

## **Failed Deal at Copenhagen**

### **Introduction**

The international political response to climate change began with the adoption of the UNFCCC in 1992, setting out a framework for action aimed at stabilizing atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases to avoid “dangerous anthropogenic interference” with the climate system. The UNFCCC entered into force on 21 March 1994 and now has 194 parties.

In December 1997, delegates at COP 3 in Kyoto, Japan, agreed to a Protocol to the UNFCCC committing industrialized countries and countries in transition to a market economy to achieve emission reduction targets. These countries, known under the UNFCCC as Annex I parties, agreed to reduce their overall emissions of six greenhouse gases by an average of 5.2% below 1990 levels between 2008-2012 (the first commitment period), with specific targets varying from country to country. The Kyoto Protocol entered into force on 16 February 2005 and currently has 190 parties.

In 2005, at COP/MOP 1 in Montreal, Canada, parties established the AWG-KP on the basis of Protocol Article 3.9, which mandates consideration of Annex I parties’ further commitments at least seven years before the end of the first commitment period. In addition, COP 11 agreed in Montreal to consider long-term cooperation under the Convention through a series of four workshops known as “the Convention Dialogue,” which continued until COP 13.

COP 13 and COP/MOP 3 took place in December 2007, in Bali, Indonesia. The focus was on long-term issues and the negotiations resulted in the adoption of the Bali Action Plan (BAP), establishing the AWG-LCA with a mandate to focus on key elements of long-term cooperation identified during the Convention Dialogue, namely: mitigation; adaptation; finance; and technology and capacity building. The BAP also called for articulating a “shared vision for long-term cooperative action, including a long-term global goal for emission reductions.”

Parties agreed on a two-year negotiating process, the Bali Roadmap, which included “tracks” under the Convention and the Protocol and set a deadline for concluding the negotiations in Copenhagen. The two key bodies under the Bali Roadmap are the AWG-LCA and the AWG-KP, which held four negotiation sessions in 2008: April in Bangkok, Thailand; June in Bonn, Germany; August in Accra, Ghana; and December in Poznań, Poland.

The United Nations Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen, Denmark, held from 6-18 December 2009. The conference marks the culmination of a two-year negotiating process to enhance international climate change cooperation under the Bali Roadmap, adopted by COP 13 in December 2007. At the UN Secretary-General’s Climate Change Summit in New York in September 2009, over 100 world leaders called for a

comprehensive, ambitious and fair international climate change deal to be agreed in Copenhagen. More than one hundred world leaders have attended the joint COP and COP/MOP high-level segment from 16-18 December.

### Outcome of the Copenhagen meeting

For the meeting 15 Ethiopian Civil Society Network on Climate change representatives have attended the Copenhagen meeting. Before leaving to Copenhagen a position paper was prepared by the ESCNCC which demands developed country parties to fulfill their commitments and to reach a legally binding deal. (Annex 1)

The team members have divided into four major pillars (Finance, Mitigation, Adaptation, and Technology) and have attended the following major events

- Plenary session which are open for NGOs
- Different side events
- Big demonstrations
- Meetings with similar organizations ( PACJA, CAN)
- A debriefing meeting with Approdev and DanChurchAid

The negotiation was concluded only by drafting not legally binding Accord (Annex 2).

The team after evaluating the position paper of the network, African position has reached a consensus that the negotiation was not successful and the issue of climate change is still on the table. "Global emissions will peak later than 2020 and remain on an unsustainable pathway that could lead to concentrations equal or above 550ppm with the related temperature rise around 3°C." The Copenhagen summit concluded without a legally binding outcome. The document is 'inadequate.' However, We hope the post Copenhagen period will be characterised by the full implementation of the political will shown here to save the planet.

Civil society represents the billions around the world who are and will be affected by climate change and who are demanding a fair, ambitious and binding deal. However, since Wednesday the NGO community has been unceremoniously kicked out of the Bella Center, in the name of security and overcrowding. From more than 25,000 registered civil society participants, we are now down to 300 in the Bella Center.

Annex 1:

## *ECSNCC*

### *The Ethiopian Civil Society Network on Climate Change*

#### **Position Paper for COP 15**

##### **1. Position on mitigation:**

- There must be recognition of the urgency of staying below a 2°C global temperature rise, and of the need to decarbonize the global economy.
- Annex 1 (industrialized countries) must commit to cuts in their carbon emissions of at least 40 per cent from the 1990 level by 2020 and at least 80 per cent by 2050, with all reductions to be achieved within those countries, not through carbon trading.
- Each Annex I (industrialized countries) must support, through substantial financing and technology transfer, emissions reductions in developing countries to allow low-carbon development pathways.
- Establish a REDD mechanism governed by a REDD board under the UNFCCC;
- The CDM needs to be fundamentally restructured to better serve sustainable development and activities should be limited to Least Developed Countries and other developing countries with little capacity to act.

