

	10:00 am - 1:00 pm		3:00 pm - 6:00 pm		Evening
MON Dec 7	COP & CMP Opening of the session & Organizational matters		AWG-LCA & AWG-KP Opening		
TUE Dec 8	SBI & SBSTA Opening		SBI & SBSTA Opening		
WED Dec 9	COP & CMP Plenary	Informal Groups	CMP Plenary	Informal Groups	
THU Dec 10	Informal Groups		Informal Groups		
FRI Dec 11	Informal Groups		Informal Groups		
SAT Dec 12	COP & CMP Plenary (Tentative)	Informal Groups	SBI & SBSTA Closing		
SUN Dec 13	<i>No Meetings</i>		<i>No Meetings</i>		
MON Dec 14	Informal Groups		Informal Groups		
TUE Dec 15	Informal Groups		AWG-LCA & AWG-KP Closing		
WED Dec 16	COP & CMP Joint High-level segment National statements	Informal Groups	COP & CMP Joint High-level segment National statements	Informal Groups	COP & CMP National statements
THU Dec 17	COP & CMP Joint High-level segment National statements		COP & CMP Joint High-level segment National statements		COP & CMP National statements
FRI Dec 18	COP & CMP Plenary		COP & CMP Closing		

What to do on Arrival:

1. Orient yourself to key locations:

- The **registration desk** is where you pick up the badge that will allow you access to the Bella Center and to certain meetings. Be sure to bring your passport on day one to identify yourself. There are four different types of badges at the COP. Yellow badges are for observers. Pink badges are for official parties. Blue badges are for the Secretariat. Orange badges are for press. Examples of the UNFCCC badges can be seen on the right.
- The **document center** is the place to pick up the daily programme each morning and any other official negotiating documents throughout the two weeks.
- The opening and closing sessions, along with the high-level sessions, take place in the **main plenary**.

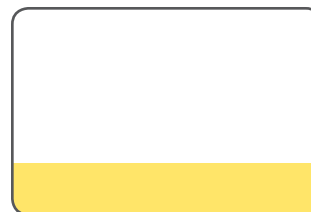
2. Find the Daily Programme

The Daily Programme is the official UNFCCC guide to each day's meetings, side events and press briefings. It also provides an overview of the status of the previous day's negotiations. Hard copies are available from the Document Center each morning and on the UNFCCC website. The web version contains links to the documents listed under each agenda item, thus serving as a helpful locator of the official documents needed for each day's meetings.

Key Terms and Acronyms for Reading the Schedule and Daily Programme

- **The Conference of the Parties (COP)**
The "supreme body" of the Convention, that is, its highest decision-making authority. It is an association of all the countries that are Parties to the Convention.
- **The Meeting of the Parties (CMP)**
The Conference of the Parties serves as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP). The CMP meets during the same period as the COP. Parties to the Convention that are not Parties to the Protocol are able to participate in the CMP as observers, but without the right to make decisions. The functions of the CMP relating to the Protocol are similar to those carried out by the COP for the Convention.

UNFCCC Credential Badges



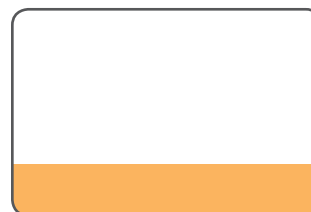
OBSERVERS



OFFICIAL PARTIES



SECRETARIAT



PRESS

General Terms for Reading the Daily Programme

- **Secretariat:** The organization responsible for planning and running the UNFCCC negotiations.
- **High-Level Segment:** A meeting involving each nation's environment minister.
- **Side Event:** Meetings held at the COP by NGOs, businesses, and other official observers, and sometimes by the parties. The purpose of a side event is to provide additional information relating to climate change for conference participants. Side events normally take place between 1-3pm and 6-8pm.
- **Informal Contact Groups:** A group of delegates instructed by the President or a Chair to meet, often in private, to discuss a specific matter in an effort to consolidate different views, reach a compromise, and produce an agreed proposal, often in the form of a written text.

Example of Daily Programme from the UNFCCC COP in Poznan

- Informal groups are meetings that are not official plenaries.
- Contact groups are smaller meetings held by both negotiating tracks on specific topics. They are always closed to the media and at times closed to all observers.
- It is important to note which track is holding the contact group (KP Track or LCA Track).
- Indicates meeting location.
- The UNFCCC always uses a 24-hour time cycle.
- The Daily Programme can also be found on the UNFCCC website.

Official meetings		
Informal groups of the Convention bodies (Closed to media)		
10:00-11:30	AWG-LCA Contact group on delivering on technology and financing, including consideration of investment arrangements	Rozan
10:00-11:30	AWG-KP Contact group on consideration of information on potential environmental, economic and social consequences, including spillover effects, of tools, policies, measures and methodologies available to Annex I Parties	Chamara
11:30-11:45	CMP Contact group on issues relating to joint implementation	Wild Bass
11:30-11:00	AWG-LCA Contact group on a global system for long-term cooperative action	Rozan
13:00-16:30	CMP Contact group on the second review of the Kyoto Protocol pursuant to its Article 9	Spitzer
13:00-16:30	CMP Contact group on the report of the Adaptation Fund Board	Rozan
16:30-18:00	AWG-LCA Contact group on enhanced action on adaptation and its associated means of implementation	Rozan

¹ The Daily Programme is also available on the COP 14 website at: http://www.unfccc.int/meetings/cop_14/programme/program_14a.pdf and includes links to the documents.

- Negotiating blocks meet each day. These are closed to observers.

Groups other than the Convention bodies (Closed meetings)		
08:00-09:00	African Group	Star
08:00-09:00	Alliance of Small Island States	Woodpecker
09:00-10:00	GRCCA	Emma
09:00-10:00	Group of 77 and China	Rozan
09:00-10:00	Environmental Integrity Group	Ruff
09:00-10:00	Umbrella Group	Star

- Press briefings are held each day by many different groups at the COP.
- Most of these briefings are closed to observers. However, you can usually watch the briefing on a nearby monitor.
- Be sure to catch UNFCCC briefings by the Executive Secretary Yvo de Boer. He always has a keen understanding of where the negotiations stand.

Daily Programme 3

Meetings of observer organizations
(Closed meetings)

10:00-10:00	Business and industry organizations (BINGOs)	KM
11:00-12:00	Women's caucus (WFE & V)	Green
14:00-15:00	Environmental groups (ENGOs)	Green

Press briefings

Should you wish to book the Press Conference Room for a half-hour slot, please contact Ms. Annelie Dorn (+48 723 979 497).

UNFCCC press conferences

11:15-11:45	UNFCCC Executive Secretary: status of talks and negotiations, with a focus on investment and financial flows	Press Conference Room
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Other briefings

10:00-10:30	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)	Press Conference Room
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- The Programme also details progress made on specific issues from the previous day of negotiations.

Daily Programme 4

Status report on consideration of agenda items as at 4 December 2008

COP agenda item	Status
2 Organizational matters	
2 (a) Election of the President of the Conference at its first meeting	Sub-item completed.
2 (b) Adoption of the rules of procedure	President to report to COP 14 if any new developments occur.
2 (c) Adoption of the agenda	Agenda adopted, as amended.
2 (d) Election of officers other than the President	Consultations by: Ms. Karen Nicoly Smith (Iceland), Secretariat contact: Ms. Nancy Williams (+48 723 979 484)
2 (e) Admission of organizations as observers	The COP approved the list contained in document FCCC/CP/2008/1.
2 (f) Organization of work, including the sessions of the subsidiary bodies	The Chair of the AWG-LCA is informally consult delegations on item 4. Secretariat contact: Ms. Daniel Kliza (+48 723 979 872)

- COP Programmes always list the order in which parties will speak at the high-level segment during the final three days of negotiations.

Daily Programme 10

Methodological issues under the Kyoto Protocol

8 (a)	Implications of the establishment of new hydrochlorofluorocarbon-22 (HCFC-22) facilities seeking to obtain certified emission reductions for the destruction of hydrofluorocarbon-23 (HFC-23)	Sub-item completed. Facilitator to prepare draft conclusions. Secretariat contact: Ms. Alla Melnikova (+49 723 979 465)
8 (b)	Carbon dioxide capture and storage in geological formations as clean development mechanism project activities	Contact group, co-chaired by Ms. Gertraud Wolfenskiy (Austria) and Mr. Mohammad Razzakdin (Bangladesh). Secretariat contact: Mr. Grant Kirkman (+48 723 979 464)
9	Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change	Chair to prepare draft conclusions. Secretariat contact: Ms. Rocia Lachar (+48 723 979 534)
10	Matters relating to Article 2, paragraph 3, of the Kyoto Protocol	SBSTA/SBI joint contact group, co-chaired by Ms. Kristin Tilley (Australia) and Mr. Kamel Djemassi (Algeria). Secretariat contact: Ms. Fátima Labouza (+48 723 979 490)
11	Other matters	Chair to prepare draft conclusions. Secretariat contacts: Ms. Kay Metz (+48 723 979 452) and Mr. Fernando Castañón Silveira (+48 723 979 555)
12	Report on the session	Draft report prepared (FCCC/SBSTA/2008/L.10*)

* To be issued.

