

# ECO

## THE SHOW US SOME ACTION ISSUE

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ECO has been published by Non-Governmental Environmental Groups at major international conferences since the Stockholm Environment Conference in 1972. ECO is produced co-operatively by the Climate Action Network at the UNFCCC meetings in Bangkok, Thailand during the September SB 48-2 meetings.

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# All Promises: Time to Deliver on Addressing Loss and Damage

Delegates, take a deep breath and think about the moment the gale sounded and the Paris Agreement was decided. The applause, the recognition, the enthusiasm for action! All those pats on the back! You lapped it up – you had worked hard! Well, the Paris agreement was about past work ... and future promise. And now is the future. Time to live up to your promises!

Each one of the Articles in the Paris Agreement was hard-fought and finely balanced. Including Article 8 - the one that some of you (US, EU, Australia) would, incredibly, rather forget. ECO says incredibly, because if the UN Convention on Climate Change is not about obligation and solidarity for vulnerable countries facing the worst impacts of climate change **WHAT IS IT FOR, EXACTLY?**

ECO hears some of you (US, EU, Australia) saying “we have the

WIM, we’re done here” and ECO calls bullshit. It’s clear that your objective is to push it into a body that you keep under-funded and under-resourced, where your delegates block progress at every turn (how about two hours spent discussing whether it is possible for the ExCom to have a conversation with the IPCC authors and not allowing an outcome) in order to stop real progress on loss and damage.

Article 8 is about more than the WIM. Not just in language - the Paris Agreement says “including the WIM” - not “exclusively the WIM” - but also in content. In the past five long years, the WIM has singularly failed to deal with one third of its mandate - enhancing action and support for loss and damage. And developed country negotiators in the WIM have explicitly said they will not deal with it until the COP gives them a mandate. You can’t

have your denial and deny it too!

It is already been agreed in the CMA1 agenda to discuss loss and damage (yep - that pesky footnote!) - and you also have to dedicate space, time and effort to the ongoing work, namely the agenda item should discuss:

- follow up to the Suva Expert Dialogue and mobilising finance;
- implementing the recommendations on climate displacement;

- and, very importantly, you must give guidance to the terms of reference for the Review of the WIM.

You promised to do that in 4/CP22 2(d).

So many promises! Surely you must have realised at some point you would have to deliver on them! An agenda item to discuss loss and damage should be the absolute least ECO can expect of you at this point.

**RISE  
FOR  
CLIMATE**

**BANGKOK**

**SEPTEMBER 8, SATURDAY AT 9AM  
IN FRONT OF UN ESCAP BUILDING**

# How to Talanoa - Do's and Don'ts for Ministers

Dear Ministers, we are looking forward to seeing you at the Talanoa Dialogue in Katowice. While it will be freezing outside, Talanoa Dialogue will bring some much needed warmth and lots of dialogue to the process. ECO hears the incoming Polish Presidency has begun setting the stage - but please be reminded, dear Ministers, the Talanoa Dialogue will only be as good as you and your contributions make it!

The combination of the urgent imperative of limiting the temperature increase to 1.5°C to reduce losses and damages by climate change, and the many opportunities for accelerated climate ambition, leave plenty of options to enhance your NDCs for the 2020 submission deadline.

The NDC revision process will be different for every country, involving national stakeholders in the discussion to identify the areas that can be enhanced, and you can kick this off by coming to the Talanoa Dialogue fully engaged to share experiences from your country, learn from others, and start building a process to revise your NDC by sharing experiences and learning from others. To help you prepare for a Talanoa Dialogue with a strong outcome, ECO has put together a small list of "do's" and "don'ts":

Do's:

- Prepare before attending. What is the amazing, engaging story you want to tell to inspire others?
- Socialise with other guests. Listen to their stories and concerns; listen to what they have to give. Consider that you might meet a new best friend, who knows the way forward e.g. in your discussions with your finance minister.

- Most importantly: Announce you will enhance your NDC by 2020. Beyond your story, enhanced ambition is your special contribution for the collective effort.

- Take it forward, make sure that your story and announcement to enhance your NDC don't just remain in the Talanoa Dialogue room. Take it into a COP decision and let it be heard around the world.

Don'ts:

- Don't forget to ask the incoming Polish Presidency for solid preparations for an engaging discussion that allows all participants to interact constructively. All participants also includes non-party actors, of course.