##### **2. Position on technology transfer:**

- Remove all barriers to technology transfer and install a flexible IPR regime particularly for most vulnerable Least Developed Countries;
- Establish international technology information center and technology transfer mechanisms;
- Intensify research and development in collaboration with Annex I parties to develop new greener technologies;
- Strengthen South-South cooperation in the transfer of technology;
- Technologies to be transferred need to have practical relevance to sustainable development and improving livelihoods of vulnerable communities;
- Technologies to be developed and/or transferred should be environment friendly, accessible and sustainable.

##### **3. Position on finance**

###### **Amount of funds:**

- The amount of funding should be science-based and not politically driven. In line with this, IIED report asks for up to 300 billion pounds per year by 2020.
- About the 300 billion pounds should be made available immediately to help least developed countries like Ethiopia to take some adaptation actions through implementing the NAPAs.
- After 2020, an Interim assessment should be conducted in the middle of the next commitment period to see if the amount of funds is adequate enough to respond to upcoming findings and reports.

### **Source of funds**

- At least 75% of the fund should come from public finance so as to ensure sustainability of funds. The remaining climate funds from carbon market should pass through a rigorous procedure so as to avoid false emission reductions and green washing practices. The climate funds should also be additional to official development assistance (ODA).

### **Compliance and accountability regime**

- A stringent compliance regime should be put in place to ensure the proper channeling of sufficient funds in due time. On the other hand, climate funds should be spent in a transparent and accountable way and some sort of accountability mechanism should be put in place in this regard.

### **Institutional set up**

- An independent institution should be set up under the UNFCCC to manage the funds. The adaptation fund board could be a good model to be emulated in this regard.

## **4. Position on Adaptation:**

- Adaptation should be a top priority in the negotiation for Ethiopia, Africa and other LDCs
- Adaptation should be a country-driven program. At country level adaptation should be part of a comprehensive National Climate Change Strategy, which is linked to and partially integrated in the national development plans
- Developed country parties should honour their adaptation debt (in accordance with the UNFCCC) and should support developing countries with adequate finance, technology and capacity building
- Adequate and scaled-up financial support should be provided to developing countries through simplified, transparent and directly accessible institutional arrangements (under the UNFCCC)
- Ensure all countries meet their adaptation-related commitments under the Convention and Bali Action Plan, in particular the provision of adequate financial on a regular (yearly) basis and technological support by Annex I countries to support poor countries;
- Establish a Climate Risk Insurance Mechanism to cover losses from high-level impacts and to facilitate insurance schemes;

Annex 2:

## **Decision -/CP.15**

*The Conference of the Parties,*

*Takes note of the Copenhagen Accord of 18 December 2009*

### **Copenhagen Accord**

**The Heads of State, Heads of Government, Ministers, and other heads of the following delegations present at the United Nations Climate Change Conference 2009 in Copenhagen:** [*List of Parties*]

*In pursuit of the ultimate objective of the Convention as stated in its Article 2,*

*Being guided by the principles and provisions of the Convention,*

*Noting the results of work done by the two Ad hoc Working Groups,*

*Endorsing decision x/CP.15 on the Ad hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action and decision x/CMP.5 that requests the Ad hoc Working Group on Further Commitments of Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol to continue its work,*

*Have agreed on this Copenhagen Accord which is operational immediately.*

1. We underline that climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time. We emphasise our strong political will to urgently combat climate change in accordance with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities. To achieve the ultimate objective of the Convention to stabilize greenhouse gas concentration in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system, we shall, recognizing the scientific view that the increase in global temperature should be below 2 degrees Celsius, on the basis of equity and in the context of sustainable development, enhance our long-term cooperative action to combat climate change. We recognize the critical impacts of climate change and the potential impacts of response measures on countries particularly vulnerable to its adverse effects and stress the need to establish a comprehensive adaptation programme including international support.

2. We agree that deep cuts in global emissions are required according to science, and as documented by the IPCC Fourth Assessment Report with a view to reduce global emissions so as to hold the increase in global temperature below 2 degrees Celsius, and take action to meet this objective consistent with science and on the basis of equity. We should cooperate in achieving the peaking of global and national emissions as soon as possible, recognizing that the time frame for peaking will be longer in developing countries and bearing in mind that social and economic development and poverty eradication are the first and overriding priorities of developing countries and that a low-emission development strategy is indispensable to sustainable development.