List of speakers for the high-level segment attended by ministers and other heads of delegation

The list below is the preliminary list of speakers who wish to deliver a statement at the high-level segment under agenda item 8 of the COP and agenda item 19 of the CMP.

The list is provisionally divided into morning, afternoon and evening sessions to facilitate the organization of the order of speakers.

All speakers are reminded to be present in the plenary at least two speakers prior to their presentation. They will be escorted by an usher during the presentation of the previous speaker from the seat of their delegation to a reserved chair close to the podium. Should a speaker not be present at his/her delegation's seat at the appropriate time, a slot may be assigned at the end of the day's proceedings (upon request of the delegation).

Delegates are reminded that statements made during the high-level segment should not exceed the three-to-four-minute limit, as decided by the Conference of the Parties at its first plenary meeting. Parties are encouraged to consider consolidating individual statements into one statement made on behalf of a group of Parties, in which case a time limit of five minutes will apply. Given the large number of statements, we suggest that statements be as brief and concise as possible, with full texts available for distribution (see below for the quantities required). If Parties do not wish to speak but would prefer to only have their statements circulated, the secretariat will make arrangements to distribute the copies and enter the statement in the records of the Conference.

Any changes in the name and rank of the speaker should be provided as early as possible to the External Relations team, located in the Conference Affairs Service office in Hall 11B (Ms. Dianah Touhig-Dedens), so that the speaker's list can be corrected accordingly.

- The announcements section of the Programme lists a variety of information ranging from the lost and found to instructions for connecting to the wireless internet.

Daily Programme: 21

Special announcements

Update of the Assembly document Submissions to be considered in the update of the Assembly document (UNFCCC/WGII/CA/2009/13) should be sent, no later than 6 December 2008, to the following e-mail address: secretariat@unfccc.int, with a copy to Mr. Martin Schoenberg (m.schoenberg@unfccc.int).

Vacancies at the UNFCCC secretariat Conference participants are encouraged to bring to the attention of qualified individuals in their countries/organizations the link to the employment page of the secretariat website:
[*http://unfccc.int/secretariat/employment/recruitment/](http://unfccc.int/secretariat/employment/recruitment/)

Three professional positions are currently advertised:

VA 08090/FTS	Programme Officer, Financial and Technical Support Programme
VA 08092/SDM	Manager, Quality and Information Systems, Sustainable Development Mechanisms Programme
VA 08093/FTS	Associate Programme Officer, Financial and Technical Support Programme

- The Programme lists shuttle bus services provided by the Secretariat and the city of Copenhagen.

Daily Programme: 24

Prague shuttle bus service

In cooperation with Prague city hall, a special bus line has been opened for delegates who are staying in hotels outside Prague. More details can be found at www.cop14.gov.pl/.

Special bus line (one-way) C21 - C24 for hotels which are located outside Prague

Hotel	City	Line	Hotel ↔ Prague Fair	Prague Fair ↔ Hotel
Lake Hotel	Dvorniczky	C 21	08:00	19:30
Imar Hotel	Dvorniczky	C 21	08:05	19:30
Motel 2000	Stevce	C 22	08:00	19:00
		C 23	08:15	19:30
Hotel Delegation	Třebos k. Ruzsávka	C 23	07:15	18:30
		C 22	08:15	19:00
Green Hotel	Kozmnicki	C 21	08:30	19:30
		C 23	07:30	18:30
Hotel 500	Tarnovo Podjezde	C 23	09:05	20:00
		C 25	08:00	19:00
		C 25	08:15	
		C 25	08:30	
		C 24		18:00

- There are many additional exhibits at the COP listed in the Daily Programme.

Daily Programme: 25

Events

For a full schedule of side events during the sessions and a list of the exhibits, please see the brochure "...inSide climate change", available from the Information desk and the Documents distribution counter, or visit the UNFCCC website. The secretariat would like to note that the scheduling of events remains dependent upon the demands of the negotiating process. For short-term changes please consult the CCTV monitors.

UNFCCC and related events

13:00-15:00	Growing together in a changing climate – an intergenerational inquiry on climate solutions Participatory and effective local actions led by young people can turn the challenges posed by climate change into an opportunity. Best practices and lessons learned from these local actions exist within the collective programmes of youth organizations, United Nations agencies and NGOs in many countries of the world. The UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change calls upon the UNFCCC Executive Secretary and key negotiators to testify before an intergenerational inquiry into collective solutions and necessary compromises to reach a global post-2012 agreement.	UNFCCC Ms. Laurence Peltier lpeltier@unfccc.int +41 228 815 1505	Kite
18:00-20:00	ITL and registries operations ITL Go/No activities and the status of the registry network.	UNFCCC Mr. Jean-Francois Helleu jhelleu@unfccc.int +41 228 815 1809	Kite

Side events

09:00-10:30	Biochar – new item for the climate toolkit to decrease CO₂ and black carbon? Biochar offers carbon sequestration technology through sequestration in stable soil carbon pools, reducing emissions of CO ₂ and methane, plus high impact climate pollutants such as black carbon. With both climate and agricultural benefits, biochar belongs on the SDTA agenda.	Clean Air Task Force, Inc. (CATF) Ms. Pam Pearson pam@cleanairtaskforce.com +41 78 575 2257	Fox
09:00-10:30	Our future in a changed climate: adaptation and decision-making This session will showcase an innovative, participatory approach to understanding our climate changed future. See the website www.sei.se for more information.	Sveinbjörnsson Environment Institute (SEI) Ms. Tabela Rutajczak-Jankovic tabela@sei.is +41 18 6542 6716	White Tailed Eagle
	Overcoming the communication deficit: accelerating climate change debate in the digital		

- Each day's side events are listed near the back of the Daily Programme.

A TYPICAL DAY AT THE BELLA CENTER

Copenhagen, the location of the United Nation's 15th Conference of Parties (COP), has come to stand for more than just a city in which a major international meeting is to take place. The name has become the focal point for all things climate and energy related this year. By now, most organizations know what's at stake in Copenhagen, but few feel confident about how they can effectively engage in the negotiations once on the ground. The goal of this document is to help answer those questions and more, while shedding light on the existing NGO structures within the UNFCCC process that can help first-time organizations get up to speed and be effective in Copenhagen.

A typical day in Copenhagen will start early and end late. There will be a great deal happening at all times and it will be impossible to observe every negotiating session or to take part in every side event. We at US-CAN find it helpful to break down the typical day into five main blocks: early morning - 10:00am, 10:00am-1:00pm, 1:00pm-3:00pm, 3:00pm-6:00pm, 6:00pm-evening. Each block of the day has a typical structure that will help members develop a more complete picture of each day and help your organization strategically prepare for its time in Copenhagen.

Daily Schedule at COP 15

- **Block #1 | Early morning - 10:00 am**
Each day in Copenhagen should begin with a reading of the Daily Programme. The programme can be picked up at the official U.N. Document Centre or found on the UNFCCC website. The programme lays out in great detail all the activities that are happening each day around the negotiations.

Learning how to effectively read the Daily Programme is the single most important way you can come to better understand all that is taking place in the negotiations. Block #1 is typically filled with coordination-style meetings. Many organizations hold early morning meetings to discuss the day's details, and some CAN working groups choose to meet during this time. Block #1 is also a time in which some delegates choose to meet with NGOs.

- **Block #2 | 10:00 am - 1:00 pm**
In a typical day, official negotiating sessions run from 10am to 1pm. Depending on the day, the negotiations may be held in large working sessions regarding a broad section of the negotiations or in a series of smaller, more specific negotiating sessions. Check the Daily Programme to determine when and where specific negotiating sessions are held.
- **Block #3 | 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm**
Block #3 is one of the busiest times of the day. Many of the CAN working groups meet from 1pm-2pm each day. In addition to CAN-related meetings, Side Events (meetings held at the COP by NGOs, businesses, and other official observers, and sometimes by the parties) are held to provide additional information relating to climate change for conference participants. A list of the day's side events is posted near the back of the Daily Programme. Block #3 can also be a key time to schedule meetings with government delegations or members of the Congressional Delegation. Finally, don't forget Block #3 is the best time during the day to grab a bite to eat for lunch!



Delegates from the United States and 191 other nations gather at the Bella Center in Copenhagen in December.

- **Block #4 | 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm**
Official negotiations resume during Block #4. In addition to the Daily Programme, another useful place to find information regarding the day's activities is on the UNFCCC monitors that display a scrolling schedule that lists items such as room and time changes.
- **Block #5 | 6:00 pm - evening:**
After the day's negotiations end there are still many ways to remain involved. Additional rounds of side events take place from 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm. Many individuals find Block #5 an effective time to meet with members of their negotiating team or to have internal meetings to help recap the day and prepare for the coming day. Social events such as receptions and dinners will also take place during this block throughout the COP.