- Don't assume that you know what the Talanoa will be like. Be open to surprises, listen carefully, consider new directions and perspectives.

- Don't assume a one-size-fits-all approach. Different policies will work for different countries, regions and sectors, and being open to tailoring policies for various sectors will be useful. For example, in the transport sector you might want to launch new initiatives to decrease CO2 emissions such as support schemes for expanding electric vehicle sales. In the buildings sector you could establish standards and policies for achieving high energy efficiency, making both economic and energy savings - good for your citizens, good for the climate!

Speaking of citizens; it's understood your voters will judge COP24 by its outcome on ambition - aka the Talanoa Dialogue. They expect bold announcements on enhanced NDC ambitions by 2020 (not possible considerations).

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# Talanoa Dialogue: Voices from the Unaccredited

While you deliberate on item 5: (section D.5,7 & 8) in the air-conditioned ESCAP conference centre, **Where Are We?**

We are on the front line of climate breakdown. As people of faith and people of conscience, we are struggling in our moral obligation to care for the poor and vulnerable, provide for our children and respect our inheritance.

We are facilitating Talanoa Dialogues in South Sudan, Somalia, Bangladesh, Mali, Niger, Afghanistan, Tunisia, Kenya.

The Fiji presidency has promised that these stories and suggestions will be put before the governments who are committed to the Paris Agreement as they draw up their new 5 year plans and promises for combatting climate change.

While you decide where to go for green curry after hours of negotiation, **Where Do We Want To Go?**

We want to see people stay in their homes, secure in their livelihoods, building for the future and ready and able to overcome the next set of shocks and disruption.

We want people to be listened to and their concerns and suggestions be acted upon.

We want people to be party to solutions with

their insights and knowledge accumulated into national plans rather than their being planned for and told what to do and how to do it.

We want to be in a place where our struggle contributes to and benefits from others' efforts to address the causes of climate breakdown, distress and suffering

As you take a climate destroying flight to the next conference (nice in SF this time of year), **How Do We Get There?**

Talanoa Dialogue is our chance, and the chance for others like us, to take action now by bringing people together to share stories, build empathy and to make wise decisions for the collective good. People can take part in a Talanoa with the knowledge they have, sharing ideas, skills and experience through storytelling.

Before COP24 we will be submitting ideas about how the world community can best deliver on its responsibilities to support our efforts to adapt to the challenges we are facing, and build resilience for those we are yet to face them.

We won't make it to Katowice but the Talanoa Dialogue is our badge. Listen for our presentation.

We will await your response.

## Did You Say Finance is Political?

In the corridors of the UN conference centre in Bangkok, ECO heard a widespread old mantra: "Finance is POLITICAL". Well, yes, finance is political, as most of the issues you're negotiating here are. Should it prevent Parties from progressing on the elements in the agenda, therefore putting at risk an ambitious overall outcome by Sunday? Clearly not. Is it an excuse for the EU to spend their time in rainy Bangkok hiding behind a toxic Umbrella? Hell no. Countries cannot leave Thailand without a clear pathway on finance from here to Katowice.

Speaking of political, Parties should actually think hard about how to elevate the finance question between now and Katowice, in order to find the much needed landing zones to set modalities to make climate finance predictable, define a new finance target by 2025 and adopt robust accounting rules for finance. Let ECO remind you that by December, you will have many opportunities to address climate finance at a high political level: you should use the IMF/World Bank annual meeting, the Pre-COP and G20 to send the right signals that finance will be taken seriously and progress by COP24.

While ECO expects you to arrive in Katowice with

clear options to make climate finance a strong element of the Paris rulebook, we also hope you will make the best use of the high-level meetings you'll have there. Why not, for instance, shape the High-level Ministerial Dialogue on Climate Finance as an open dialogue to take stock of progress on finance, identify barriers and solutions to bridge the finance gap, and demonstrate you're ready to provide real money for real action? It starts with having finance Ministers in the room. Then, you could use the biennial assessment and overview of climate finance flows, the strategies and approaches that we're sure you will all have submitted by then, as well as the synthesis report from the UNFCCC Secretariat, and the annual joint report on climate finance from MDBs to inform your discussions. Finally, a successful ministerial meeting would recognize the progress on climate finance towards the USD100bn goal, while acknowledging the finance gaps especially regarding adaptation and the need to consider finance for loss & damage over and above this objective. Last but certainly not least, wouldn't it be a great occasion to commit to an ambitious Green Climate Fund replenishment? Let's say ... doubling the overall scale of commitments. That should be a bare minimum, ECO thinks!

