

INTERVENTION FOR THE DIALOGUE

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On behalf of Climate Action Network International

Ladies and gentlemen,

In terms of political attention, the climate issue has never been at a higher level. Heads of State at the G8 Summit prioritized it above all others. Until the last weeks US Congressional legislative proposals were coming out so fast it was hard to keep track and many of these will move forward in the coming months. Preparations by the UN Secretary General for a high level meeting in September are underway, joining Heads of State not only from the G8+5 but also those most vulnerable to climate change. As delegates arrive in Vienna they should be aware that the general public, and many influential groups in business and finance, around the world already have the Bali COP on their agenda - and they have high expectations. For them, and for us, Bali is a meeting which must give people, young and old, hope that governments of the world are actually going to get serious about preventing dangerous climate change.

It is in this light that Vienna must be seen. No longer an issue for low level technical negotiations, climate change demands a more serious process to deliver an ambitious outcome in 2009. The G8 decided a timetable for a UN-based comprehensive global negotiation on the post-2012 regime to be completed in 2009. This timetable should be the focus of Vienna as it develops, as it must, the core element of a Bali Mandate.

The next months will be a bumpy road, with attempts left and right to pull attention away from the heart of the matter. We all know that without a

clear plan for how the world will come together and shift the \$20 trillion in energy investments into low carbon, it will be business-as-usual.

Climate change will accelerate further and impede economic growth in all countries. If we want economic growth that is less carbon intensive, one that provides energy services with less carbon and ensures development goals, countries must decide on a Bali mandate that clearly states we are all ready to do more in an equitable fashion and those of us that have contributed more to the problem historically are ready to create incentives and provide support for those who want and need to develop, just in a lower carbon fashion. It must also ensure that there is adequate financing, and compensation, for the impacts already occurring and those to come. With the atmosphere already loaded with so much CO₂, adaptation is not an option, it is a necessity.

The job in Vienna is to build up the political momentum for Bali. Anything less than an ambitious post-2012 regime that finances low carbon development and keeps the planet below a 2 degrees C rise is simply unacceptable. The Dialogue should now be preparing to convert in Bali into a full, intergovernmental negotiation on the elements of the post-2012 regime to be completed in 2009, that are not otherwise done under the AWG.