Climate Action Network (CAN) Structure:

- **Climate Action Network Capacity Building and Strategy Session:** On Sunday, December 6th, CAN International will hold a capacity building session for new attendees and individuals looking to gain more knowledge around the negotiating process. A strategy session will follow the morning capacity building that will further outline what to expect in the coming week and how CAN members can best influence the negotiations. On Sunday, December 13th, a similar program will be repeated including summaries of the past week as well as previews of the coming week.
- **USCAN Member Coordination:** USCAN will also hold a capacity building and strategy session before negotiations begin. Daily meetings will be held to help with coordination throughout the two weeks of negotiations.
- **Climate Action Network Daily Meetings:** Each day, a CAN daily meeting will be held from 2pm-3pm. This meeting is strongly recommended for those members attending the negotiations who are seeking a daily debrief on all of the happenings within the negotiations.
- **Climate Action Network Working Groups:** CAN has established working groups to focus on specific pieces of the negotiation process such as Adaptation or Mitigation. These groups track the developments within their content area, produce documents to help further their goals and meet with official parties to discuss concerns revolving around their focus.

Additional Ways in Which CAN Members Can Engage in the Copenhagen Negotiations:

- **Coordination with the U.S. Negotiating Team:**
The U.S. negotiating team will likely host briefings for U.S. NGOs on a regular basis. In the past, Jonathan Pershing, U.S. deputy special envoy for climate change, has held an introductory briefing followed by a question and answer period.
- **Press Briefings:**
Copenhagen is a great press opportunity and large amounts of print, radio, and television media are expected to attend the meeting. Your organization can meet with the media in informal discussions or through official press conferences held in press rooms that can be arranged through the Secretariat. In general, press briefings can be either open or closed to the general conference participants and are listed in the daily programme.
- **ECO:**
ECO is the daily NGO newsletter that comments on the happenings of the negotiations and is produced at the COP by CAN members. Each day there is an opportunity to draft articles, edit text and help with morning distribution. Volunteering for ECO is a rite of passage and members should lend a hand with this fun and educational experience. Past ECO additions can be found here: <http://www.climatenetwork.org/eco/>
- **Fossil-of-the-Day Award:**
The Fossil-of-the-Day Award is given to countries that undermine progress at the United Nations Climate Change Negotiations. Each day a winner is determined at the CAN daily meeting through a process of nomination and voting. The top three winners are presented the award at 6:00 pm and press releases are sent out. The Fossil-of-the-Day Award has proven to be an effective media tool for highlighting the obstructionist tactics used by many countries. <http://www.fossil-of-the-day.org/>

2009 INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE CALENDAR

MAR

MAR 31 - APR 8 UNFCCC Climate Negotiations

Bonn, Germany

This was the first meeting on the “Road to Copenhagen” and the first international climate meeting for the Obama administration, represented by special climate envoy Todd Stern. The new U.S. delegation played a constructive role in the talks and progress was made on a number of issues.

APR

APR 2 G-20 Meeting

London, England

The financial crisis dominated the talks, but leaders reaffirmed their commitment to address climate change and to reach an agreement in Copenhagen.

APR 27 - 28 1st Major Economies Forum on Energy and Climate

Washington, D.C., U.S.A.

The talks established a constructive dialogue focused heavily on aiding the development of a Copenhagen agreement. Technology cooperation and finance were also discussed in detail. Parties left the first meeting feeling that progress had been made.

MAY

MAY 25 - 26 2nd Major Economies Forum on Energy and Climate

Paris, France

This meeting focused more heavily on the details of the Copenhagen agreement and parties began establishing positions on issues such as emissions targets. Significant progress was made on finance, and many countries showed support for a proposal from Mexico, which calls for each nation’s financial contributions to be differentiated according to criteria such as population, emissions or gross domestic product.

JUN

JUN 1 - 12 UNFCCC Climate Negotiations

Bonn, Germany

The draft negotiating text was issued two weeks before this meeting. It contained brackets around issues under contention that have become the basis for the negotiations. The U.S. delegation arrived with an official framework submission and concrete positions on some of the critical issues.

JUN 22 - 23 3rd Major Economies Forum on Energy and Climate

Mexico

This meeting helped progress discussions centered around global targets and technology investments, which furthered the development of the text released at the Heads of State Forum.

JUL

JUL 8 - 10 G-8 Summit

L’Aquila, Italy

The G-8 countries reached an agreement on three main targets: limiting global temperature rise to 2°C, achieving at least a 50% reduction of global emissions by 2050 and reducing emissions 80% or more by 2050 for developed countries compared to 1990 or more recent years.

JUL 11 Major Economies Forum on Energy and Climate: Heads of State

L’Aquila, Italy

The world’s major economies — both developed and developing — agreed to limit global temperature rise to 2°C. President Obama also delivered a mandate to finance ministers asking them to produce a report at the September G-20 Summit on the best ways to mobilize the necessary financing for climate change in advance of the Copenhagen negotiations.

AUG

AUG 10 - 14 UNFCCC Climate Negotiations

Bonn, Germany

This was an informal meeting, where some progress was made on refining the negotiating text.

SEP

SEP 22 - 23 United Nations General Assembly

New York, U.S.A.

U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki-moon held a special session with heads of state addressing climate change. Speeches made by heads of state gave some indication of their nation’s negotiating position going into Copenhagen. China made the key announcements by unveiling their carbon intensity target.

SEP

SEP 24 - 25 G-20 Meeting: Heads of State

Pittsburgh, U.S.A.

Leaders at the Pittsburgh Summit made a commitment to phase out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies over the medium term while providing targeted support for the poorest. Heads of States reiterated the importance of reaching an agreement in Copenhagen under the United Nations Framework Convention.

SEP 28 - OCT 9 UNFCCC Climate Negotiations

Bangkok, Thailand

Streamlining of the negotiating text did occur and clarity was given to a few key issues, but overall progress was slow.

OCT

OCT 27 - 29 Senate Hearings on Climate Legislation

Washington, D.C., U.S.A.

The Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works (EPW) held a series of hearings on S. 1733, the Clean Jobs and American Power Act of 2009.

NOV

NOV 2 - 6 UNFCCC Climate Negotiations

Barcelona, Spain

As the final meeting before Copenhagen, important details in all building blocks for the agreement were discussed in addition to items such as legal structure and compliance.

NOV 3 - 4 U.S.-E.U. Summit

Washington, D.C., U.S.A.

The Copenhagen negotiations were a main item on the agenda for the Summit. Discussions centered on what would be achievable in Copenhagen. German Chancellor Angela Merkel addressed a joint meeting of Congress where she addressed climate change along with other matters.

NOV 5 Senate Climate Legislation Passes Committee

Washington, D.C., U.S.A.

Senate Environment and Public Works approved climate and energy bill.

NOV 14 - 15 President Obama visits China

Bilateral meetings on climate and energy have occurred throughout the year at the cabinet level in both Beijing and Washington. In August, both nations signed a memo of understanding on climate change and bilateral cooperation. Hopes were high that the November summit between the nations would provide definitive and concrete actions that to inspire the confidence of other nations and spur progress within UNFCCC negotiations.

Mid-NOV Major Economies Forum

The November meeting has been cancelled due to its proximity to the Pre-Cop meeting but the 8 collaborative technology action plans will still be announced.

NOV 16 - 17 Environment Ministers Pre-Conference of Parties (COP) Meeting

Denmark

Before the Copenhagen meeting, Environment Ministers met in Denmark to discuss areas of convergence within the negotiations. The official communiqué was released (see Appendices), that indicated common ground had been reached.

NOV 24 India Prime Minister visits Washington

Washington, D.C., U.S.A.

Trade and business rank high on the agenda for this meeting, but climate and Copenhagen are sure to be discussed by President Obama and Prime Minister Manmohan Singh. Historical discussions on climate between the U.S. and India have focused on India's ability to measure, report and verify their domestic climate program and U.S. willingness to provide more robust funding for adaptation and technology transfer.

DEC

DEC 7 - 18 UNFCCC 15th Conference of the Parties (COP15)

Copenhagen, Denmark

Parties will come together with the goal of forging a fair, ambitious and binding global agreement on climate change.

The Goal of the Copenhagen Climate Talks: Treaty, Interim Agreement, Mandate, or Muddle?

In December 2007 in Bali, 192 nations agreed to complete work on a new international agreement on global warming at the 2009 meeting in Copenhagen. The prospects for reaching an agreement were greatly enhanced with the election of Barack Obama and the rapid advancement of domestic climate and energy policies in both developed and developing countries. International leaders fuel momentum with statements at the G-8, the U.N. General Assembly and the G-20 Summit. The Danish president has invited all heads of state to Copenhagen to seal the deal – marking the first time in the 15-year history of the U.N. climate convention that world leaders will attend the annual Conference of the Parties.

While there is emerging consensus on most key issues, the fundamental question remains: can a final, legally binding agreement be reached before the U.S. Congress completes its work on domestic climate and energy legislation?

