



AWG Kyoto Protocol: Tianjin Opening Plenary

CAN intervention, 4 October 2010

Mr. Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

My name is Gaines Campbell from Brazil. I am speaking on behalf of Climate Action Network, a global network of over 500 NGOs.

We are learning first-hand about the challenges facing China and we want to commend the ongoing contribution made by Chinese NGOs. Your dynamism inspires us!

Colleagues, rightly or wrongly, the credibility of the multilateral negotiating process is increasingly being called into question. Our answer? Prove them wrong!

Big polluters, oft represented by skeptics, are finding politicians willing to evade action but eager to take money. They call NGOs "unreasonable." Well, if our refusal to lower ambition or abandon our shared objective is unreasonable, we shall wear that badge with honor.

Dangerous climate change is here! Science says we need to act today to adapt to a 4 degree world. The best adaptation is urgent mitigation.

The Kyoto Protocol is the first legally binding response. A second commitment period to the KP is one essential building block of a FAB deal that needs to be finalized at COP17 in South Africa.

Current pledges by Annex B parties and existing loopholes put us on a path that exceeds the dangerous temperature threshold of 1.5 degrees C. The abatement shortfall is between 7 and 10 Gigatonnes. You should take any and every opportunity to close this gap.

The possible gap in commitment periods needs to be overcome in an environmentally effective manner.

We hear a lot in this group about the importance of the other track. Our message is simple. Only by showing good faith here can Annex B parties secure progress in the LCA track. Commit at Cancun to the second commitment period of this hard-won Protocol.

The Kyoto Protocol is crucial to the world's efforts to successfully limit climate change.