



## Klima- og energiminister Lykke Friis' tale til COP 16 – Overdragelse.

Knap 5 min.

### [Overskrift]

26. november 2010

Excellencies,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Dear delegates from all over the world.

KADAH/SOJAK

### Intro

Standing in the midst of the ancient Mayan heartland,  
I'm reminded of the popular saying,  
that the pyramids are among the few man-made objects visible from outer space.

Of course, we know that this is not the entire story,  
but only a few great phenomena  
– like the pyramids –  
have indeed witnessed the changing seasons of two millenniums.



Across the hemisphere,  
we find another such great phenomenon.  
The ice cap of **Greenland** has rested under the  
northern star for thousands of years.

But times are changing,  
and a new chapter is added to the story:  
When I visited Greenland a few months ago,  
I looked the grim effects of global warming right  
into the eye.

Suddenly, spring starts two weeks earlier,  
and the ice cap is melting rapidly.

Indeed, no matter how we look upon it,  
it is an indisputable scientific fact,  
that climate change is happening,  
and it will continue,  
if we don't act.

Unless we chart a new course on energy,  
reduce emissions  
and adopt solid measures on adaptation,  
we are heading down the wrong side of the road.



Because climate change has no borders and affects us all,  
but has the strongest repercussions on those,  
who have contributed the least to the problem.

Just take the citizens of the **Maldives**,  
which I visited last week:  
they will literally be taken by the sea,  
if we don't act at the global level.

Excellencies,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Dear delegates

For the next two weeks we represent the  
**multilateral response** to the great challenge of  
climate change.

Our response must match realities.



Finance must flow to the least capable of dealing with the challenge, global emissions must peak within a decade and they must be more than halved before 2050.

And even though, we may not establish the ultimate framework for comprehensive global action here in Cancun, we need to take decisive steps towards the ultimate goal - a legally binding outcome.

We simply need to build the strongest foundation possible.

As you say here in Mexico:

*“If the house is built on the rock,  
it will remain,  
despite strong winds and storms”*

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Let's be frank with one another,  
it is not going to be an easy ride here in the  
**Moon Palace.**



But with the excellent stewardship of our Mexican host,

the support of the Secretariat and the guidance of our two chairs,

And with YOUR determined collective effort, it's my hope that we'll have the same experience as one of the astronauts

travelling to the *real* moon – I quote

*“When you're finally up at the moon  
looking back on earth,  
all those differences and nationalistic traits  
are pretty well going to blend,  
and you're going to get a concept  
that maybe this really is one world ...”*

So dear delegates;

Let's show the world,

that climate change was not put on ice in freezing Copenhagen,

that we can build upon the progress made,  
and that we can strike a balanced deal.



so in short:

let's show the world that Cancun can!

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