Despite progress by both the Obama administration and Congress, a comprehensive national energy and climate policy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions has not yet been finalized. At this point, it is unclear whether countries are willing to make commitments without the assurance that the U.S. position has the full backing of the U.S. Congress. There is also the fear that President Obama could jeopardize the climate and energy legislation by making international commitments before the Senate has acted.

“One Agreement, Two Purposes”: A proposal for a politically binding agreement

Prime Minister Lars Løkke Rasmussen, who will preside over the meeting, has proposed a ‘politically binding’ agreement as the primary aim of the Copenhagen meeting. He described his vision for a Copenhagen agreement that is “political by nature, yet precise on specific commitments and binding on countries committing to reach certain targets and to undertake certain actions or provide agreed finance.”

Rasmussen explained his proposal. It would include “political text framing the agreement, say five to eight pages. Not a political declaration with niceties, but precise language of a comprehensive political agreement covering all aspects of the Bali mandates. Beneath that we will have underlying annexes outlining the specific commitments of individual countries. These will be negotiated and they will be subject to a transparent system of measurement, reporting and verification.” The agreement would also mandate continued legal negotiations and set a deadline for final conclusion.

Rasmussen’s vision was immediately criticized for lowering expectations and undermining the potential to reach an agreement.

Reactions: U.S., China, and Small Island States

Just days later, the U.S. and China were seen as restoring the potential of the talks when they announced that both nations aimed to set targets for easing greenhouse gases emissions next month. President Obama said that he and the Chinese president, Hu Jintao, agreed at a summit that they would continue to press for a comprehensive deal at the Copenhagen climate change conference that would “rally the world.” Specifically, the president said, “Our aim there, in support of what Prime Minister Rasmussen of Denmark is trying to achieve, is not a partial accord or a political declaration, but rather an accord that covers all of the issues in the negotiations and one that has immediate operational effect.”

The Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) rejected what they believed was an attempt to stall a legally binding outcome. “We must protect the most vulnerable, not the most powerful,” said Grenada’s Environment Minister Michael Church at the end of a two-day Pre-COP consultation in the Danish capital. “AOSIS still insist and maintain that there are all the ingredients for us to arrive at an international legally binding outcome in Copenhagen in December and that continues to be our position,” said Church, who also chairs the 42-island grouping of small states. Barbados, Ghana and Bangladesh have also supported the position outlined by Church.

Essential Elements for Success in Copenhagen

The countries participating in the Copenhagen talks will have the final say on the outcome of the negotiations. Many nations are still pushing for completion of the agreement in Copenhagen, fearing a delay will lessen the likelihood that countries will ultimately finalize a fully enforceable, legally binding agreement. At this point, a specific goal for the Copenhagen meeting seems elusive. Of the range of possible outcomes for the Copenhagen meeting, it is becoming clear that four elements are needed to put the world on track for a final, legally binding agreement:

1. **Political Statement/Accord:** Heads of state need to sign a statement that goes beyond the general principles that have already been part of previous G-8 and G-20 statements. They must make a commitment to the core elements of a deal including emission reductions targets/actions, short- and long-term investments needed to create a new energy economy, technology development and diffusion to reduce dependence on fossil fuels and support for adaptation to global warming.

2. **Fast-Start Operational Decisions:** At Copenhagen, countries need to pledge near-term investments of at least \$10 billion dollars and must issue operational guidance to begin reducing emissions from deforestation and degradation, set up a framework for adaptation, outline developed and developing country mitigation obligations, detail key technology cooperation and sharing agreements and commit to a transparent system for monitoring and verifying progress.
3. **Legal Text:** The negotiators should come to agreement on the current draft text under discussion and convert it to legal language, including incorporating the big political commitments made by the heads of state. Taking this step ensures that those issues decided in Copenhagen would not be open for renegotiation.
4. **Mandate for extended negotiations:** In Copenhagen, countries must agree to a short timeline to reach a final agreement, preferably 6 months, but no longer than a year. The mandate would act as a "to do list" that identifies the process for coming to agreement on the unresolved issues in the legal text.

Reaching even this scaled-back ambition will be a tremendous achievement. What must happen over the course of the next few weeks is for all 192 countries to agree on:

1. Industrialized countries' individual commitments and an aggregate target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions over the next decade.

2. The actions developing countries will take to begin reducing their emissions and how those actions will be monitored and verified.
3. The amount of money to be invested to adapt to global warming and spur the technologies needed for a global clean energy economy, where the money will come from and how will it be managed.
4. Arrangements to support programs to reduce emissions from deforestation and degradation. How will these programs be funded and how will they be factored into developing country obligations under the new agreement?
5. What form will the legal arrangements for the new agreement take and what are the implications for the existing climate institutions and policies established under the Kyoto Protocol?

All these issues are highly complex and contentious. But public awareness of the links between climate change and security, the economy and health and welfare are at an all time high. Countries have already begun the political process in their own capitals to put policies in place to accomplish these goals. The role of international agreements is to foster cooperation and even competition to accomplish the goals no nation can achieve acting alone. Climate change certainly meets that test. Copenhagen will determine whether countries are ready to tackle the challenge.



The nations of the world can leave Copenhagen on December 18 with a comprehensive, ambitious, and fair agreement to cool the planet.

SIGNIFICANT NEGOTIATING PROPOSALS

The goal for the COP15 is to establish a fair, ambitious, and legally binding global climate agreement. Many of the 192 nations that will take part in negotiations in Copenhagen have submitted their ideas in the form of proposals on specific parts of the agreement or on the agreement as a whole.

Here is a summary of the proposals that will likely be important to the final outcome of an agreement.

AUSTRALIA | April 2009

The Australian submission addresses the architectural foundation of the post-2012 outcome. This proposal builds upon the earlier submission with legal input from Australia in March 2009. It proposes the use of schedules to register the mitigation commitments and actions of Parties though the exact nature and content of these schedules is left to the negotiations guiding the treaty.

- **Schedules:** National schedules attached to the treaty outcome capture the spectrum of mitigation efforts that countries can achieve according to their respective capabilities in a form that has the same overall legal character. LDCs can maintain a national schedule at their discretion.
- **Principle:** The submission proposes that, in accordance with the Bali Action Plan, the use of national schedules adheres to the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities. It also supports the use of schedules as a common and well-established approach in international law for differentiated treatment, as in the case of World Trade Organization (WTO).
- **QELROs:** Comparable and legally binding mitigation efforts are outlined as quantified emission limitation and reduction objectives (QELROs). There are placeholders for QELROs and joint fulfillment of QELROs in the draft text, which could potentially define the process by which developed countries take on mitigation commitments. Additionally, each developed country Party could detail the goals, policies and measures that support its QELRO.
- **Flexibility for non-Annex I countries:** For non-Annex I countries, a variety of mitigation policies and measures may be registered and countries have the flexibility to design commitments and actions according to national circumstances. Schedules could also allow more advanced non-Annex I Parties to register mitigation commitments that may differ from economy-wide QELROs (for example, sectoral commitments) without joining Annex I.
- **Comparability:** Schedule formats will be standardized to allow for better comparison across all

Parties. Schedules could be negotiated; countries could compare draft schedules and consider them over a time period to enhance comparability of effort. In addition, separate summary schedules could catalogue similar actions or commitments, for example, a separate summary schedules for QELROs and low carbon pathways.

- **Commitments per level of development:** Actions and commitments made by a party should be broadly comparable to those made by Parties with comparable levels of development. Apart from general obligations (such as intended actions, including those that might benefit from additional international support), LDCs can undertake action at their discretion.
- **MRV:** National schedules will provide for MRV of commitments and actions “underpinned by the submission of regular national inventories.” While there are no specific MRV requirements in the proposal, placeholder text envisions differentiated MRV dependent on the nature of the action or commitment.
- **Matching support:** The concept of schedules builds upon the earlier submissions, which considers a facilitative platform under the guidance of the COP that could include a matching and coordinating mechanism for funding non-Annex I actions.

G-77 + CHINA | August 2008

The proposal submitted by G77 and China proposes an “enhanced financial mechanism” to improve financial resources and investment to support action on mitigation and adaptation, as required by the Bali Action Plan. The goal of the proposal is to “bring coherence in the global financial architecture for financing under the authority and governance of the COP.”

- **Principles of a funding mechanism:** The funding mechanism should operate under the authority of the COP, recognize and enable the implementation of a country-driven approach, provide direct access to funding for recipients, be underpinned by the principle of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities, and maintain an equitable and geographically balanced representation.
- **Operational structure:** The funding mechanism will be governed by the final authority and guidance of the COP and a COP-appointed board, which will jointly establish specialized funds, and funding windows under its governance, and a mechanism to link various funds. Trustees selected through a process of open bidding will administer funds. The board will be assisted by a Secretariat of professional staff contracted by the board.



Delegates met in Bali two years ago to construct the basic architecture of a new climate treaty.

