

ECO



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The 12-Step Climate Recovery Programme

While some people get hooked on sex, drugs and rock-and-roll or vast amounts of alcohol, amazingly enough, some delegations have become addicted to frequent and interminable international meetings.

Delegates, should you feel these urges from time to time, Dr. ECO is here to help. Just follow this 12-step program to withdraw from globally destructive behavior and actually lay the groundwork for success in tackling climate change in Cancún and beyond.

1. Conduct a clear and transparent process from here so that all process questions are answered and the next meetings can focus on substance.

2. Relax and embrace the horizontal.

3. Make every day count. You'll procrastinate if you think you have more than enough time.

4. Give the chairs the mandate to devel-

op texts and move the negotiations forward.

5. Help the US improve its pledge of 17% emission reductions from 2005 levels and its promises on international climate funding. Have your head of state mention this the next time they meet President Obama (for example, at the Non-Proliferation Treaty meeting next week).

6. Go for the winning strategy. Start with issues where progress can be made quickly. Following the all-or-nothing approach would mean that Cancún will likely suffer the same fate as Copenhagen.

7. Identify for each decision specifically what pieces can be resolved along the way. This will open up space for Ministers to focus on the true crunch issues in Cancún.

8. Mandate the Secretariat to prepare a 'gigatonne gap' analysis on the Copenhagen pledges vs. the science, on the loopholes in existing and proposed modalities of the KP

and negotiating texts, and on new options to reduce the gap.

9. Make sure the US doesn't go for just any old bill but passes a law before Cancún that includes long-term finance for adaptation, REDD and technology. The rumours on the Senate bill suggest that it currently bypasses these matters.

10. A month before COP 16, confirm new and additional fast-start financing of \$30 billion, with developed country Parties reporting on their support in June, in Cancún and at each COP thereafter

11. Find smart ways to ensure transparency in finance and actions.

12. Adopt decisions in Cancun so technology centers work, adaptation is funded, the REDD mechanism is a reality, finance is flowing and transparency is ensured. And don't forget the science review that has to

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It is clear that the 'nothing is agreed until all is agreed' process in Copenhagen failed.

While firmly keeping the goal of a fair, ambitious and binding deal moving forward, a more sequential approach should be adopted, so that agreements are made on certain key areas first, and the process does not become bogged down in an interconnected tangle that ultimately is too unwieldy to be negotiated.

This is not to say that issues should be completely taken off the table, but by agreeing to put some of them temporarily to one side, the package can be built up piece by piece.

1. KP-AWG. ECO suggests that the following issues should be agreed first, to close loopholes and to ensure that Parties' targets accurately reflect their efforts to close the gigatonne gap and reduce emissions consistent with the ultimate objective of the Convention:

- LULUCF accounting rules to describe what the atmosphere sees
- CDM and other flex mechs modalities
- Methodological issues text

2. LCA-AWG. Good progress has already been made on a number of issues. Delegates should dissect these decisions and identify what can be agreed upon in the coming months, and which ones are crunch issues that Ministers will have to resolve in Cancún. The draft decisions or issues that need to be dissected and resolved step-by-step along the way include:

- Adaptation
- REDD
- Fast start finance
- MRV of finance and actions
- Zero carbon actions plans (developed countries) and low carbon action plans (developing countries) and accompanying Registry
- Technology
- National registries
- Long term finance

In addition, as highlighted yesterday, the gigatonne gap must be addressed. ECO supports the call from AOSIS for a technical paper exploring the gap between current and needed ambition, as well as the size of the loopholes. And there needs to be a forum under the UNFCCC where these issues can be addressed as a matter of urgency.

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be started as soon as possible and completed by 2015, to assess progress against the 1.5° C target. This is one chance to bring ambition back into the game.

If delegations follow this 12-step program to address their addiction to never-ending meetings producing nondeliverables, they will have the time to enjoy the finer things in life, enhanced by reducing the risk of climate change.



Oh, Canada?*%!

Canada is the only country that somehow managed to downgrade its emission reduction target when associating with the Copenhagen Accord. How many times do we have to say it? This approach is backwards and completely unacceptable. **MEMO TO CANADA:** Emissions are supposed to go down, not targets!

