

eco



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Welcome! Now kindly save the climate...

This week G20 leaders will meet in London to discuss a more coordinated response to the financial and economic crisis. They have an opportunity to turn crisis into opportunity and launch a low-carbon recovery. This week tens of thousands of people are taking to the streets calling for equity and climate protection. It is against this backdrop of both hope and urgency that Eco welcomes the delegates of the UNFCCC to Bonn. It is now eight years since COP6-bis, when the world agreed the Bonn part of the Bonn-Marrakesh accords, signaling that the US could not derail Kyoto. Eco is thrilled to welcome the US back to the united nations (*note: no capitals*) to save the climate – let the race to Copenhagen begin! The FCCC should play a central, catalytic role in the low carbon recovery effort, generating further political momentum, motivating action and ensuring coherence of those actions, helping to avoid a duplication of work.

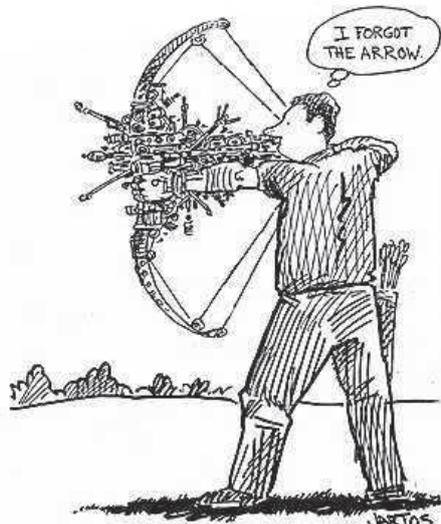
There can be no doubt about the two primary tasks facing the delegates: negotiating an agreement capable of keeping the world below the 2°C threshold, and addressing the critical needs of the developing world to survive, to develop sustainably, and adapt to the climate change that will not be avoided. These two goals must guide us as we begin a race that will no doubt be both a sprint and a marathon.

Staying below 2°C begins with the reality of “common but differentiated responsibilities”. This week Annex I countries must show what it means to take the lead. This means both emissions reductions of at least 25 to 40% below 1990 levels, and the serious – not grudging – provision of financing and technology for mitigation and adaptation in the developing world. The Copenhagen commitments of all Annex I countries will have to

encompass the provision of financial support, technological support and capacity-building for both adaptation and mitigation, as well as deep, legally binding, emissions reduction obligations. It should in particular be recognized that technology cooperation is a key to a Copenhagen deal. But Copenhagen also requires the engagement of the developing countries in the transition to low-carbon development, including the reduction of emissions from deforestation, with the appropriate support as agreed to in the Bali Roadmap.

Addressing the sustainable development and adaptation needs of the developing world begins with paying the past due bills – making good on the many unmet commitments to e.g. the LDC fund, so that the implementation of NAPAs can finally get underway.

The financial architecture to deliver this support should be capable of providing adequate and predictable flows of money –
–continued on back page, col. 1



Annex I's new target mechanism

Responsible global financing

Since Bali, EU negotiators have dodged the crucial financing discussions because they were “not ready”. Last week the EU Heads of State and Government finally adopted a new position on climate financing. So does this mean the EU is finally ready to start negotiating seriously with some real numbers for the money they are willing to put on the table?

Sadly, not quite. EU’s political leaders have not committed to any concrete quantified financial support figure for developing countries, besides the statement that the EU will contribute its ‘fair share’.

The EU appears determined to test the patience of the G-77 and China to the breaking point. Developing countries spent last year producing concrete proposals on technology and finance, as well as outlining national action plans as in many other areas, and they have as of yet gotten little more than a cold shoulder from their Annex 1 counterparts.

A strong financing package with clear numbers is essential if we are to achieve a global deal in Copenhagen. As European Commissioner Dimas said in January this year: “No money, no deal”. Only when the financial gap for developing countries is widely recognized and accepted, will countries further efforts towards planning national mitigation actions and adaptation strategies. Open and constructive negotiations on the finance package, in the spirit of trust-building, should start in earnest here in Bonn. The upcoming G20 hopefully would intensify political pressure on governments to put concrete numbers on the table. ECO is looking forward to see how the EU will translate its new climate finance position in the talks this week.

To be fair, if one takes a more detailed look, the elements spelt out in the EU climate finance proposals are a step in the right direction. The EU leaders decided to support
–continued on back page, col. 3

Youth for AOSIS

In Friday's LCA pre-sessionals, the Marshall Islands made a statement (during a Q&A session) that some here at CAN – particularly the youth – picked up with interest. (The Marshall Islands later admitted to the chair that they jumped the gun a little, considering that negotiations had not yet started...)

“Science must not take a back seat... if it does, this will ultimately lead to an un-signable agreement... We are in the uncomfortable position of negotiating for our sovereignty... our fundamental human rights... our survival. And our survival is not negotiable.”