- **Sources:** The major source of funding will be the public sector and funding shall be sourced mainly by commitments made under the COP. The proposal sets the level of new funding at 0.5% to 1% of the GNP of Annex I Parties. Quantified commitments by developed countries shall be addressed and only those made under the authority of the UNFCCC will be considered as fulfillment of commitments and will be MRV-ed.
- **Uses of funding:** The proposal broadly assigns funds to be used for the implementation of both adaptation and mitigation action programs. Funding allocations will cover technology development, deployment and transfer, capacity building and risk management, including insurance. The mechanism will also fund agreed incremental costs for the implementation of developing countries commitments under the Convention and lists out possible activities that can be funded.
- **Improved accessibility:** In order to promote access to the variety of available funding sources and reduce fragmentation, the mechanism would “facilitate linkages between the various funding sources and separate funds.”
- **Flexibility:** The funding mechanism should also “enable shifts from project-based approach when dealing with proposals for funding, to a programmatic approach, where appropriate, in order to make optimal use of the full range of means of implementation available.”

MEXICO | August 2008

The Mexico proposal creates a framework for the development of a fund to scale up finance for mitigation, adaptation and technology transfer. The fund would serve as the financial foundation of the global agreement.

- **Contribution criteria:** The proposal suggests three indicators for determining country contributions to the fund: (1) GHG emissions (2) population, and (3) gross domestic product. Contributions should be proportional to emissions, per capita emissions, per capita gross domestic product (GDP) and/or carbon intensity of economies (emissions per unit of GDP).
- **Contributions to the fund:** All countries, except Least Developed Countries, should contribute to the fund. Developing countries, which don't contribute to the fund will not be penalized but also will not have access to money from the fund.
- **Scale:** The fund should initially mobilize no less than \$10 billion a year. Additional contributions could be delivered from domestic cap-and-trade systems and aviation taxes.
- **Eligible activities:** Eligible activities that qualify for investment are classified as green — reforestation, reducing emissions from deforestation and degradation and management of agricultural soils — and grey agenda activities — energy efficiency, large scale promotion of renewable energy, green buildings and low emission vehicles.

- **Governance:** The fund would operate under an inclusive and transparent governance system, which will follow the guidelines of the COP and be managed by a regionally diverse Executive Council. The council will be administered by an existing multilateral financial institution.

NORWAY | May 2009

Norway proposes a mechanism to finance climate change actions by generating revenue from auctioning emission allowances, technically called assigned amount units, or AAUs.

- **Mechanism:** Norway proposed auctioning 2% of allowances from the carbon market for a global fund to support developing country actions, which would generate roughly \$20 billion per year. This proposal suggests the total percentage of allowances that could be decided in the Copenhagen agreement.
- **Auctioning Allowances:** To ensure predictable financing, the proposal suggests setting a revenue goal and auctioning allowances until that goal is met. This could ensure an automatic and scalable financial flow. In addition, it suggests pre-determining the quantity of allowances before issuing them to guarantee revenue from international auctioning irrespective of national budgets.

SOUTH AFRICA | April 2009

South Africa's proposal addresses the design, architecture and legal framework for the following:

- Mitigation commitments of developed and developing countries.
- Means of implementation including technology, finance and capacity-building support, and overall framework of the agreement.
- **Mitigation:** Agrees to a legal framework for quantified emission reduction commitments (QERCs) by all developed countries and reductions by developing countries that can be measured, reported, and verified. To help developing countries to meet targets, the proposal supports scaled-up funding, linking of financial instruments, and democratic multi-lateral governance of climate funding.
- **Comparability:** Tons of CO₂ equivalent are used to set comparability standards relative to a 1990 baseline year. A technical panel will be created to assess comparability of efforts using IPCC or COP/MOP guidelines.

- **Compliance:** Developed countries will have legally binding QERCs that are measurable, reportable, and verifiable. Developing countries may voluntarily register NAMAs and Sustainable Development Policies and Measures (SD-PAMs).
- **Types of NAMAs:** Developing countries may choose from a variety of forms of action, including energy efficiency or reductions from the preservation of forests.
- **Institutional structure:** Each party will create a national coordinating body to address all aspects of this proposal including implementation and support for climate change projects and programs.
- **Legally binding agreed outcome:** The form of negotiations should be legally binding and interpreted together with the principles of the Bali Action Plan, the Kyoto Protocol and the Convention.

SOUTH KOREA | May 2009

South Korean proposes linking financial resources and technology to developing country projects via a registry of mitigation actions. These actions would be measurable, reportable, and verifiable (MRV).

- **Principle:** The hallmark of MRV is transparency not penalization. Developing countries will be incentivized to undertake Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs) that are voluntary and not legally binding.
- **Mechanism:** The proposal calls for a registry for developing countries to voluntarily pledge unilateral actions that are domestically binding. Those that can be measured, reported, and verified will earn carbon credits.
- **Reducing mitigation cost:** Revenues from the sale of carbon credits will help generate finance and enable technology transfer to developing countries. The registry could potentially reduce the overall global mitigation cost by about 70%.
- **Incentivizing NAMAs:** This would allow NAMAs to be made feasible even before securing finance in advance by allowing project proposals to be awarded with carbon credits.
- **Engaging the private sector:** Allows for private companies to engage in the mitigation registry.

THE UNITED STATES

Implementing Agreement | May 2009

In May 2009, the United States submitted its first written proposal under the Obama administration. Although the submission lacks details in many areas, it does provide insights into the structure that the United States would like to see in a Copenhagen agreement.

- **Appendix reflecting UNFCCC Parties' mitigation actions:** The mitigation structure of the U.S. submission envisions an appendix to the final agreement that contains a list of all UNFCCC Parties and their intended mitigation action. Each Party would be legally bound to implement the actions set out in their list.
- All Parties would list nationally appropriate mitigation action, and while the specific content and form of those actions is not generally defined in the submission, there are certain qualifications for different groups of countries. Developed countries would list quantitative emission reductions/removals in a given timeframe, in conformity with domestic law. Developing countries whose "national circumstances reflect greater responsibility or capacity" would list quantified action (in a given timeframe) consistent with the level of ambition needed to contribute to meeting the objective of the Convention. All other developing countries would list action consistent with their capacities.
- **In conformity with domestic law:** The term "in conformity with domestic law" would require a developed country's domestic actions for reducing emissions to be linked to the international target that it commits to. Additionally, the U.S. proposal does not include an international compliance mechanism. Rather it assigns the compliance process to be implemented by individual countries via their domestic laws and regulatory structures.
- **Low-carbon strategies:** According to the submission, all Parties would formulate and submit low-carbon strategies that articulate an emissions pathway to 2050, with certain qualifications for different groups of countries. Developed countries would formulate and submit low-carbon strategies for long-term net emissions reductions by 2050 of a number to be negotiated. Developing countries whose "national circumstances reflect greater responsibility or capability" would formulate and submit a low-carbon strategies by 2050 consistent with the level of ambition needed to contribute to meeting the objective of the Convention. All other developing countries would formulate and submit low-carbon strategies consistent with their capacities.

Measurement, Reporting, and Verification | October 2009

The submission in May stated that "mitigation is subject to measurement, reporting, and verification as reflected in Appendix 2," with place holder text for elaboration of MRV requirements. In October, the U.S. tabled a proposal elaborating those requirements that would be included in Appendix 2. As a preliminary matter, it provides that "each Party shall maintain the capacity to implement the MRV provisions of this Agreement by establishing and maintaining [specific institutional arrangements devoted to MRV][a national MRV unit]."

- **Reporting:** With respect to reporting, there are numerous requirements related to the substance of material reported and their frequency. In general, Parties are required to provide annual inventories, and reports on mitigation action and implementation of low-carbon strategies. Least Developed Countries (LDCs) can submit annual inventories and provide reports on mitigation action at their discretion. In terms of frequency of reporting on mitigation action, it requires higher emitters – developed countries and those with emission greater than a specified percentage of world emissions – to report their emissions every two or three years, and other countries to report every six years (noting the exception for LDCs).
- **Review:** Once inventories and reports are provided, they would be reviewed by an independent expert panel, with a resulting report to the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI). In conducting its work, the panel can seek clarification from Parties, stakeholders, and other sources. It can also conduct in-country visits at the invitation of the Party concerned.
- Once expert panel reports are submitted to the SBI, there would be an in-session review of each Party. Following this review, any Party could raise a question of implementation with respect to another Party. The SBI would then provide a report of each country (country review report, which would include unresolved questions of implementation) to the COP for consideration.

Financial Architecture | October 2009

- At U.N. climate negotiations in Bangkok, the United States negotiating team proposed a Global Fund for Climate as an operating entity to support adaptation and mitigation in a “country-driven” manner. The proposal allows for new arrangements for climate finance but does not create any new institutions.
- **Governance structure:** The Global Fund for Climate would be governed in a transparent, effective and efficient manner with balanced representation between net contributors and net recipients. The Fund will use an existing multilateral financial institution as its trustee. In accordance with Article 11, the Global Climate Fund will function under the guidance of and be accountable to the Conference of the Parties, which shall decide on its policies, program priorities, and eligibility criteria related to this Convention.
- **Disbursement of funding:** The Global Climate Fund support projects, programs, and activities administered, as appropriate, by the MDBs, domestic institutions in host countries, or by other actors including the private sector and civil society.
- **Generation of resources:** The fund will generate resources through multi-year replenishments and multi-year pledges and, where appropriate, through alternative forms of contribution, as may be agreed between or among Parties. All parties, except Least Developed Countries, should contribute to the Fund in accordance with national circumstances and respective capabilities.

