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## **UNFCCC chief urges countries to come out of self interest**

### **Anup Khastagir from Bangkok**

BANGKOK, October 9 (BSS)- The two-week Bangkok round of UNFCCC sponsored climate talks ended here today with UNFCCC's top official urged the countries to come out of self interest to reach a fair and equitable climate agreement in Copenhagen in December next.

Various groups including the developing countries and environment organizations called on world leaders to show political will to reach an agreement as a successful deal is not possible without their emission reduction commitment as well as finance for adaptation and capacity building of developing countries.

In his concluding briefing UNFCCC Executive Secretary Yvo de Boer said all ingredients for success of the Copenhagen conference are on the table, but the remaining hurdles could not be resolved if the parties do not come out of self interest and let live common interests.

"An impression being created here that the USA wants to kill the Kyoto Protocol, made it difficult to make advance the process in a constructive atmosphere," he said.

Apart from good advance in a number of areas including adaptation, technology transfer, the Bangkok meeting made progress in narrowing differences of parties on various issues giving the architecture of the Copenhagen text better shape, said Michael Zammit Cutajar, Chair of the Ad-hoc Working Group on Long Term Cooperative Action (AWG-LCA).

He said, we were not expecting everything to be resolved in Bangkok particularly the issues of level of mitigation commitment of developed countries and financial support for developing countries.

"But, he said, I say the clarity of the discussion towards the conclusion must be reached in Copenhagen".

Both the Boer and Cutajar said the negotiators have done utmost what they can, and have made useful progress on the text, but one thing is clear- success of a deal depends agreement on the key issues.

Senior fellow in the climate change group at the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), Saleemul Huq, said, it seems like the negotiators from industrialised nations either didn't follow their leaders (attended the UN climate summit) or haven't been received any new instructions to move the negotiation forward.

He said the Bangkok have largely failed to deliver any substantive progress on targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, or the transfer of technology and finance from rich to poorer nations for adaptation and mitigation.

"One area of hope is that countries are now reaching agreement that adaptation is essential to protect people and economies in the developing nations," said Huq.

But the big questions still to be answered are- how much money will developed nations provide and how will it be channelled to make adaptation a reality, he said.

He said President Obama and leaders of other industrialised nations all lined up last month to say how committed they were to tackling climate change and reaching an effective agreement in Copenhagen.

"But it seems like the negotiators from industrialised nations either didn't follow their leaders' speeches or haven't been received any new instructions to bring the process ahead," he said.

As head of delegates of the USA, EU, India today clarified their respective positions as far as their roles are concerned in future climate regime, the international environment organizations said the developed countries' leaders are still showing their lack commitment for climate.

The developed and developing countries are still widely divided on some key areas. These are- emissions reduction targets, substantial financing for developing countries, and the role that major developing countries will play in the next round of climate action.

De Boer said, "it need not tell that the time is running out. We have only five days in Barcelona. So, you can only take good faith, so far, and if there is no real advance in some areas it will be difficult to continue the work in good faith.