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Demands for the Delhi Declaration

Climate change is upon us. The science shows that there is much worse to come. The poor and disadvantaged are the most vulnerable. It is time to be clear...and to act.

Last year in Bonn a positive North/South coalition saved the Kyoto Protocol. With the Protocol's entry into force now within reach, the US and Saudi Arabia are deliberately polarising the debate along North/South lines, and obstructing the way forward. We, the Climate Action Network, a coalition of Northern and Southern NGOs, reject such polarisation. Despite differences in responsibility and capability between the North and South, we must work together to solve this global problem.

We need, most of all, to get onto an emissions path that holds temperature change well below 2 degrees C while allowing for sustainable development. To contribute to that objective, we demand that the Delhi Declaration call for:

- Immediate ratification by Russia and Canada, thus ensuring entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol. And the United States and Australia must also ratify.
- Effective implementation of the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol, which must include rapid reduction of emissions in the North, and substantial transfers of finance and technology to the South.
- Recognition that, given current scientific knowledge, deep cuts in emissions will be necessary to avoid dangerous climate change. These must be achieved in accordance with the principles of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities.
- Increased capacity and financing for adaptation, through the Convention funds. In practice, adaptation should be integrated with sustainable development. However, without far deeper emissions reductions, no amount of adaptation can stave off catastrophic impacts.
- Fair and adequate public participation in decision making and implementation, which requires greatly increased public awareness, education and training.
- Reaffirmation that the right to sustainable development is fundamental to achieving the goals of the Convention and the Protocol. This includes making poverty eradication a global priority, just as it includes shifts to equitable and sustainable patterns of consumption.
- Recognition that the North's historical responsibility for climate change and the pressing needs of the South are the basis for substantial financial transfers to support energy efficiency, new renewables, and sustainable development in the South.

The science, the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, and the need for sustainable development all require that Parties launch a process at COP8, based on the Convention and the Protocol, that moves forward to a just, equitable and adequate global climate agreement.