Technology Proposal | November 2009

- **Principle:** The U.S. proposal promotes national actions and outlines a framework for facilitating actions at local, national or regional levels. It focuses on capacity building and presents a model for technology transfer.
- **Structure:** The model outlined is termed the “Climate Technology Hub and Corps” model. The hub acts as a central clearinghouse for exchange, diffusion and collaboration of technologies between governments. This central institution promotes “technical assistance and consultation, training, and the development and customization of analytical tools, policies and best practices at the country level.” It acts as a contact point between other bodies of the Convention — international agencies, national governments, academia and the private sector in respective countries – which collectively represent the “Climate Technology Corps” in the model. The corps acts as an expert providing know-how, advice, and support to the Parties and their domestic stakeholders, linking the hub to the spokes.
- **Financing:** The proposal does not clarify financing sources for this model but the U.S. has indicated it could be solved as part of international negotiations.

WHERE COUNTRIES STAND

During the past year, an increasing number of countries have released climate or energy plans that reflect efforts to slow or reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The United States, though, has not yet completed a formal climate and clean energy plan though it is taking aggressive regulatory steps to conserve energy, improve energy efficiency, reduce greenhouse gas pollution, and pass new legislation. The House of Representatives approved a climate and energy bill in June, and a Senate committee in November approved a measure with similar provisions. Still, the U.S. is viewed by much of the world as lagging behind nearly every other industrialized nation in committing itself to a global treaty that achieves significant climate change action. What's worse is that the U.S. now trails many developing nations in building a clean energy economy and simultaneously achieving emission-reducing goals.

A summary of plans focused on key indicators for emissions reduction found in each country's official statements and documents follows the snapshots section.



Atmospheric concentrations of carbon dioxide have increased nearly 40 percent in the last century.

Snapshots: Critical Developments

NORWAY Recent commitments to cut emissions 40% from 1990 levels by 2020 have made Norway home to the largest emissions reduction target in any Annex I country.

JAPAN Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama committed Japan to a target of 25% reduction in emissions by 2020 from 1990 levels, subject to action taken by developing countries and the COP 15 outcome.

MEXICO With a voluntary emission reduction target of 8% and the largest number of CDM projects under its belt, Mexico has plans to make 26% of its energy renewable by 2012 by scaling up wind power.

INDIA A year after launching its National Action Plan on Climate Change, India is now willing to accept voluntary emission targets and has rolled ahead with an ambitious solar energy plan.

CHINA China looks to be a leader in clean energy development with an aggressive energy intensity reduction target, a strong fuel economy standard, and rapid progress in generating 15% of its electricity from renewable sources by 2020.

BRAZIL Recent announcements of voluntary cuts of 36%-39% below business as usual and a reduction in deforestation rates by 70% between 2005 and 2017 make Brazil a leader in global emissions reductions.

UNITED STATES

- **Emissions** – During his election campaign President Obama proposed that the U.S. should reduce emissions by 14% from 2005 levels. In September 2009, the Clean Energy Jobs and American Power Act (CEJAPA) was introduced in the Senate, following closely on the heels of the American Clean Energy Security Act (ACES), which passed the House of Representatives in June 2009. While the ACES proposed emission cuts of 17%, the CEJAPA calls for reducing carbon emissions 20% by 2020 and 80% by 2050. The U.S. administration is also likely to reduce emissions through use of the yet to be finalized Endangerment Finding and the “Big Polluters Act” that treat carbon dioxide as a pollutant subject to regulation under the Clean Air Act.
- **Renewable Electricity Standards** – National renewable energy targets do not exist. Some 31 states have set their own renewable energy standards. A February 2009 study projected that by 2025, state standards will provide support for 76,750 megawatts (MW) of new renewable power – an increase of 570% over total 1997 U.S. levels (excluding hydro). The CEJAPA bill requires an authority designated by the president to set energy efficiency standards, energy efficiency building codes, grants to fund renewable energy projects (no more than 50% of the total cost), research and development of biofuels.
- **Fuel Economy Standards** – In May 2009, President Obama set fuel efficiency standards of 35.5 miles per gallon by 2016 for carmakers. This plan is estimated to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 900 million metric tons through 2016. The CEJAPA includes provisions to enhance fuel efficiency standards of public transportation.

CHINA

- **Emissions** – National emissions targets do not exist. So far, China’s emissions reductions goals are based on their efficiency program which includes a goal of reducing energy intensity by 20% from 2005 levels by 2010 (it is estimated that this would reduce China’s greenhouse gas emissions 10% below business as usual). In his speech in September at the United National General Assembly in New York, Chinese President Hu committed to cut carbon dioxide emissions per unit of gross domestic product (GDP) by a “notable margin” by 2020 from the 2005 levels. It is likely that China will further define what it means by “notable margin” in Copenhagen with an announcement of a specific number.

- **Renewable Electricity Standards** – In his speech, President Hu also announced a new renewable electricity standard, which commits China to produce 15% of its energy from renewable sources by 2020.
- **Fuel Economy Standards** – China has aggressive fuel economy standards that are second only to the E.U. and Japan in their stringency. As of 2008, the average new vehicle is projected to reach 36.7 MPG. In May 2009, the Chinese government released a draft plan, scheduled for release in early 2010, which requires carmakers to reach 42.3 MPG by 2015.

BRAZIL

- **Emissions** – In October of 2009, the Brazilian Environment Minister announced that Brazil is considering capping its emissions to the 2005 level. In November of 2009, Brazil announced voluntary cuts of 36%–39% of projected emissions under a Business As Usual (BAU) scenario by 2020.
- **Renewable Electricity Standards** – Brazil’s national Program of Incentives for Alternative Electricity Sources (PROINFA) program was launched in 2002 to mainly promote renewable energy. As of December 2008, 45.8% of Brazil’s energy from renewables and the government has serious plans to increase the share of renewables in electricity generation. In 2008 it achieved its goal of 3,300-MW of electricity production from small hydro, wind, and biomass and was initiating a second program stage to achieve 10% of electricity production from these sources by 2020.
- **Fuel Economy Standards** – In May 2009, the Brazilian government launched demand-side policies like a fuel efficiency labeling system for vehicles that will grade vehicles according to their fuel efficiency instead of supply-side standards. The government mandated a fuel blend containing 25% ethanol. Currently flex-fuel vehicles account for close to 24% of Brazil light passenger vehicles, 94% of new car sales.
- **Other** – In 2009, Brazil also announced a national climate action plan that covers energy, forestry & agriculture, industry, waste and transportation sectors. Included in the plan is a goal to reduce deforestation by 80% between 2005 and 2020, which would avoid 4.8 billion tons in CO₂ emissions during this period. REDD is expected to contribute to about 25% of emission cuts. In 2006, the government set up the Amazon Fund to combat deforestation and degradation in the Amazon region and is investing roughly \$500 million in initiatives to reduce deforestation and promote conservation, between 2008 until 2011.

INDIA

- **Emissions** – In June of 2008, Prime Minister Singh announced policies and programs addressing climate change mitigation and adaptation in India's first national Action Plan on Climate Change. Ministers overseeing India's eight "national missions" were supposed to submit detailed implementation plans to the Prime Minister in December of 2008. Progress on these reports has not been announced. Detailed targets on the electricity sector are contained in the 11th 5-year plan. In September 2009, the Indian Environment Minister, Jairam Ramesh, said that India will announce broadly quantifiable non-binding targets for emissions.
- **Renewable Electricity Standards** – India has set the nation's goal for renewable energy at 10% of new power generation by 2010 and has rolled out its ambitious solar plan in September 2009. According to Renewables Global Status Report (2009 update) by REN21, Renewable energy's share of the overall power generation market increased from 3.9% to 4.4% resulting from the investments made in response to government policies over the previous few years. While wind power grew by 29%, the grid-tied solar PV grew by 70%. India currently ranks 5th in wind power generation.
- **Fuel Economy Standards** – In 2003, the National Auto Fuel Policy mandated that vehicles in 11 cities meet Bharat Stage III emission standards (these standards require cars to produce less than 2.30 grams of CO₂ per km, less than .20 grams of hydrocarbon per km and less than .15 grams of nitrous oxide). Bharat Stage III standards fall just below that of the Euro III standards that were put in place by the E.U. in 1997 and replaced with Euro IV in 2003. Cars not in the 11 cities listed in this mandate are required to meet Euro II standards that were crafted in 1993. India's national Action Plan on Climate Change calls for mandatory fuel efficiency standards but inter-governmental struggles may hold the standards up until 2010.

