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Dear Reader,

Welcome to the first edition of our newsletter in 2009 – the defining year as we push towards an ambitious and effective international agreement on climate change at the crucial UN Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen in December.

The first negotiating session this year will take place in Bonn at the end of this month. Progress at the Bonn meeting is essential if we are to meet the December 2009 deadline.

Yvo de Boer, *Executive Secretary*
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

IN FOCUS

POZNAŃ STRATEGIC PROGRAMME ON TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

The Poznań Strategic Programme on Technology Transfer was welcomed by Parties at COP 14 as a step towards scaling up the level of investment in technology transfer in order to help developing countries address their needs for environmentally sound technologies. In the following interview for the UNFCCC newsletter, the Global Environment Facility climate change team gives an insight into the Programme and what it can achieve. [More...](#)



MITIGATION

The AWG-KP will focus this year on agreeing on further commitments for Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol.



[AWG-KP begins final year of work](#)

Negotiations in Poznań on reducing emissions from deforestation in developing countries (REDD) progressed with the Parties agreeing on the work plan on methodological issues for 2009.

[Progress on REDD issues](#)

Three mitigation-related workshops will be held under the AWG-LCA at the upcoming Bonn Talks in March/April.

[AWG-LCA workshops at Bonn Talks](#)

The CDM Executive Board dealt with a record number of project cases and took important policy decisions at its first meeting in 2009; and the Kyoto Protocol's Joint Implementation (JI) mechanism has accredited its first project verifier.

[Record caseload at first EB meeting of 2009/ JI passes milestone](#)

The UNFCCC secretariat has created a simple and user-friendly web-based interface for uploading Greenhouse Gas Inventory data and related submissions.

[New web portal for GHG-related submissions](#)



ADAPTATION

The Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change is moving forward, with continued engagement by organizations and the private sector.

[Continued progress in the Nairobi work programme](#)

An AWG-LCA workshop on risk management held during COP 14 focused on risk reduction strategies and the role of financial mechanisms for risk sharing and risk transfer.

[Risk management workshop held at COP 14](#)

The creation of a new Least Developed Countries (LDC) portal reflects a major expansion and restructuring of information related to the LDCs on the UNFCCC website.

[New LDC portal on website](#)

FINANCE

Financial support for developing countries to address climate change was given a boost at Poznań, with the Kyoto Protocol's Adaptation Fund becoming fully operational.

[Adaptation Fund set to roll out projects in 2009](#)



Efforts are being made to improve the operation of the Least Developed Countries Fund with regard to speeding up implementation of National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs).

[Support for NAPA implementation assessed](#)

A decision was adopted in Poznań calling for a successful fifth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and for adequate funding for developing countries.

[Fifth replenishment of the GEF to commence this spring](#)



TECHNOLOGY

At COP 14, Parties endorsed the Poznań Strategic Programme on Technology Transfer, and a technology cooperation R&D workshop was held under the AWG-LCA.

[Developments on technology at COP 14](#)

The UNFCCC secretariat is currently preparing a second synthesis report that will highlight priority technology needs of non-Annex 1 countries to support action for both mitigation and adaptation.

[2nd synthesis report on technology needs under preparation](#)

At its meeting held in Bonn from 24-26 February, the Expert Group on Technology Transfer (EGTT) discussed and finalized three advanced reports on performance indicators, financing options and a long-term strategy for technology development and transfer.

[Three advanced reports finalized at EGTT meeting](#)

KEY UNFCCC STATEMENTS

"2009, THE YEAR OF CLIMATE CHANGE, IS ALSO THE YEAR OF OPPORTUNITY. "

[LONDON, UK, 26 JANUARY 2009](#)

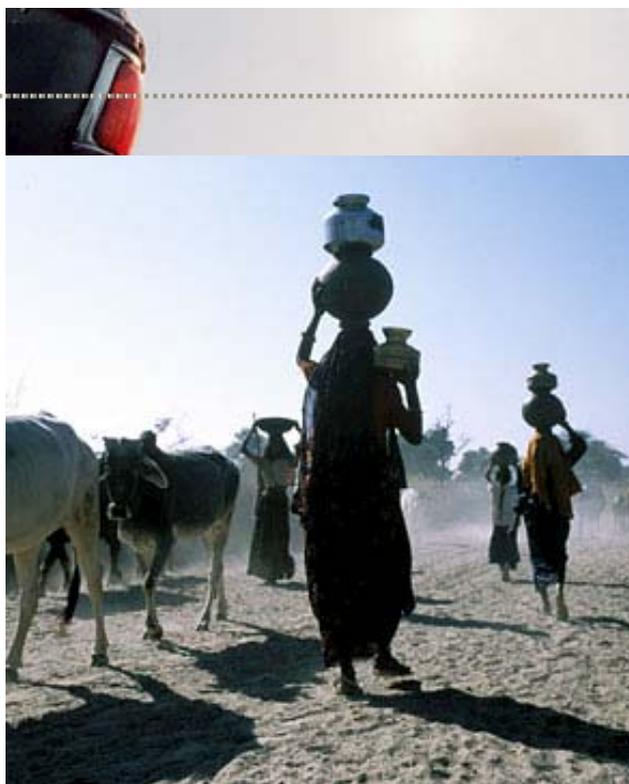
In an address to UK Parliamentarians, Yvo de Boer stressed that a political solution to the world's most pressing problem of climate change was critical for humanity's further development as a whole, and especially critical for the world's poorest and most vulnerable people. He said that other global challenges this year such as the financial crisis and economic downturn presented an opportunity to redirect energy

policies towards a greener future. [More...](#)

