



KP: Cancun Closing Plenary

CAN intervention, 10 December 2010

Thank you Mr. Chair,

My name is Niranjali Amerasinghe. I speak on behalf of the Climate Action Network.

Distinguished delegates, we gave you a test last week to close the loopholes identified in UNEP's gigatonne gap report. Here is our assessment:

The fact that the latest text recognizes the gigatonne gap and urges Parties to raise their level of ambition is a positive step. After all, the first stage of curing an addiction is to accept that the addiction exists. But, there are many more steps in the path to recovery.

Targets for industrialized countries are not high enough. Improve them!

LULUCF still needs work. Too many want to increase their emissions and hide them away in their secret stashes. The question still stands: will you close the emissions loopholes or entrench the gigatonne gap?

Work on AAU banking is incomplete, but some of the options in your draft look promising. But, all that hot air cannot remain in the system.

Mechanisms – Surplus AAUs, and CCS in the CDM, remain on the table. This is unacceptable.

Last but not least, you must agree to a second commitment period. We cannot stress more strongly how important this is to our mutual survival.

We urge you to continue your homework (i.e. domestic action!) and to come back next year refreshed and ready to complete this work. Once a good accounting system is agreed, and current pledges are captured, we can start the critical work of building on these pledges to lock in fair, ambitious, and binding targets.

Delegates, this is not an impossible goal. The time to act is NOW.