MEXICO

- **Emissions** – In June 2009, President Felipe Calderon said Mexico would voluntarily cut its greenhouse gas emissions by an estimated 8% by 2012.
- **Renewable Electricity Standards** – Around 23% of Mexico's total energy supply is renewable with 19% coming from hydropower. The country is aiming for a 26% target in 2012, mainly by scaling up the production of wind power. Mexico's new 2008 renewable energy law established an \$800 million fund,

partly to finance renewable energy projects as well as a green mortgage program to finance hydro and solar installations.

- **Fuel Economy Standards** – Mexico currently does not have a fuel economy standard. The government is studying which type of standards to impose and it is leaning toward a plan that would be similar to proposed fuel efficiency standards in California or the United States.
- **Other** – A large percentage of Mexico's reductions have come from the transition of oil-fired power plants to newer, more efficient natural gas-powered plants. Mexico's private sector has also taken major actions to combat CO₂ emissions in developing an innovative pilot program that measures its carbon footprint. The private sector is also driving the growth of United Nations Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) projects. As of June 2009, Mexico had 114 registered CDM projects.

SOUTH AFRICA

- **Emissions** – National emissions targets do not exist. In July 2008, South Africa's minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, Marthinus Van Schalkwyk, announced that his government wanted to limit global temperature increases to 2°C above pre-industrial levels. He stated that South Africa's greenhouse gas emissions should peak at the latest by 2020-2025, stabilize for up to ten years, and then decline in absolute terms. There are no concrete policies in place yet, as the South African government has postponed the release of a white paper on climate change likely to include targets from September 2009 to March of 2010.
- **Renewable Electricity Standards** – No targets have been announced, but the minister's announcement did mention that targets would be set for electricity generated from renewable sources. South Africa's Department of Minerals and Energy says its goal is to produce roughly 5% of its energy from green sources by 2013. In March 2009, it announced a feed-in tariff that ensures a stable rate of return for renewables projects, leading to an estimated 5000-MW addition to renewable energy capacity.
- **Fuel Economy Standards** – None have been set in the plan announced.
- **Other** – South Africa relies on coal for 90% of its energy production. The government plans to achieve much of its reductions through a switch to renewable sources.

CANADA

- **Emissions** – By ratifying the Kyoto Protocol, Canada committed to reducing their emissions 6% from 1990 levels by 2012. To help meet this target, Canada announced a policy that it would cap national industrial emissions intensity at 18% below 2006 levels by 2010.
- **Renewable Electricity Standards** – Canada does not have a national renewable standard. However, provinces are setting targets and employing incentives to improve renewable portfolio standards. For example, Ontario offers fixed price for smaller renewable energy generation. The 2009 budget allocates a spending of \$1 billion over five years to support renewable energy projects, among others.
- **Fuel Economy Standards** – Canada does not have a mandatory national fuel efficiency standard for passenger vehicles. In 2005, the Canadian automobile industry signed a memorandum of understanding to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from cars and light trucks by 5.3 million tons in 2010. In April 2009, the Canadian government announced that it would set a single “tough” tailpipe emission standard that will apply to 2011 model cars and light trucks. It will be identical to the U.S. fuel mileage standard announced by President Obama in March 2009.

SOUTH KOREA

- **Emissions** – In September of 2009, South Korean President Lee Myung-bak said the country would set a voluntary emissions targets before 2010. In November 2009, South Korea announced voluntary 2020 emissions reduction target of 30% below its “business as usual” scenario from 2005 levels by 2020.
- **Renewable Electricity Standards** – In September 2009, the government announced that it was considering introducing a renewable portfolio standard, which would require utility companies to generate at least 3% of their electricity from low carbon energy sources by 2012, 10% by 2020, up from 2.5% in 2008.
- **Fuel Economy Standards** – Cars made in South Korea, the world’s fifth largest auto producer, currently have an average fuel efficiency of 25.8 MPG. Following new emissions standards announced in the U.S. in May 2009 that raise fuel efficiency standards to 35.5 miles by 2016, the South Korean government announced in July 2009 that the new fuel efficiency and emission rules will be applied to 30% of cars sold by each automaker in 2012, rising to 100% by 2015.

JAPAN

- **Emissions** – By ratifying the Kyoto Protocol, Japan committed to reducing their emissions 6% from 1990 levels by 2012. In September 2009, in his statement at the UNGA, the new Prime Minister of Japan, Yukio Hatoyama, announced Japan’s emission reduction target of 25% below 1990 levels by 2020, subject to action taken by developing countries and the COP 15 outcome. He also outlined enhanced support to developing countries under what he termed the “Hatoyama Initiative”. While the initiative did not include a specific degree of financial support, it centered on extending Japan’s technological know-how on energy conservation. In addition, the Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ) – the new ruling party plans to set up a domestic emissions trading market with volume caps
- **Renewable Electricity Standards** – The new government’s manifesto is unclear about renewable electricity standards but to meet the ambitious emission target, the focus will be on existing renewable capacities such as solar and nuclear power. A DPJ policy paper released in April 2009 called for 50% subsidies to customers installing solar panels, compared to an earlier target of 10%.
- **Fuel Economy Standards** – Japanese goals dictate an average fuel economy of 46.9 MPG by 2015.

NORWAY

- **Emissions** – In October 2009, the Norwegian government announced an emission reduction target of 40% by 2020 from 1990 levels. At this date, it’s the largest commitment announced by an Annex I country.
- **Renewable Electricity Standards** – Norway is Europe’s largest and the world’s 6th largest producer of hydropower, which serves 99% of its electricity production. In June 2009, the government launched a draft law and a national strategy on offshore renewable energy that lays out a regulatory framework for offshore wind power in Norway. In 2009, the Norwegian public agency for renewable energy and energy efficiency was allocated a total of 2.6 billion Kroner (\$467.7 million) in order to facilitate the national goal of adding 30 terra watts of renewable energy production capacity.
- **Fuel Economy Standards** – Norway has no fuel economy standards. Other than electric car makers ThinkGlobal and ElbilNorge, Norway does not have any other auto manufacturing companies. Norway has historically provided tax incentives for vehicles using alternatives to petroleum-based fuels. In 2008, it launched a program called HyNor (Hydro-

gen Road of Norway) with the objective of encouraging the use of hydrogen as a transportation fuel.

AUSTRALIA

- **Emissions** – On December 3, 2007, Prime Minister Kevin Rudd ratified the Kyoto Protocol. In March 2008, Australia's ratification came into effect and they accepted targets of reducing their emissions to 108% of 1990 levels by 2010. In addition, Australia has committed to reduction targets of 25% below 2000 levels by 2020 and 60% by 2050 levels. Adoption of the 25% reduction target is conditional on the following items: 1) an ambitious outcome in Copenhagen, represented by a global target of 450 ppm CO₂ or lower, 2) global peak emissions no later than 2020, 3) all major advanced economies being 25% below 1990 levels by 2020, 4) major developing country commitments for collective emissions at least 20% below business as usual by 2020, and 5) greater financial mobilization. Australia's strategy to reduce emissions hinges on a cap-and-trade system called the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme (CPRS), which puts a price on carbon and will cover 75% of national emissions. Set to start in July 2011, the CPRS proposal was defeated in the Parliament in August 2009, but the government plans to bring the bill back in 2010 exempting agriculture and food processing – two key opponents of the scheme. It is worth noting that a significant block of parties is in favor of more stringent targets.
- **Renewable Electricity Standards** – The Parliament passed a law in late August 2009 requiring that 20% of the country's electricity come from renewable sources such as the sun and wind by 2020, matching European standards and up from current levels of 8%. The renewable energy target will be phased out between 2020 and 2030.
- **Fuel Economy Standards** – Australia set mandatory fuel efficiency standards of 34.4 MPG by 2010. Other: In addition to an investment of \$4.5 billion in a Clean Energy Initiative, Australia's recent economic stimulus package invested \$3.9 billion towards energy efficiency initiatives in 2.7 million Australian homes. This represented the largest single investment in energy efficiency by any Australian government. The government is said to announce further energy efficiency measures before the start of the Scheme.

EUROPEAN UNION

- **Emissions** – The aggregate emission reduction target for the E.U. in the Kyoto Protocol is 7.7% below 1990 levels by 2012. At the E.U. level, after adopting

its independent climate change and energy package in December 2008, the Parliament's Directive amended the existing E.U.-ETS trading system to align future annual emissions caps with the target of a 20% reduction below 1990 levels by 2020, irrespective of whether or not an international agreement is reached. The E.U. also indicated that it would adopt "a 30% reduction target in the context of a sufficiently ambitious and comprehensive international agreement."

- **Renewable Electricity Standards** – An E.U. directive passed in 2009 amending an older directive set a target of generating 20% of energy from renewable sources by 2020.
- **Fuel Economy Standards** – In December 2007, the E.U. and the associations of automakers came to an agreement that reduces tailpipe emissions to a level that equates to a fuel efficiency standard of 48.9 MPG by 2012. E.U. legislators used the new standards to replace Euro IV standards which were put in place in 2005. In December 2008, the E.U. created a provisional deal to cut car emissions. The plan has not yet been approved by the parliament and member countries. Currently, European automakers are pressing the E.U. for a multi-billion euro loan to help meet the standards that many are finding extremely stringent.

