

# eco



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## Welcome to Bonn!

ECO welcomes Party delegates to Bonn. Now get to work! We know that you fully recognise the immense responsibilities you have at this session. Coming hot on the heels of the sobering IPCC Working Group 3 report, there should be no doubt that the following urgent tasks must be delivered at this Bonn Session:

**Close the Ambition Gap in the pre-2020 period:** ECO is very disappointed to hear that not many Ministers will attend the high-level segment this week on the Kyoto Protocol and the ADP review. ECO suggests that those that do make the effort to come use the time here to tell us how they plan to deal with this gap in the near term. Deeper developed country emissions reductions in this KP commitment period is clearly a key element, as is their support to developing countries for enhancing their efforts to reduce emissions. All countries should use complementary concrete measures - such as scaled up implementation of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency - to close the gap.

**Put the money in the Fund:** Developed country Ministers present in Bonn have an ideal opportunity to signal commitment to mobilising resources for the “newly opened for business” Green Climate Fund. We have lost much time in getting actual climate action funds flowing at scale, so any delays in resource mobilisation for the GCF would be seriously unwelcome.

**Ensure success in Lima for success in Paris:** ECO recalls that at the last session in Bonn, every last one of you expressed your commitment and willingness to work hard for success in Lima and in Paris. We suggest that, at this session, you set in motion the process for developing a **draft text** that will be ready in Lima, and that you finalise the details for the content and preparation of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). This must include agreeing on the information required to be provided with these NDCs so that they are comparable, comprehensible and transparent - a precondition to any ability to ensure equity and adequacy in effort.

ECO urges you to address this now, so that countries will be prepared to make early submissions before March 2015. ECO encourages parties to see both the Climate Leaders’ Summit in September and the COP in Lima as ideal opportunities for making announcements about these commitments.

ECO also urges you to prioritise the issue of adaptation and the protection of those most vulnerable to climate impacts in these discussions, and to put this issue front and centre in any new agreement. We cannot fail the poor. We suggest that you spend time in this session to clarify the idea of an Adaptation Goal

and that you also finalise the work programme towards setting up a mechanism for Loss and Damage.

ECO is confident that you, dear delegates, are up to these tasks. We look forward to witnessing such a sense of urgency these next two weeks that we feel the walls of the Maritim shake in your haste.



CAN is turning 25 this year. That’s right, CAN has been fighting for the climate even before the UNFCCC was established. To celebrate this, we are organising a birthday party and we want you to join us. Come learn about what makes CAN special and engage in discussions with leaders of civil society on how we can strengthen the climate movement. We have always tried to influence your discussions - now, it’s your opportunity to influence ours.

On June 16, we will be sharing CAN’s new direction, and we welcome your input on how CAN could be even more effective going forward as we strengthen the larger climate movement. This half day discussion will be followed by a reception in the Old Town Hall, and an all night party (some traditions never change!) to celebrate all of our successes.

**Register here:**

<http://bit.ly/RegisterCAN25Anniversary>

## Green Climate Fund: from “If and When” to “How Much”

The Green Climate Fund (GCF) is a cornerstone of the emerging architecture of the global climate regime. Just two weeks ago, the Board of the GCF surprised many observers when they reached agreement on the eight essential requirements for the GCF to begin to receive, manage, and disburse funds. This deprives those developed countries who bear the primary responsibility for contributing funds to the GCF, and had been holding back pending these board decisions, of any excuse to delay making substantial contributions to the fund. We now fully expect these countries to put substantial financing at the disposal of the fund by Lima, with disbursements starting in 2015.

Just what does “substantial” mean? The volume of funds must be sufficient to inspire developing country confidence in the commitment of *developed* countries to support climate action and inspire *developing* countries to put sufficient effort into creating projects and programs to make good use of this funding. It must also enable the GCF to create a paradigm shift in the transition to a low emissions, climate resilient world, and to contribute significantly to closing the mitigation gap in the pre-2020 period.

ECO wonders how serious developed countries are about the GCF, really. As soon as the GCF is fully operational, and the institutional arrangements are in place for direct access by developing countries, ECO suggests that regular contributions to the GCF increase rapidly, surpassing USD\$10 billion annually. This must also scale up further to account for a substantial part of the \$100 billion committed by developed countries by 2020.

ECO warns developed countries that the funds allocated to the GCF cannot simply be transferred from a static, or even worse, shrinking budget for climate finance. Rather, developed countries must scale up their overall level of finance and take full advantage of the growing interest across the developing world to pursue low carbon climate resilient development. Many developing countries are already taking ambitious actions with their own resources, but the sum of efforts worldwide still falls short of what is necessary. Funds channeled through the GCF, as well as other sources, can magnify these efforts and leverage much greater actions.

## Two Sides of the Climate Protection Coin:

### Phasing out fossil fuel emissions and phasing in 100% renewable energy!

If the findings of the IPCC’s AR5 were not enough of a call to action, the melting of a major section of the West Antarctic ice sheet now appears irreversible. This is yet another reminder about the extent of climate impacts to which society is already committed and that critical tipping points are now being crossed.

Enough is enough already! ECO thinks it is high time to **start phasing out all fossil fuel emissions and phasing in a 100% renewable energy future with sustainable energy access for all**. It is not enough to stabilise emissions or to slow down their growth. Eventually, all emissions have to be brought to zero. The sooner this happens the better, and the science is clear that it must be before 2050 if we want to limit warming to the lowest levels.

ECO can see no alternative but to transition to a world free from fossil fuels. Much of the known reserves will simply have to stay in the ground. **A just transition must and can be achieved while ensuring that everyone has access to sustainable energy that would enable all people on the planet to achieve a decent standard of living.** The agreement in Paris must acknowledge this fact and send a transformational message to investors, business leaders and decision-makers around the world.

Achieving this goal will require immense transformational changes in all countries and everyone has a role to play. Frequent readers of ECO will not be surprised to hear that developed countries should take the lead on reducing emissions – achieving a phase out much earlier than others. Developed countries must also lead on providing considerable financial, technological and capacity building support to those countries that need it to make their own energy revolution happen.

Phasing out fossil fuel emissions benefits everyone; whether it is the local community currently ravaged by the health impacts of

coal use or the global community suffering from the compound impacts of climate change. The co-benefits of climate protection are significant, and so are the benefits of shifting to 100% renewable energy, regardless of a country’s development level. At the end of the day, protecting the climate, achieving sustainable development, eliminating poverty and ensuring energy access for all are not mutually exclusive, but part of the same winning strategy.

Dear ECO reader, do not think that because these ‘phase out/phase in’ goals are long-term that we have plenty of time to achieve them (and thus that you can spend this session soaking up the sun at a German beer garden). *Au contraire*. Creating a carbon-free world tomorrow will only be made possible by the decisions governments make today. Any delay in peaking emissions will make achieving the lowest levels of warming even more challenging, substantially increase costs of mitigation and adaptation efforts, and may necessitate the need for deployment of environmentally and socially questionable technologies in order to reduce emissions.

While near-term emission reductions are necessary to keep the door open to limiting warming to below 1.5°C, long-term emission pathways are critical to its achievement. ECO is looking forward to hearing about the more ambitious actions taking place or planned in countries across the world at the Ministerial sessions here in Bonn as well as at the Climate Summit in New York in September. We also expect concrete decisions in Lima under Workstream 2.

Like addicts, we need to come to the point where we recognise we need to go cold turkey on carbon. There is no better time than the present, at this Bonn session, to kick the habit!