

# ECO

18  
MAY

Vienna to  
Bali  
issue

Eco has been published by Non-Governmental Environmental Groups at major international conferences since the Stockholm Environment Conference in 1971. This issue is produced co-operatively by Climate Action Network (CAN) groups attending SB-26 in Bonn in May 2007.  
ECO website: <http://www.climatenetwork.org/eco>

## MOZART BALLS ON THE ROAD TO BALI

The mounting evidence of climate impacts coupled with the IPCC's clear warnings have created a surge in public awareness of the need for deep emissions cuts on a rapid timescale, but this awareness has yet to pierce the walls of the Maritim. ECO frequently reminds delegates to 'mind the gap' to avoid discontinuity in commitment periods. The gap that was evident at the Bonn meeting was the chasm between public expectations and the phlegmatic response of negotiators here.

As delegations were not given new mandates from their capitals to build bridges and make breakthroughs, they fell back on all-too-familiar positions and rhetoric. This has to change, and soon, if we are to reach a meaningful outcome in Bali.

ECO thanks the EU and Norway for putting concrete proposals on the table for emissions reductions targets. Other countries need to come forward with proposals before Vienna so analysis can be done on their stringency and collective contribution to putting us on the road to agreeing on a target range of at least -30% by 2020 (compared to 1990 levels) for Annex I Parties at Bali. There are several items missing from the workplan of the AWG, including differentiation of commitments and graduation criteria, adaptation financing on a much larger scale coupled to a deeper analysis of adaptation needs, review

of effectiveness of the existing flexible mechanisms, the scale of technology transfer required for low-carbon development of developing countries, along with new ways that clean technologies can be delivered through carbon markets. Several interesting ideas have been presented in the workshops of the Dialogue, but now it is time to transform these concepts into negotiations. ECO welcomes the Brazilian and South African interventions suggesting options for moving forward and the recognition that "discussions in the absence of negotiations cannot prosper". At a minimum an inter-governmental negotiating committee should be formed under the Convention, which together with the existing Kyoto AWG can take forward the various elements of the Bali mandate to produce, no later than 2009, a post-2012 agreement commensurate with the challenge of preventing dangerous climate change, which means keeping temperature increase to well below 2 degrees Celsius.

There was high interest in tackling the problem of deforestation *en route* to Bonn, but actually making real progress on the substantive issues proved elusive. The key issue of ensuring reference to the need for environmental integrity was stripped from the text, and needs to be brought back in.

*Continued back page, col 1.*

## WE ARE THE FUTURE

It would have been very hard not to notice the strong youth presence in Montreal and Nairobi. It will be even harder to ignore in Bali.

Indeed, youth have been engaging actively on the climate issue all around the world and our interest is only growing. Why? Why have we been at the IPCC, the ADB, the CSD and even here in Bonn, all within the last month? Because this is our future. *We* are the ones who will inherit your decisions. *We* are the ones who will suffer from your kindly worded delays and pay the costs of your inaction, and it is us who have the most interest in this process moving forward in a fair and sustainable manner based on science, not politics.

There are over 6 months before Bali; these *must* be spent reaching consensus on the launch of urgent negotiations on the second commitment period. If not now, then when? For how much longer will the young people of the world have to watch their future be compromised?

We hope that you, dear delegates, will spend these months reflecting about the sort of world you would like your children and grandchildren to inherit. If it is not the sort of world your delegation is promoting, then stand up and call for change. At the very least, invite young people to be a part of the process. We are here, and we are ready. Beyond Kyoto: It's us!

[www.itsgettinghotinhere.org](http://www.itsgettinghotinhere.org)

[www.solargeneration.org](http://www.solargeneration.org)

## NGOS TEST INNOVATIVE FINANCIAL MECHANISM

Eureka! After difficult negotiations ably chaired by Harold Dovland of Norway with help from Helen Plume of New Zealand, agreement has been reached on the 2008-2009 budget for the UNFCCC Secretariat.

At this two-week meeting alone, it's estimated that delegates have generated some 50 new requests for Secretariat work on various products and activities. Eco wonders if Parties think there are little invisible gnomes that magically deliver on all the tasks assigned and clean up all the messes they leave behind after they have spent two weeks taking bold and ambitious decisions about saving the world.