UNITED KINGDOM

- **Emissions** – The UK is considered part of the E.U. under the Kyoto Protocol. Under the Kyoto Protocol, the UK committed to reducing emissions by 12.5% below 1990 levels by 2012. The Climate Change Act of 2008 that became a law in November 2008 sets targets for reducing carbon-dioxide emissions by 20% below 1990 levels by 2010 with a future goal of 80% reduction (i.e. 77% below 2005 levels) by 2050. In the period 1990-2006, the UK reduced its average emissions by 15.9%.
- **Renewable Electricity Standards** – The UK Low Carbon Transition Plan sets out a national renewable electricity standard of 30% by 2020. According to statistics released by the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) in September 2009, renewable energy production increased by 104% in the UK in the five years leading up to 2008.
- **Fuel Economy Standards** – As part of the E.U., the UK is committed to reach the E.U. standard of 48.9 MPG by 2012 even though it does not currently have a separate national fuel efficiency standard for passenger vehicles. However, the Committee for Climate Change states that the carbon efficiency of vehicles using fossil fuels can be increased by 30%-40%.

In His Own Words: Obama on Climate

In January of 2007, Senator Barack Obama co-sponsored legislation with Senators John McCain and Joe Lieberman that would cut emissions by two-thirds by 2050. During the 2008 presidential campaign Obama committed his presidency to accelerating the transition to a clean energy economy that generates millions of middle class jobs, eases national security risks posed by imported oil, and solves climate change.

President Obama, working in collaboration with Congressional leaders and members of his cabinet, has set the federal government on a clear course to reach all of those goals. Domestically, the president's top energy and climate goal is passing a substantive bill, likely next year. Internationally, the president has committed to the world that the U.S. will lead on negotiating a new climate treaty.

The ability of the administration to act on the bill and the treaty are bound up in domestic politics, opposing ideologies about the value of pursuing a clean energy economy, and the slow pace of Congressional deliberations. The president vows to overcome these impediments, as his statements below clearly show:

February 10, 2007

Sen. Obama's speech in Springfield, Illinois announcing his candidacy for the Democratic nomination for president:

"Let's be the generation that finally frees America from the tyranny of oil. We can harness homegrown, alternative fuels like ethanol and spur the production of more fuel-efficient cars. We can set up a system for capping greenhouse gases. We can turn this crisis of global warming into a moment of opportunity for innovation, and job creation, and an incentive for businesses that will serve as a model for the world. Let's be the generation that makes future generations proud of what we did here."

June 3, 2008

Speech in St. Paul following Obama's Democratic primary victory in Minnesota:

While suggesting things John McCain should have done, Obama says: "Maybe if he went to Pennsylvania and met the man who lost his job but can't even afford the gas to drive around and look for a new one, he'd understand that we can't afford four more years of our addiction to oil from dictators. That man needs us to pass an energy policy that works with automakers to raise fuel standards, and makes corporations pay for their pollution, and oil companies invest their record



profits in a clean energy future—an energy policy that will create millions of new jobs that pay well and can't be outsourced. That's the change we need."

August 28, 2008

Speaking to the Democratic National Convention in Denver, Colorado:

"For the sake of our economy, our security, and the future of our planet, I will set a clear goal as president. In ten years, we will finally end our dependence on oil from the Middle East," Obama said, adding, "Now is the time to end this addiction, and to understand that drilling is a stop-gap measure, not a long-term solution. Not even close."

November 18, 2008

President-elect's statement to Bi-Partisan Governors' Global Climate Summit in Los Angeles:

"Few challenges facing America — and the world — are more urgent than combating climate change. Many of you are working to confront this challenge. But too often, Washington has failed to show the same kind of leadership. That will change when I take office."

January 20, 2009

Inaugural Address:

"We will harness the sun and the winds and the soil to fuel our cars and run our factories." Later he said, "And to those nations like ours that enjoy relative plenty, we say we can no longer afford indifference to suffering outside our borders; nor can we consume the world's resources without regard to effect. For the world has changed, and we must change with it."

January 27, 2009

Issuing two presidential memoranda to establish higher fuel efficiency standards for cars and to allow states to set emissions standards above the federal standard:

"It will be the policy of my administration to reverse our dependence on foreign oil, while building a new energy economy that will create millions of jobs. Finally, we will make it clear to the world that America is ready to lead. To protect our climate and our collective security, we must call together a truly global coalition."

February 24, 2009

Speech to joint session of Congress:

"We know the country that harnesses the power of clean, renewable energy will lead the 21st century. And yet, it is China that has launched the largest effort in history to make their economy energy-efficient. We invented solar technology, but we've fallen behind countries like Germany and Japan in producing it. New plug-in hybrids roll off our assembly lines, but they will run on batteries made in Korea. Well, I do not accept a future where the jobs and industries of tomorrow take root beyond our borders — and I know you don't, either. It is time for America to lead again."

Obama added: "But to truly transform our economy, to protect our security, and save our planet from the ravages of climate change, we need to ultimately make clean, renewable energy the profitable kind of energy. So I ask this Congress to send me legislation that places a market-based cap on carbon pollution and drives the production of more renewable energy in America."

April 5, 2009

Obama's pledge at E.U.-U.S. summit in Prague:

"To protect our planet, now is the time to change the way that we use energy. Together we must confront climate change by ending the world's dependency on fossil fuels by tapping the power from the sources of energy like the wind and the sun and calling upon all nations to do their part. I pledge to you that in this global effort the U.S. is now ready to lead."

April 22, 2009

Earth Day speech at new clean energy factory in Newton, Iowa:

"The choice we face is not between saving our environment and saving our economy — it's a choice between prosperity and decline. The nation that leads the world in creating new sources of clean energy will be the nation that leads the 21st century global economy."

May 16, 2009

Excerpt from Obama's weekly address focused on House climate and energy proposal:

"It's a plan that will finally reduce our dangerous dependence on foreign oil and cap the carbon pollution that threatens our health and our climate. Most important, it's a plan that will trigger the creation of millions of new jobs for Americans, who will produce the wind turbines and solar panels and develop the alternative fuels to power the future. Because this we know: the nation that leads in 21st century clean energy is the nation that will lead the 21st century global economy. America can and must be that nation — and this agreement is a major step toward this goal."

May 19, 2009

Remarks by the president at announcement of a national fuel efficiency standard:

"While the United States makes up less than 5 percent of the world's population, we create roughly a quarter of the world's demand for oil. And this appetite comes at a tremendous price — a price measured by our vulnerability to volatile oil markets, which send gas prices soaring and families scrambling."

June 27, 2009

Support for the just-passed House energy and climate bill:

“Now my call to every senator, as well as to every American, is this: We cannot be afraid of the future. And we must not be prisoners of the past. Don’t believe the misinformation out there that suggests there is somehow a contradiction between investing in clean energy and economic growth. It’s just not true.”

July 9, 2009

Obama’s formal statement on Major Economies Forum Declaration:

“We also agree that developed countries — like my own — have a historic responsibility to take the lead. We have the much larger carbon footprint per capita, and I know that in the past, the United States has sometimes fallen short of meeting our responsibilities. So let me be clear: Those days are over. One of my highest priorities as president is to drive a clean energy transformation of our economy, and over the past six months, the United States has taken steps towards this goal. Today at the Major Economies Forum developed and developing nations made further and unprecedented commitments to take strong and prompt action. And they agreed that between now and Copenhagen, they will negotiate concrete goals to reduce their emissions by 2050.”

September 22, 2009

Speech on climate action to the United Nations in New York:

“The threat from climate change is serious, it is urgent, and it is growing. Our generation’s response to this challenge will be judged by history, for if we fail to meet it — boldly, swiftly, and together — we risk consigning future generations to an irreversible catastrophe.

It is true that for too many years, mankind has been slow to respond or even recognize the magnitude of the climate threat. It is true of my own country, as well. We recognize that. But this is a new day. It is a new era.”

September 30, 2009

Statement on introduction of the Clean Energy Jobs and American Power Act:

“I applaud Chairmen Kerry and Boxer for their leadership on comprehensive energy reform. With the draft legislation they are announcing today, we are one step closer to putting America in control of our energy future and making America more energy independent. My administration is deeply committed to passing a bill that creates new American jobs and the clean energy incentives that foster innovation.”

October 23, 2009

Speech at Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge:

“From China to India, from Japan to Germany, nations everywhere are racing to develop new ways to produce and use energy. The nation that wins this competition will be the nation that leads the global economy. I am convinced of that. And I want America to be that nation.

He added: “There are going to be those who make cynical claims that contradict the overwhelming scientific evidence when it comes to climate change, claims whose only purpose is to defeat or delay the change that we know is necessary.”

November 16, 2009

U.S.-China Summit in Beijing:

“Our aim is not a partial accord or a political declaration but rather an accord that covers all of the issues in the negotiations, and one that has immediate operational effect. This kind of comprehensive agreement would be an important step forward in the effort to rally the world around a solution to our climate challenge.”