"COPENHAGEN 2009 HAS AN IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY IN THE GLOBAL ECONOMY BY FURTHER STRENGTHENING AND EXTENDING THE ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES INHERENT IN 'GOING GREEN'."

NEW DELHI, INDIA, 5 FEBRUARY 2009

In a keynote address at the Delhi Sustainable Development Summit, Yvo de Boer said that Copenhagen needed to further strengthen the current opportunity for a global green revolution by helping to build up a more inclusive, green pattern of globalization. This includes turning developing country mitigation actions into something that both serves and boosts their long-term economic development goals. [More...](#)



GUEST COLUMN

PUTTING ENERGY INTO A GLOBAL AGREEMENT

By Björn Stigson *WBCSD President*

Energy, and our access to it, is at the core of the lives we live. By 2050, the world's demand for energy could double as populations rise and developing countries seek to increase the standard of living of their people. Unchecked, an increased demand for energy will create an increase in greenhouse gas emissions. This is why action on climate change is a priority for governments around the globe. How we use and source energy in the future is critical as the world tries to find climate solutions that foster sustainable economic and social development. [More...](#)



NEW FEATURES ON UNFCCC WEBSITE

"My watch list" is one of several new user-friendly features recently added to the UNFCCC website. [More...](#)

REALIZING A "GREEN NEW DEAL"

One third of the around \$2.5 trillion-worth of planned stimulus packages should be invested in 'greening' the world economy. This would assist in powering the global economy out of recession and onto a Green, 21st century path, says a new report released recently by the UN Environment Programme (UNEP). [More...](#)

SOCHI OLYMPICS, 2010 FIFA WORLD CUP & NORWEGIAN SPORT EVENTS RALLY BEHIND THE CLIMATE NEUTRAL CALL

It used to be "Swifter, Higher, Stronger" but in the future the Olympic motto may well include "lower" at least as it relates to carbon and curbing climate change. Major sporting events around the globe are increasingly looking at neutralizing their carbon footprint as part of overall "greening" strategies. [More...](#)

ACTING ON CLIMATE CHANGE: THE UN SYSTEM DELIVERING AS ONE

The UN system in its entirety has embarked on an action-oriented and coordinated effort to support the international community in rising to the climate change challenge. [More...](#)

[VISIT THE GATEWAY TO THE UN SYSTEM'S WORK ON CLIMATE CHANGE](#)



DID YOU KNOW?

HAMBURGERS ARE THE HUMMERS OF FOOD IN GLOBAL WARMING, SAY SCIENTISTS

Simply switching from steak to salad could cut as much carbon as leaving the car at home a couple of days a week. [More...](#)

FIVE PLACES TO GO BEFORE GLOBAL WARMING MESSES THEM UP

Scientists expect some great travel spots to be altered or ruined by global climate change. Some of the changes are already taking place. Others are expected to be seen in coming decades. [More...](#)

CLOWNFISH LOST AT SEA DUE TO RISING CARBON DIOXIDE LEVELS

The tale of a clownfish that got lost at sea in the 2003 movie Finding Nemo may be a taste of things to come - as rising carbon dioxide levels could leave the fish unable to find their way around, say scientists. [More...](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

10 – 12 MAR
HAVANA, CUBA

NWP TECHNICAL WORKSHOP ON ADAPTION PLANNING AND PRACTICES

The workshop will look at integrating practices, tools and systems for climate risk

assessment and management and disaster risk reduction strategies into national policies and programmes. [More...](#)

18 – 19 MAR
BONN, GERMANY

9th RSA FORUM

The Forum is attended by registry system administrators and helps enforce best practices between national registries and the International Transaction Log (ITL) administrator.

23 – 24 MAR
BONN, GERMANY

EXPERT MEETING ON METHODOLOGICAL ISSUES RELATING TO REFERENCE EMISSION LEVELS

This expert meeting is part of the programme of work on methodological issues of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA). [More...](#)

23 – 25 MAR
BONN, GERMANY

CDM-EB 46

Executive Board of the Clean Development Mechanism, Forty-sixth Meeting [More...](#)

29 MAR – 08 APR
BONN, GERMANY

AWG-KP 7 and AWG-LCA 5

Seventh session of the AWG-KP and fifth session of the AWG-LCA [More...](#)

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