When it appeared at the end of last week that support for an adequate Secretariat budget was flagging, the Climate Action Network took matters into its own hands by launching an emergency fundraising appeal during the NGO/Security team party on Saturday. This new financial mechanism generated €117.99 in additional resources, which has been

turned over to the Secretariat (together with the stick of gum and two caffeine tablets that found their way into the contribution box).

CAN is pleased to join host country Germany as a voluntary donor to the Secretariat's budget – though we hope negotiations on the next biennium budget in the run-up to COP 15 in Copenhagen won't prove as difficult, and emergency appeals can be foregone.

Eco wonders if perhaps all that negotiating time and energy that went into haggling over that furniture line item might have been better spent elsewhere. Out of curiosity, Eco commissioned a modelling exercise that quantified the Negotiating Effort Units (NEUs) required for the budget and compared it with those that will be needed to negotiate the post-2012 regime. The results showed that if negotiators continue at the same NEU efficiency rate in the future framework negotiations as achieved in the budget, it will take 18,738,398 years to complete the negotiations. You know you can do better!

*-Road to Bali, from front page*

A national emissions approach remains essential for a good outcome in Bali.continue.

ECO welcomes the input of new ideas from the workshops convened in this session, including the Russian proposal, elements of which can contribute to the wider Bali Mandate. Other Parties should follow this lead and come forward with new thinking and proposals to advance the post 2012 process.

Try as they may, negotiators cannot put square brackets around the laws of physics. If agreement is not reached in Bali for a meaningful process, commensurate with the challenges posed by climate change, CAN will not hesitate to let the citizens of the world know how their political leaders have failed them. The future of the world is in your hands. Don't drop the ball.

## WE HAVE A WINNER!

After much deliberation (and several carafes of wine) the adjudicators have awarded first prize in the "Best of Bonn" song title competition to:

*"(How Can We Sleep When Our Beds Are Burning)"* - submitted by the EU Delegation.

In the judges' opinion this song best sums up the soporific response of the negotiators to the dire warnings of the scientific community.

Honourable mentions should also go to "Waiting On The World To Change" submitted by AOSIS, "You've Got To Move it, Move it" by the German Delegation and "What About Me" submitted by Anonymous and dedicated to Saudi Arabia.

The judges would also like to express their thanks to the UK delegation for dedicating "It's Not Easy Being Green" by Kermit the Frog to the ENGOS. You got that right!

Prizes will be winging their way to the lucky recipients in due course. Look out for our next CD: "I've been to Bali too" by Red Gum.



## THANKS

Eco wishes to thank all the many contributors that have made its production possible at this SB session. You know who you are!

## LUDWIG

The end of another excruciatingly slow SB session in Bonn finally within sight, Ludwig paused over a Milchkaffee to reflect on the futility of all human endeavours when his ears picked up the passing sounds of a negotiator humming a tune from "The Best of Bonn" Top 10. Intrigued by how the ENGO musical game seemed to have struck a chord with delegates, Ludwig rummaged through his mental musical collection in search of fitting songs. He soon stumbled upon a little known composition by rock legend Billy Joel, whose lyrics were chillingly

appropriate to this week's state of affairs:

"Why are you still so afraid? Where's the fire? (...) You'd better cool it off before you burn it out. You've got so much to do, only so many hours in a day. But you know that when the truth is told that you can get what you want. You're gonna kick off before you even get halfway through. Don't you know that only fools are satisfied? When will you realize, Vienna waits for you?"

Imagining himself sipping Mokka in Café Central, Ludwig wondered whether delegations will indeed treat the

additional session in August not as just an intermezzo but showing their forte orchestrating the post-2012 framework. Sinking deep into the musical bubble of his mp3 player, Ludwig imagined the new worlds of sound that could make up a Bali symphony: Viennese waltzes mixed with Brazilian samba rhythms, the sad sounds of fado taken on the drama of Chinese opera, Japanese drummers switching to tablas and a New Orleans jazz band playing Russian folk songs. Music might not just make the world go round, it could even keep it cool.