

ECO



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Don't Be a Quitter, Be a Committer!

In yesterday's issue, ECO outlined the process for tabling, reviewing and adopting ambitious commitments for the 2015 agreement, including setting a deadline for tabling initial commitments in 2014. ECO thinks it goes without saying that such commitments – in their various shapes and sizes – should be framed in terms of a five year commitment period. But since SBI is *still* stalled and everyone has some free time, we figured we'd lay out the full case for why that's true.

First, shorter commitment periods encourage early action. As we all know too well, it is easier to put off action when the deadline is far away – and ECO is all about getting action. **Second**, your political masters are accountable on 4-6 year cycles, so 2030 targets set in 2015 would be too many election periods away, and hence candidates for “someone else's problem”. **Third**, a shorter commitment period reduces concerns about locking in low levels of ambition (wonder why ECO would be worried about low levels of ambition...). **Fourth**, single year targets don't give

ECO or Parties any certainty over emission pathways (just see the discussions in the SBSTA work programme on developed country targets). Better to have things defined in advance. **Finally**, it enables targets to be set based on the best available science as that science evolves.

This last point has other design implications. While ECO wants (and the world needs) short commitment periods in order to review progress and ramp up ambition regularly, it is also necessary to know where we are aiming. Thus, a long-term temperature goal, a 2050 global emission reduction target and a carbon budget are crucial for setting the course, as are low-carbon development plans for *all* countries. After all, at least three quarters of all proven fossil fuel reserves have to stay in the ground (and probably more) if the world is serious about avoiding dangerous climate change. So, get into planning mode and start charting the course of those ambitious, 5-year commitment period pledges now. ECO can't wait until 2014 to see what you've come up with!



“Climate Action Network (CAN) has slammed blocking moves by Russia which have stalled progress during the first week of the UN climate negotiations in Bonn, Germany.

CAN - a network of over 850 NGOs all working together to combat climate change - voted to give Russia the nation the weekly fossil award for the country which does the most to block progress in the talks a day early.

Kaisa Kosonen, senior political adviser from Greenpeace International, said so far five days have been wasted as Moscow insisted the rules on agreeing laws in the UN climate process be discussed - meaning many negotiation sessions could not begin - and all efforts at compromise so far have been blocked.

‘It's in everybody's interest that the rules of the game are respected, but frankly, the Russians broke the rules first by pulling out of the Kyoto Protocol and by not taking any climate action even though they are a major emitter,’ Kosonen said.

Moscow's actions seem to stem from their anger over the way their objections to the Doha Decision - which quite rightly removed tons of poor quality emissions permits from the system - at last year's major climate talks was ignored.

However, governments have as few as five negotiating sessions left before the 2015 climate agreement has to be signed. This behavior derails progress towards this deadline.

It comes as science finally re-enters these political negotiations with the kick off of the First Periodical Review to measure the adequacy of and the progress towards the global agreement to limit temperature rise to 2 degrees C.

Scientists told country delegates that the 2 degree limit was still achievable - but its clear there remains a huge gulf between the action governments have currently committed to and what the world needs.

Furthermore, with deadly climate impacts already being felt around the world and the carbon concentration breaking through the 400 ppm landmark, scientists said the world is currently experiencing the “worst-case climate change scenario” envisaged by



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Fossil continued

the IPCC in 1990.

The kind of progress that Russia is blocking includes workshops that would help developing countries do more on climate. For example, unable to proceed are:

a workshop designed to help developing countries prepare and implement emissions reduction targets

efforts to help developing countries implement forest related emission reduction efforts more effectively

This process has the real potential to change lives on the ground by agreeing a global agreement that provides assistance to countries looking to use technology to adapt to the impacts of climate change and reduce their emissions, but right now the interests of a few are holding back its potential to move forward."

Negotiation got you feeling crazy?



**Come to the....
Security/CAN
PARTY**

**SATURDAY, June 8
21:00 - Late
at the Maritim's
PIANO BAR**

*All With Conference Badges are Welcome
Drinks! Snacks! Music! Dancing!*

Distinguished Delegate,

The ECO Presidency is pleased to invite you to a special High-Level Observer Reception in the presence of ADP Chairs Dovland and Mauskar.

The ECO Presidency and ADP Chairs will have the pleasure of presenting you with views, creative ideas and concerns by non-governmental experts closely following negotiations here in Bonn.

The event will begin at 1.15 on Saturday the 8th of June 2013 at the Twilight Ballroom of the Maritim Grand Hotel in Bonn.

* This special event was organised in response to the numerous complaints received from delegates frustrated with the fact that NGOs are not allowed in closed meetings AND limited to short or no interventions in open meetings, due to time constraints. While we love to see delegates reading and quoting ECO, we don't believe it makes up for these shortcomings in NGO participation under the ADP

* Cocktails will be served to delegates who write down and report on NGO views. Fossils will be distributed to delegates who do not show up to this event (courtesy of ECO).

* Dress code: black tie

Progress and Peril in the SBI

ECO has been pleased to see steady progress being made in both subsidiary bodies this week. But don't take our praise too far, Parties. A number of issues in the SBI deeply worry ECO. And so, since we know delegates need something meaty to go with the hardy German beers they'll be enjoying in the Piano Bar tonight, here are a few issues weighing down this issue of ECO.

the transfer of Environmentally Sound Technologies cannot be successful unless the technologies that are transferred are actually environmentally sound. To ensure that this is the case, the UNFCCC should take the lead in defining a Technology Assessment process that would provide countries with tools that they can use to separate environmentally sound technologies from those that are not.

CDM is scheduled to undergo reform this year. The CDM has over 6000 registered projects and has issued over a billion credits. Yet its climate benefits are questionable. It shows that CDM may have delivered less than half of the emission reductions that its rules permit. Not changing the CDM rules could mean that emissions could increase by 3 billion tonnes per year.

Due to technical difficulties, ECO's planned article, discussing successes and making recommendations for further progress on items under SBI, has been suspended until further notice. We hope to resume publication as soon as possible.