Let's review the numbers: Canada's target under the Kyoto Protocol was 6% below 1990 levels by 2012. The federal government walked away from this target long ago and replaced it with a unilateral target of 20% below 2006 levels by 2020 (which equates to a 3% reduction based on 1990 levels).

But wait, there's more! As part of its association with the Accord, Canada then changed its target and base year to a 17% reduction below 2005 levels. Which, by the way, is the same number as the USA. On a 1990 base year this translates to a 3% *increase* on 1990 levels! Who says Canada is not the 51st state?

The distinguished delegate from India hit the nail on the head in his intervention on Friday. While the AWG-KP is about negotiating Annex I commitments post-2012, we should not lose sight of the need for compliance with existing obligations. Canada should honour its Kyoto commitment and adopt a science-based target for 2020. In the meantime, ECO would like to remind Parties that they have the ability to refer countries at risk of not meeting their commitments to the Compliance Committee. (Hint, hint!)

The Dream and the Reality in Cancún

ECO was kept awake last night by flashbacks of standing for hours in the frozen winds of a Copenhagen winter, literally left out in the cold from COP 15 after registrations for observers were shut down and well more than 90% of registered observers were excluded from the final days of that important meeting.

While the weather in Cancún may be more hospitable, rumours have reached our ears that the host country of COP16 may be gearing up to impose similar restrictions, exclusions and shut outs of non-government observers. We hope very much that these rumours are baseless.

Race to the Future

Often in the climate talks, action to reduce emissions is characterised as a burden and a cost to be loaded onto all the others borne by a fast-changing world. And looking at the weak levels of current developed country pledges, it certainly seems that most of these countries are in a desperate race to the bottom on cutting emissions. But ECO knows a different direction is possible. 'How low can you go' is no longer just a challenge on the dance floor. In fact, low carbon is the way to go for a vibrant, prosperous green economy. And those who join the race early are sure to come out as winners.

Deutsche Bank Group's Climate Change Advisors found that when considering the world's climate change policies in respect to movement toward a low-carbon economy, China and Germany are extremely well positioned, while the US lags far behind.

"The countries that move first to a low-carbon economy are definitely going to have a head start in terms of relative growth rates," said J. Scott Holladay, an economics fellow at New York University School of Law's Institute for Policy Integrity.

"In the not-too-distant future there is going to be a huge market for green energy, and it feels like the Scandinavian countries and Germany are leading that charge, and China is quickly catching up. In the US it doesn't seem to be a huge policy priority."

The Deutsche Bank report identified 154 new policy initiatives announced in countries around the world since October, going into and coming out of CopenhagenGer-

Article 4(1)(i) of the UNFCCC commits to "encourage the widest participation in this process, including that of non-governmental organizations." Many delegates can testify to the importance of non-government observers in this process. The sometimes noisy but always dedicated and good-humoured civil society presence adds immeasurably to the capacity, accountability, transparency and momentum of these talks.

ECO will be keeping its eyes and ears open for assurances from the incoming Presidency and the Secretariat that civil society will be welcomed with open arms and full access in Cancún. And we will be awaiting hopefully consideration by the SBSTA in June of the Secretariat's report on enhancing civil society participation and its constructive role.

many already leads the pack in many ways, long ago establishing feed-in tariffs that reward consumers for producing renewable electricity and sending their excess power into the grid. Deutsche Bank calls feed-in tariffs "an integral underpinning of any prosperous green economy."

China, meanwhile, has installed more renewable energy capacity per unit of GDP than either Germany or the United States. Last year it became the world's largest investor in clean energy, putting \$34.6 billion into low-carbon technologies, almost twice that of the US, according to Pew Charitable Trusts.

Despite the lack of a strong federal climate and energy policy, the US is still an attractive place for renewable energy investments, largely due to the 29 states that have adopted renewable electricity standards. This demonstrates the importance of supportive policies in driving forward to a clean energy future.

Developed countries that are stuck in the past, thinking dirty fossil fuels are still the way to go, risk being left behind in the green technology revolution. They too will wake up and join the race to the future, and the challenge for them is to stop fixating on the negative and see the opportunity immediately ahead.



Earth Day 1970...2010...and beyond