

News Release

Contact: Ria Voorhaar at rvoorhaar@climatenetwork.org or +49 157 317 35568

New focus on injecting fairness into climate talks a cause for hope

Bonn, Germany - May 3, 2013: Experts from Climate Action Network International welcomed a new, positive dynamic emerging from the year's first UN negotiations in Bonn this week, but urged leaders to ensure that the 2015 climate plan is robust enough to save the planet.

While many countries continued to present their same hackneyed positions in the plenary sessions, there are more parties with constructive plans that ensure fair contributions to climate action by all and do more to reduce carbon pollution before 2020 injected fresh air and confidence into the talks.

Mohamed Adow from Christian Aid said previous silence on the issue of fairness had threatened to derail progress in the negotiations, but by beginning to openly tackle the problem now, confidence has been boosted among developing countries about agreeing a plan in 2015 to save the climate.

"Countries now have to move to concrete discussions to capture the new energy created around equity in Bonn this week," Adow said. "They can do this by agreeing to review climate action against an agreed framework based on the principles of equity."

Jan Kowalzig from Oxfam Germany welcomed a plan by the Association of Small Island States designed to have countries commit to deeper cuts in carbon emissions in the next few years.

"By the end of the year in November at Warsaw, leaders have to agree new action that will help shrink the gigaton gap between current pledges and what science says is necessary to avoid catastrophic climate change," Kowalzig said. "This must include developed countries increasing their pathetically low emissions reduction targets as well as boosting financial support for developing countries to fight climate change."

Climate Action Network's Julie-Anne Richards urged countries not to weaken the structure of the 2015 climate plan only to ensure the sign on of countries such as the US.

"We need a plan that secures us all a fair and sustainable future, not one that appeals to the lowest common denominator," Richards said.

The press conference can be viewed here: <u>http://unfccc4.meta-fusion.com/</u> kongresse/adp02/templ/ovw_live.php?id_kongressmain=241

Contact:

For more information or for one-on-one interviews with the NGO experts, please contact Climate Action Network International's communications coordinator Ria Voorhaar on +49 (0) 157 317 35568 or rvoorhaar@climatenetwork.org.

Climate Action Network (CAN) is a global network of over 800 NGOs working to promote government and individual action to limit human-induced climate change to ecologically sustainable levels