# The World Rises for Climate

ECO wants to draw the attention of negotiators to the tens of thousands of people here in Bangkok and around the world taking part in more than 600 *Rise for Climate* actions this weekend. In more than 80 countries, communities are taking part in a range of creative, distributed local actions in cities, towns, institutions, universities, and places of worship to demonstrate the urgency of the climate crisis. We are emphasising the increasing impacts we are all experiencing, particularly in the most vulnerable regions, while simultaneously showcasing innovative community-led solutions to keep fossil fuels in the ground and accelerate the just transition to 100% renewable energy.

ECO isn't here just to criticise the (pretty slow) progress of these negotiations per se. But perhaps negotiators would like to look long and hard at the motivation, energy and leadership that people from California to Colombia and Thailand to South Africa are demonstrating this weekend. We are seeing the largest ever climate march the US West Coast has ever seen, the first ever virtual mobilisation (with holograms!) taking place across Asia, groups in the UK and Germany pushing for more divestment, leaders in Australia, Colombia and Canada facing pressure for continuing to dig up fossil fuels, swathes of town-hall actions across the USA and France, and banks coming under fire in Tokyo for financing fossil fuels.

And outside these very UN climate talks, hundreds of Thai people are making their voice clear on the future

they want. And further afield in Thailand, marches led by women and farmers are saying no to coal and yes to renewables. Go right outside and join our local hosts in their struggle!

Why are people doing this? Communities representing faith, youth, labour, social, racial and immigrant justice and many more groups are joining Rise for Climate actions this weekend to show that we have the solutions to the climate crisis in hand. We will demonstrate that many local efforts are already outstripping national plans to tackle climate change (negotiators would do well to take their cue from them) and demand that governments (especially industrialised economies) rapidly step up their efforts to slash carbon emissions by 2020, and keep global temperature under 1.5 degrees of warming.

Why are we doing this now? Well, ECO knows and so should you: we don't have time to lose. Already this year we have experienced catastrophic heat waves in North Africa, Europe, Japan, Korea, Pakistan, Australia and Argentina; deadly wildfires in Greece, Sweden, the USA and Russia; drought in Kenya and Somalia; major water shortages in Afghanistan and South Africa; extreme storms and flooding in Hawaii, India, Oman and Yemen; record melting of the Bering Sea ice; and the 400th month in the row of above-average global temperatures.

So get on board and Rise for Climate this weekend. It's not too late to follow and share #RiseforClimate actions and, if you're in the position to do so, then bolster that NDC!

## Kyoto Markets - "Tonnes" of Problems

ECO is pulling out the popcorn for the discussion on the transition away from Kyoto Protocol mechanisms today. The current Annex on the table is vague about where we are going and when, but it's clearly on the minds of a large number of Parties, so we think it'll spark some serious discussion.

We're not saying the discussion will be easy, but we hope Parties will highlight where we've been and where we're going - namely how we learn from the lessons of the past, while considering the urgencies of the present. Especially because things have gotten a lot more complicated with all countries having NDCs, the evolving framework of carbon accounting and corresponding adjustments, and the new offset market that will be created by aviation's 2016 climate deal--the CORSIA.

One thing is clear: We don't want a copy-and-paste of old tools. An automatic transition of CDM credits,

or any KP credits for that matter, would destroy the credibility of the new system, undermine ambition and the environmental integrity of the Paris Agreement, and completely disregard the outstanding questions around the local impact of some these projects on communities and the environment.

We hope that parties will focus on the critical question at hand: What does a transition of Kyoto Protocol mechanisms mean? ECO knows it certainly doesn't mean a carry over of hot air into the Paris Agreement. It could mean a completely fresh start. It could mean an opportunity to review the work done previously to ensure the mechanisms are held to higher standards and cleaned up. It definitely means an end to these mechanisms, as we currently know them. Whatever option Parties end up with, the text should be set up for decisions that respect environmental integrity and clear the hot air.