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UPCOMING EVENTS



Dear Reader,

Welcome to the latest edition of our UNFCCC newsletter. The second round of international climate change negotiations this year starts at the beginning of June in Bonn. This session marks a further milestone on the road to Copenhagen, as real negotiating texts will be on the table for the first time.

This will intensify negotiations and help Parties to further pinpoint the elements to be included in a Copenhagen agreed outcome.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Yvo de Boer'.

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

IN FOCUS

FIRST NEGOTIATING TEXTS ON THE TABLE AT BONN TALKS IN JUNE

With six months left to the climate change conference in Copenhagen in December, Parties at the Bonn Talks in June will discuss the first negotiating texts for a possible agreed outcome in Copenhagen on enhanced international climate change action. In interviews for this newsletter, the Chairs of the AWG-KP and the AWG-LCA, who drafted the negotiating texts from ideas and proposals submitted by Parties, share their views on what remains to be done to reach a successful outcome in Copenhagen. [More...](#)





MITIGATION

One of the main outcomes of the AWG-KP seventh session in Bonn in March was the mandate given to the Chair to prepare two documents that will provide a basis for the group to intensify negotiations.

[AWG-KP to focus on negotiating emission reduction commitments for Annex I Parties at Bonn Talks in June](#)

A major focus of the discussions on mitigation under the AWG-LCA at the Bonn Talks in March was the level of ambition of mitigation action by developed countries and the nature and scope of nationally appropriate mitigation action by developing countries.

[AWG-LCA informed by three mitigation workshops at March Bonn Talks](#)

Greenhouse gas emissions data for individual countries can soon be accessed using Google maps. This new user-friendly feature will complement the GHG data interface currently available on the UNFCCC website.

[UNFCCC emissions data available on Google maps](#)

Interested in becoming a recognized UN expert on reviews of greenhouse gas emissions and inventories? The UNFCCC secretariat is seeking to train new recruits for its expert review teams.

[Review expert training courses](#)

An important matter to be resolved under the AWG-LCA is the establishment of reference emissions levels with regard to reducing emissions from deforestation in developing countries (REDD). An expert meeting in March discussed the related issues.

[Expert meeting on reference emission levels for REDD](#)

ADAPTATION

During the discussions on enhanced adaptation under the AWG-LCA at the Bonn Talks in March, six main topics emerged that may constitute the structure of the negotiation text for the adaptation part of the Copenhagen agreed outcome.

[Clear progress on adaptation at the March Bonn Talks](#)

In April, Cairo was the setting for a Nairobi programme workshop on increasing economic resilience to climate change and reducing reliance on vulnerable economic sectors.

[Egypt hosts technical workshop on adaptation and economic diversification](#)

To increase outreach and understanding of the Nairobi work programme, the secretariat has produced a range of leaflets that are available to all interested stakeholders.

[New leaflets on the Nairobi work programme](#)

A three-day Nairobi work programme workshop held in the Cuban capital, Havana, examined ways of integrating climate risk management and disaster risk reduction into national planning.

[Workshop on disaster risk management and development planning](#)



FINANCE

All Parties at the Bonn Talks in March agreed on the need to scale up financial resources to help developing countries respond effectively to climate change, but more clarity is needed on industrialized country commitments on finance.

[Developments on finance at March Bonn Talks](#)

Four countries have now received technical assistance from the secretariat to conduct financial needs assessments as part of the National Economic, Environment and Development Study (NEEDS) for Climate Change Project launched early this year.

[First beneficiaries of NEEDS for Climate Change Project](#)

The four-day meeting of the Adaptation Fund Board in Bonn in March agreed on operational policies and guidelines for Parties to access resources from the Adaptation Fund.

[Adaptation Fund one step closer to funding adaptation projects](#)

TECHNOLOGY

At the Bonn Talks in March, a number of interesting ideas emerged on how to improve the delivery of technology to support mitigation and adaptation action, as well as the transition towards a low-emissions development path.

