



Greens/EFA demands for the Durban climate summit (COP17)

PRIORITIES FOR THE UN CLIMATE TALKS

After the disappointing outcome of Copenhagen, Cancun took small steps to revive the climate talks. This year Durban must set a pathway to secure a global climate deal in 2015 at the latest. There are a myriad of outstanding issues in UN climate negotiations, which COP17 needs to take steps to resolve:

Mitigation:

- agree on a **global peak year** of 2015 and a **2050 greenhouse gas reduction target** of 80%, in order to address the 'gigatonne gap'
- agree a **second commitment period for Kyoto Protocol** and close the forestry and hot air loopholes to ensure its environmental effectiveness
- agree a **mandate** with a timetable for a **legally binding outcome** under the Convention track
- address the gap in financing REDD+ (the UN mechanism for tackling deforestation) and ensure REDD+ delivers biodiversity co-benefits and respects local and indigenous communities' rights

Climate financing:

- make progress on **transparency** on delivery and **additionality of fast-start finance** for 2010-2012
- take concrete steps in implementing the Cancun agreements on **long term financing** including on **sources** (e.g. financial transaction tax, shipping/aviation levies) and **developing beyond fast-start finance for 2013-2020**

MRV (monitoring, reporting and verification):

- consolidate agreements regarding the modalities of international scrutiny of developing country commitments (different to the MRV modalities and binding targets of Annex I Parties)
- agree **LULUCF accounting (the method by which emissions from land use and forestry are measured) with reference to historical levels** under the Kyoto Protocol and clarify the application of LULUCF reporting rules under the Convention track

EU MUST SHOW LEADERSHIP

By playing a more proactive role, the EU can help ensure a positive outcome in Durban. By clearly committing to a second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol and stepping up its climate ambition, the EU will take away the argument used by India and China (hiding behind the developing world) that the rich countries are not doing their part. Only by moving ahead can we increase pressure on the other polluters to do their fair share and ensure a successful outcome of the next climate summit. Leadership from the EU implies:

Committing to a second period under the Kyoto Protocol with new targets before COP17

The first commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol, the only globally binding climate agreement that exists today, will expire at the end of 2012. EU leaders must agree to a second commitment period for the Kyoto Protocol, with new reduction targets, before the COP17 starts, while ensuring that all the (hot air and forestry) loopholes are addressed. Kyoto is a core priority for developing countries and abandoning the only legally binding option on the table would be a major step back. The EU should push for an ambitious mandate with a clear timetable for a legally binding outcome for all countries (under the convention track, and to be implemented by 2015).

Stepping up the EU emissions target to 30% domestic reductions

The EU must step up its current weak 2020 emissions target to a 30% reduction, instead of 20%. Such a decision will boost economic growth, create up to 6 million additional jobs in Europe and bring major health benefits for our citizens. It will also reduce our yearly oil and gas import bill by €40 billion and spur innovation in green technologies. By moving ahead and showing the benefits of climate action the EU can bring new momentum to the international negotiations.

Delivering on its financial pledges to developing countries

The EU must deliver on its promises to support climate action in developing countries, helping them adapt to climate change and facilitating their transition to a green economy. This means ensuring the Cancun agreements on climate financing are put into operation, notably the Green Climate Fund. The EU must finally contribute to this fund - through new and additional funding sources and not recycled from development aid - with the annual commitment rising to at least €30 billion by 2020. The EU must outline its planned contribution beyond 2012, when the existing fast-start financing ends. Using new funding sources, like the revenues from shipping levies or a financial transaction tax for the Green Climate Fund, should be a priority for the EU in the context of the economic crisis.

CONCLUSION

The steps outlined above will **not be sufficient to limit the increase in global temperatures to safe levels**. A recent report by the International Energy Agency predicted a temperature rise of between 3.5°C and 6°C if current policies fail to materialise. This highlights the need to address the inadequacy of climate targets. 'Delaying action is a false economy' (IEA) and the climate crisis must be tackled at the same time as the global financial and economic crisis. Europe cannot simply focus on the economic crisis: there is a need for a new vision and a new strategy to tackle all the combined economic, social and ecological crises together, once and for all.

See more on: www.climatecircus.com, www.the-green-race.com and www.stopclimatechange.net