

# FOSSIL OF THE DAY AWARD

## Media Release



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### **Saudi Arabia Take First Place, Qatar Earns Second**

Bonn, Germany – It was a neighborly Fossil awards ceremony the second Monday of the Bonn climate negotiations, as “next door” countries Saudi Arabia and Qatar swept the nominations. Saudi Arabia took first for trying to delay discussions on addressing losses and damages from climate change impacts in developing countries. Close behind them in the voting, Qatar earned second place for trying to direct oil taxes away from low-carbon transport development and toward their own coffers.

The Fossils as presented read:

“The Second place Fossil goes to Qatar for suggesting that they should be compensated for the tax that developed countries add onto Qatari oil.

At the Joint SBSTA/SBI Meeting on impact of the implementation of response measure, Qatar presented a graph and emphasised that taxes in developed countries add more to the selling price of oil than their wholesale price. For example, in the UK oil's initial price is \$200 and the tax is \$850; that sums to \$1,050. Then Qatar had the gall to suggest that if developed countries were to give the tax amount to Qatar, then Qatar is happy to provide the oil for free. This tax money should clearly be spent on developing green alternatives to carbon based transport and to deal with the problems that carbon based transport creates – health, environmental, etc. – not to compensate oil producing countries. Any potential future COP host would know that (hint hint).”

(over)



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“The First place Fossil is awarded to Saudi Arabia. In discussions on the loss and damage work programme, Saudi Arabia argued that the Parties did not need to agree on activities until COP18 – 18 months from now! The Cancun Agreements established a work programme to enable Parties to take a decision on loss and damage itself – not the work programme. Debating the activities of a work programme for 18 months is akin to debating an agenda for 18 months...and we’ve seen enough debates on agendas.”

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*About CAN: The Climate Action Network is a worldwide network of roughly 500 Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) working to promote government and individual action to limit human-induced climate change to ecologically sustainable levels. [www.climatenetwork.org](http://www.climatenetwork.org)*

*About the fossils: The Fossil of the Day awards were first presented at the climate talks in 1999 in Bonn, initiated by the German NGO Forum. During United Nations climate change negotiations ([www.unfccc.int](http://www.unfccc.int)), members of the Climate Action Network (CAN), vote for countries judged to have done their 'best' to block progress in the negotiations in the last days of talks.*

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