[Progress made on delivery of technology at March Bonn Talks](#)

Technical and financial support for the preparation and update of technology needs assessments made by developing country Parties will be made available under the



first funding window of the Poznań Strategic Programme on Technology Transfer.
[Technology Needs Assessments supported by Poznań Strategic Programme](#)

The first interim report of the Global Environment Facility on the Poznań Strategic Programme on Technology Transfer focuses on progress made on the first two activities - technology needs assessments and technology transfer pilot projects.
[First progress report on Poznań Strategic Programme](#)

KEY UNFCCC STATEMENTS

“THE CLEAN DEVELOPMENT MECHANISM IS INCENTIVIZING INVESTMENT IN CLEAN DEVELOPMENT AND CONTRIBUTING TO ADAPTATION.”

Geneva, Switzerland, 27 April 2009

Addressing participants at an Expert Meeting on Trade and Climate Change, UNFCCC Deputy Executive Secretary Richard Kinley spoke of the important role of the Clean Development Mechanism in directing money towards green, sustainable development. [More...](#)



“THE MAIN CHALLENGE IS MANAGING ALL THE RESOURCES THAT ARE OUT THERE TOWARDS ACHIEVING THE DESIRED CLIMATE RESULT.”

Washington, USA, 26 April 2009

At an informal gathering of Ministers of Finance and Development in Washington, UNFCCC Executive Secretary Yvo de Boer stressed the importance of an equitable governance structure for finances under a Copenhagen agreed outcome. He said that such a governance structure must respond to the needs of developing countries. [More...](#)



GUEST COLUMN

China Embarks on a Path towards a Low Carbon Future

By **Changhua Wu**,
Greater China Director, The Climate Group

A miracle is often expected in a crisis. The miracle in the current financial and climate crises is the fundamental shift in expectations away from our dependence on fossil fuels and economic prosperity. Whilst global leaders are betting the future on a "Green New Deal," China once again surprised the world by allocating 38% of its stimulus package towards green projects, including low carbon infrastructures such as railways. After creating an economic miracle in the last three decades by achieving continuous nearly double-digit annual growth and lifting tens of millions of people out of poverty, the world's most populous country seems determined and well positioned to steer its economy towards a low carbon future. [More...](#)



NEWS AND VIEWS ON THE ROAD TO COPENHAGEN

Keep informed and share your ideas using some of the latest web tools.

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OTHER UN CLIMATE NEWS

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 2009

The World Environment Day celebrations, held annually on 5 June, will be hosted this year by Mexico. The theme for 2009 is "Your Planet Needs You - UNite to Combat Climate Change." [More...](#)

UNDP ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN TO REDUCE GREENHOUSE GASES

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) invites you to take part in an advertising campaign to help reduce greenhouse gases. The campaign encourages people to do 12 simple things to reduce their carbon footprint. [More...](#)

COOLPLANET2009 WEBSITE

Launched in March, the website is the centrepiece of the

GOES LIVE

CoolPlanet2009 campaign, a year-long campaign to raise awareness on environmental issues and to mobilize citizens in support of a new climate agreement in Copenhagen in December this year. [More...](#)

VISIT THE GATEWAY TO THE UN SYSTEM'S WORK ON CLIMATE CHANGE



DID YOU KNOW?

RAINFOREST FILM BRINGS OUT STARS

An array of celebrities have appeared alongside Britain's Prince Charles and an animated frog in a film to highlight the dangers of deforestation. [More...](#)

MELTING SNOW FORCES ITALY AND SWITZERLAND TO REDRAW BORDERS

Italy and Switzerland have decided to redraw their border after global warming dissolved Alpine glaciers that marked out the frontier between the two countries, according to reports. [More...](#)

SPAM TRAMPLES ENVIRONMENT WITH HUGE CARBON FOOTPRINT

The 62 trillion spam emails sent in 2008 created carbon emissions equivalent to that of 2 billion gallons of petrol burnt in a car engine, according to a report by computer security firm McAfee. [More...](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

1 –12 JUNE

BONN, GERMANY

Bonn Climate Change Talks June 2009

Thirtieth sessions of the UNFCCC Convention subsidiary bodies, SBSTA and SBI, sixth session of the AWG-LCA and eighth session of the AWG-KP. [More...](#)

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