3. Adaptation to the adverse effects of climate change and the potential impacts of response measures is a challenge faced by all countries. Enhanced action and international cooperation on adaptation is urgently required to ensure the implementation of the Convention by enabling and supporting the implementation of adaptation actions aimed at reducing vulnerability and building resilience in developing countries, especially in those that are particularly vulnerable, especially least developed countries, small island developing States and Africa. We agree that developed countries shall

provide adequate, predictable and sustainable financial resources, technology and capacity-building to support the implementation of adaptation action in developing countries.

4. Annex I Parties commit to implement individually or jointly the quantified economy-wide emissions targets for 2020, to be submitted in the format given in Appendix I by Annex I Parties to the secretariat by 31 January 2010 for compilation in an INF document. Annex I Parties that are Party to the Kyoto Protocol will thereby further strengthen the emissions reductions initiated by the Kyoto Protocol. Delivery of reductions and financing by developed countries will be measured, reported and verified in accordance with existing and any further guidelines adopted by the Conference of the Parties, and will ensure that accounting of such targets and finance is rigorous, robust and transparent.

5. Non-Annex I Parties to the Convention will implement mitigation actions, including those to be submitted to the secretariat by non-Annex I Parties in the format given in Appendix II by 31 January 2010, for compilation in an INF document, consistent with Article 4.1 and Article 4.7 and in the context of sustainable development. Least developed countries and small island developing States may undertake actions voluntarily and on the basis of support. Mitigation actions subsequently taken and envisaged by Non-Annex I Parties, including national inventory reports, shall be communicated through national communications consistent with Article 12.1(b) every two years on the basis of guidelines to be adopted by the Conference of the Parties. Those mitigation actions in national communications or otherwise communicated to the Secretariat will be added to the list in appendix II. Mitigation actions taken by Non-Annex I Parties will be subject to their domestic measurement, reporting and verification the result of which will be reported through their national communications every two years. Non-Annex I Parties will communicate information on the implementation of their actions through National Communications, with provisions for international consultations and analysis under clearly defined guidelines that will ensure that national sovereignty is respected. Nationally appropriate mitigation actions seeking international support will be recorded in a registry along with relevant technology, finance and capacity building support. Those actions supported will be added to the list in appendix II. These supported nationally appropriate mitigation actions will be subject to international measurement, reporting and verification in accordance with guidelines adopted by the Conference of the Parties.

6. We recognize the crucial role of reducing emission from deforestation and forest degradation and the need to enhance removals of greenhouse gas emission by forests and agree on the need to provide positive incentives to such actions through the immediate establishment of a mechanism including REDD-plus, to enable the mobilization of financial resources from developed countries.

7. We decide to pursue various approaches, including opportunities to use markets, to enhance the cost-effectiveness of, and to promote mitigation actions. Developing countries, especially those with low emitting economies should be provided incentives to continue to develop on a low emission pathway.

8. Scaled up, new and additional, predictable and adequate funding as well as improved access shall be provided to developing countries, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention, to enable and support enhanced action on mitigation, including substantial finance to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD-plus), adaptation, technology development and transfer and capacity-building, for enhanced implementation of the Convention. The collective commitment by developed countries is to provide new and additional resources, including forestry and investments through international institutions, approaching USD 30 billion for the period 2010 . 2012 with balanced allocation between adaptation and mitigation. Funding for adaptation will be prioritized for the most vulnerable developing countries, such as the least developed countries, small island developing States and Africa. In the context of meaningful mitigation actions and transparency on implementation, developed countries commit to a goal of mobilizing jointly USD 100 billion dollars a year by 2020 to address the needs of developing countries. This funding will come from a wide variety of sources, public and private,

bilateral and multilateral, including alternative sources of finance. New multilateral funding for adaptation will be delivered through effective and efficient fund arrangements, with a governance structure providing for equal representation of developed and developing countries. A significant portion of such funding should flow through the Copenhagen Green Climate Fund.

9. To this end, a High Level Panel will be established under the guidance of and accountable to the Conference of the Parties to study the contribution of the potential sources of revenue, including alternative sources of finance, towards meeting this goal.

10. We decide that the Copenhagen Green Climate Fund shall be established as an operating entity of the financial mechanism of the Convention to support projects, programme, policies and other activities in developing countries related to mitigation including REDD-plus, adaptation, capacity-building, technology development and transfer.

11. In order to enhance action on development and transfer of technology we decide to establish a Technology Mechanism to accelerate technology development and transfer in support of action on adaptation and mitigation that will be guided by a country-driven approach and be based on national circumstances and priorities.

12. We call for an assessment of the implementation of this Accord to be completed by 2015, including in light of the Convention's ultimate objective. This would include consideration of strengthening the long-term goal referencing various matters presented by the science, including in relation to temperature rises of 1.5 degrees Celsius.