

NEWSLETTER

THE COUNTDOWN TO CO2PENHAGEN CAMPAIGN IS A GLOBAL MASS MOVEMENT SUPPORTED BY THE WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES (WCC), APRODEV, INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES AND SOUTHERN NGOs FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD



KILLING KYOTO?

A fierce row about the legal form of any outcome to COP15 and in particular whether the Kyoto Protocol will survive, or be superseded, has been dominating negotiations up to Copenhagen. The ball is now in the court of developed countries - and particularly the EU.

Will they live up to their legal obligations and maintain Kyoto, and with it the chance of a FAB deal? Or

will they junk Kyoto and condemn us all to climate chaos?

Kyoto provides legally binding emissions targets for developed countries - without which any attempted action on climate change is doomed. It also clearly respects common but differentiated responsibilities by setting out developed country obligations that are different to developing country actions.

Developing countries are unified that a second commitment period for Kyoto is what is demanded by the legal mandate for negotiations, by the convention and by the needs of the climate. Amending Kyoto must be the foundation for any progress in Copenhagen. *Eliot Whittington*

Read the report

"Copenhagen legal options and equity" at www.aprov.net/climate/

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CARRYING THE BURDEN OF CLIMATE

A giant invoice for 'carbon debt' will be presented at the Climate Summit in Copenhagen today by observers from the South and activists from all over the globe.

Poor countries carry the burden of climate change. Now rich countries responsible for climate change must fund and support poor nations to develop cleanly and to adapt to

the impacts of climate change.

Presentation of the invoice of 150 billion dollars annually takes place at 9 am near the entrance.

READ MORE

Latest news: and our daily newsletter::

countdowntocopenhagen.org

Editor: Stine Leth-Nissen, DCA

Subscription: Send a mail titled [Newsletter] to stine@dca.dk

Or read the Countdown Diary at christian-aid.org.uk

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TALK TO US:

More than 350 people make up the Countdown to Copenhagen delegation. Contact us to find global and local experts and spokespersons. We can comment and give you background on issues relevant for a fair, just and equitable deal.

Examples today:

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THE DEVIL IS IN THE DETAIL

I write this article as I am watching the opening address of the summit from the computer centre and already it is apparent that daggers are drawn between the global north and the Global South. The International media has created such hype about the talks with a calculated onslaught on the Kyoto Protocol reflective of the positions already taken by their governments in one of the most blatant and open attempt to set the agenda for the talks.

A phase - not a protocol

Indeed it was worrying to listen to CNN, BBC and other major news channels who are peddling the story that the Copenhagen talks will replace the Kyoto Protocol which is due to expire in 2012, deliberately forgetting the fact that what expires in 2012 is the first commitment phase of the Kyoto protocol and not the protocol itself. This protocol which took some of the industrialized nations like Germany 9 years to ratify after its inception is

what the American government refused to ratify as part of their foreign policy statement that the United States will not be subject to a legally binding international agreement.

'Climategate'

Not surprising again this week coming from England one of the top polluting nations is the recent propaganda transmissions of a story about climate scientists having exaggerated the effects of climate change. This meant to bring into question the scientific basis for climate change emissions reduction discussions. Maybe the public in the UK will be swayed off course but for those populations on the verge of sinking into the oceans in the small island nations the ridiculous ploy only serves to perpetuate climate injustice.

This summit should have been dubbed the mother of all summits considering the magnitude and gravity of the talks and what is at stake at this

grand conference.

Despite the convening of the summit in Copenhagen wherein negotiations are supposed to take place in order to arrive at a just, fair and equitable climate deal, the host government in cohorts with the rich developed nations club have already concluded a pre-emptive deal in the form of a 4 page document crafted after the Barcelona conference dubbed, A Shared Vision: The global vision for carbon emission reduction. Despite being a short and relatively simple document, the devil is in the detail of this document and how the calculations are done.

Stakes are high

Already it doesn't need a rocket scientist to figure out that the stakes are very high at the talks and there are talks going on behind the scenes attempting to derail the prospects of a just, equitable and fair deal.

Addmore Makanura, Zimbabwe,



SOUTHERN VOICE OF TODAY

Come and meet Addmore Makanura from Christian Care in Zimbabwe at the Countdown to Copenhagen stand (near the Cloakroom - close to the entrance) at 10.30

"If we are to solve the climate problem it is essential that we also solve the development problem. For people in countries like ours it is a matter of survival"

Nafisa de Souza (WCC), India.

(World Council of Churches)

A VISION SHARED - AND CONTROVERSIAL

Countdown to Copenhagen climate advocacy expert Nelson Muffuh from UK development agency Christian Aid, has first hand knowledge of the impact of climate change.

An experienced climate adviser, he is originally from Cameroon, a country in central Africa that has suffered drought, flooding, and desertification.

Important

Here in Copenhagen to help press for a climate deal that is FAB - Fair, ambitious and Binding - Nelson sees the 'shared vision' that must be agreed as

one of the most important, but potentially one of the most controversial, parts of the talks.

Concrete objectives

'The Bali action plan said a shared vision was needed as to how greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) could be cut without undermining the right of poor countries to development. The vision *should* cover the stabilisation of GHG's without undermining the sustainable development and poverty eradication aspirations of developing countries. It should include concrete objectives on mitigation, adapta-

tion, finance and technology development and transfer. These are the building blocks needed for a binding and equitable agreement.'

Q: *Why is it controversial?*

A: Some parties to the conference, the US for instance, say it should be merely inspirational. Others, including most, if not all, developing countries, want it to be operational, with firm commitments that can be monitored.

Q: *Where does Countdown to Copenhagen stand on this?*

A: We want it to be operational, effective and equitable. It must balance environmental integrity with the right to development. This must include a commitment to keep global warming well below 2°C in a way that reflects the historic responsibility of developed countries for GHG emissions, and the right of developing countries to sustainable development.

Andrew Hogg