The global youth movement – another oft-forgotten constituency who are also fighting for their very survival, are particularly heartened by such non-compromising statements and policies from AOSIS – the youth similarly refuse to see their future simply negotiated away. Youth are especially grateful for AOSIS's continued advocacy of the principle of intergenerational equity.

Although AOSIS is not so politically powerful as the US or the EU, they seem to be the

inspirational, moral leadership of this process. For example, in the UN Human Rights Council just this last week, the Maldives's 'Resolution L30' has been successfully adopted. It is now morally binding upon all states supporting the resolution to reach an effective agreement in international climate change negotiations, as it is an issue of fundamental human rights and justice.

Will any other nations commit to safeguarding the survival of the most vulnerable, and of future generations? Such moral leadership would be warmly received by the three billion children and youth of the world.

Note: These negotiations are not a 'balance' between science and pragmatism – when it comes to survival, there is no better pragmatism than the best science. We at CAN are looking forward to Monday's lunchtime technical briefing on new science. We remind the AWG-KP of the Conclusions of their August 2007 session – to consider iterative review of science as new information becomes available.

Frustrations and Demand

The Chair of the Ad-hoc Working Group on Long Term Cooperative Action (AWG-LCA) has prepared the “focus paper” document in response to a request from Parties at its fourth session. The first part of the document has organized ideas and views expressed by the Parties in the last year in four chapters: Shared Vision; Enhanced Action on Adaptation; Enhanced Action on Mitigation; and Finance and Technology.

The building blocks under the Bali Action Plan were meant for full, effective and sustained implementation of the Convention through long-term cooperative action now, up to and beyond 2012. It was expected that the shared vision will uphold the ultimate objec-

tive of the Convention. However, the Chair's text on Shared Vision has failed to do so as well as failed to capture the sense of urgency expressed by the developing countries. It is highly biased towards mitigation, which is important, but it should not be to the exclusion of adaptation to address unavoidable impacts. The chapter on Adaptation has not given any sense of implementation of adaptation action between now and 2012. The issue of equity has been recognized in the Convention but equity in adaptation has not been given any space in either the Shared Vision or Adaptation chapters. Ensuring equity in adaptation at international and national levels must be incorporated into the focus paper.

and an effective and transparent institutional mechanism.

These key points – strong Annex I mitigation targets, technology transfer, and a viable financial architecture – are essential, but of course they are not enough. For better or worse, a Copenhagen deal will have to solve a whole host of additional problems that are an integral part of a comprehensive Copenhagen framework, from the inclusion of international bunker fuels, to the reform or replacement of the Clean Development Mechanism. Details do matter. It will be a long, hard, busy year, but we can do it – because we must. There is no we “tried...”

–*Financial Responsibility, from front page*

further international negotiations on new and innovative mechanisms to generate financing, to include a variety of private and public financial vehicles such as the auctioning scheme proposed by Norway. This creates space to achieve progress towards an agreement here in Bonn on one or more sources of financing, which might help reassure developing countries that they are indeed serious about providing a reliable and continuous flow of public climate funds for developing countries. This could in turn lead to further progress in the area of developing country NAMAs and identifying ways of linking support (via tech and finance) to mitigation and adaptation actions.

The EU leaders also endorsed a reform of the CDM, which is needed to make the CDM genuinely work for sustainable development and achieve real additional emission reductions below low cost projects.

But wait, let's not forget the Umbrella Group (we should mention Japan) members, and in particular a large wealthy country on the other side of the Atlantic that is rejoining the negotiations this week after an eight-year absence. President Obama is currently starting his European Tour, and committed to the promotion of clean energy for the US and getting started on emission cuts. President Obama, Mr. Stern, these efforts will be futile if developing countries are not financially supported to achieve a significant deviation from a business as usual growth of emissions. Without supporting developing country action, you can't stop global warming. When will the US take a position in the climate-financing debate?

To ensure the success of the Copenhagen meeting, as well as a climate-safe future, both the EU and the US must show leadership on climate financing: Parties should support the establishment of a new innovative global financial scheme, such as the auctioning of AAUs (the Norwegian proposal). Both the EU and the US should put forward concrete commitments on finance and technology for developing countries.

We call on rich countries, together, to make annual net government transfers of at least \$100 billion by 2020 (additional to ODA targets) for clean energy, forest protection and climate adaptation. Does this amount seem high? Let's look at this example. Assuming that the EU provides about €35 billion annually by 2020 to developing nations, the share of this contribution would amount to less than one and a half euro a week for each EU citizen. Less than a Bonn metro ticket. ECO would argue that this is a small price to pay for our planet's life insurance policy.

–*Welcome, from front page*

estimated at \$50 billion to \$100 billion or more annually – to meet the growing needs in a way that contributes to sustainable development. Many promising proposals have been made for such a financial architecture, including the Mexican proposal for a global climate fund based on equity principles, the Norwegian proposal for an auction holdback, and the G77/China's comprehensive proposal. Conspicuously absent at this point are concrete proposals from the US and the EU. Any such proposal will have to include both an adequate level of support, a fair assessment of contributions based on Convention principles,