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Dear Reader,

Welcome to the latest edition of our UNFCCC newsletter.

The focus of this issue is on progress made at the latest round of Climate Change Talks in Accra in August. One of the major developments in Accra was the agreement to compile proposals by Parties into a document which could serve as a first version of a negotiating text at Poznań in December.

Our next issue in November will look ahead to the Poznań Conference, a major milestone on the road to Copenhagen 2009.

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

VIDEO STATEMENTS

VIDEO OF ACCRA CLOSING PRESS CONFERENCE

Briefing the media on the final day of the Talks, Yvo de Boer gave an upbeat assessment of progress made: "We're still on track, the process has speeded up and governments are becoming very serious about negotiating a result in Copenhagen." [View video...](#)



IN FOCUS

CARBON MARKET, INTERNATIONAL OFFSET MECHANISMS CRITICAL IN

MEETING CLIMATE CHANGE CHALLENGE

To help countries meet their greenhouse gas emission targets under the Kyoto protocol, and to encourage the private sector and developing countries to contribute to emission reduction efforts, three market-based mechanisms were included in the Protocol – emissions trading, the clean development mechanism and joint implementation. In the following interview for this Newsletter, John Kilani, recently appointed Director of the Sustainable Development Mechanisms programme at the UNFCCC secretariat, talks about the important and expanding role of these mechanisms in tackling climate change. [More...](#)



MITIGATION

Progress was made on a number of Mitigation issues in Accra, including on deforestation, how to enhance the Clean Development Mechanism, and on the means to reach emission reduction targets.

[Recent developments on Mitigation at the Accra Talks](#)

A new web platform aimed at sharing information on reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD) in developing countries is about to be launched.

[New REDD web portal ready for launch](#)

The link of the UNFCCC's Independent Transaction Log (ITL) with the Community International Transaction Log (CITL) scheduled for mid-October, is set to boost the exchange of global emissions credits.

[Linking of ITL and CITL almost complete](#)

An update of the UNFCCC's Kyoto Protocol (KP) reference manual – a tool to assist Annex I Parties in the accounting of emissions and assigned amounts under the KP – is due for publication before the Poznań meeting.

[Update of Kyoto Protocol reference manual](#)

With most Parties to the Kyoto Protocol having become eligible earlier this year to participate in the Kyoto mechanisms, the first annual submissions on a voluntary basis are now being made.

[First UNFCCC annual review under the Kyoto Protocol](#)

ADAPTATION

Among the Adaptation issues highlighted in Accra was the need was for increased financial and technological resources – additional to current development assistance – in order to implement adaptation activities.

[Recent developments on Adaptation at the Accra Talks](#)



The second phase of the Nairobi work programme is continuing its engagement of organizations, with an increasing number having provided action pledges. The secretariat has also begun an initiative to engage with the private sector on their work on adaptation to climate change.

[Update on Nairobi work programme](#)



FINANCE

The stage was set in Accra for negotiations on a future financial architecture to enhance implementation of the Convention, with Parties formally presenting their proposals during the contact group on delivering on technology and financing.

[Recent developments on Finance at the Accra Talks](#)

The UNFCCC secretariat is organizing a workshop on 10-11 November, 2008 in connection with the planned update of its technical paper on Investment and Financial Flows to Address Climate Change.

[Financial Flows Workshop](#)

The Adaptation Fund Board has reached a number of key milestones during its first year. These will establish the institutional architecture for the Fund to start supporting concrete adaptation projects and programmes, particularly in vulnerable countries.

[Key milestones reached by Adaptation Fund Board](#)



TECHNOLOGY

Technology was a cross-cutting issue for discussion in all three contact groups under the Ad hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action. The challenge of delivering enhanced technology cooperation and transfer for effective implementation of the Convention was highlighted.

[Recent developments on Technology at the Accra Talks](#)

The EGTT held a special meeting to discuss its work in three main areas, including performance indicators for technology development and transfer.

[Special meeting of the EGTT in Accra](#)

A “training of trainers” workshop on preparing technology transfer projects for financing took place last week in Vienna. Particular emphasis was on preparing and presenting proposals related to environmentally sound technologies to mitigate and/or adapt to climate change.

[Training of Trainers workshop in Vienna](#)

KEY UNFCCC STATEMENTS

"PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING OF CLIMATE CHANGE CRUCIAL TO SECURING COPENHAGEN DEAL"

GENEVA, SWITZERLAND, 31 AUGUST 2008

In a speech in Geneva to mark the 20th anniversary of the IPCC, Roberto Acosta, on behalf of Yvo de Boer, stressed that public understanding of climate change plays a crucial role in securing the political commitment necessary to reach a strong agreed outcome in Copenhagen in 2009. While he praised the achievement of the IPCC in opening the world's eyes to climate



change, he emphasized that the public across the world, and the climate change process itself, need a scientific wake-up call for Copenhagen. [More...](#)

"AFRICA HAS SO FAR BEEN THE FORGOTTEN CONTINENT OF THE CLIMATE CHANGE PROCESS. THIS NEEDS TO CHANGE AND THIS IS THE TIME TO DO IT!"

AFRICA CARBON FORUM, DAKAR, SENEGAL, 3-5 SEPTEMBER 2008

Speaking to carbon market stakeholders and government representatives at the first carbon forum to be held in Africa, Yvo de Boer pointed out that Africa was the continent hardest hit by climate change, yet benefited least from the current international climate change regime – a situation which called for concerted engagement by African leaders in the current round of



climate change negotiations. These negotiations, he said, were a chance to put in place new arrangements that would help Africa cope with the impact of climate change and spur green growth across the continent. [More...](#)

"THE AGREED OUTCOME IN COPENHAGEN 2009 NEEDS TO BE AMBITIOUS ON ALL FRONTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE ABATEMENT"

POHNPEI, MICRONESIA, 12 SEPTEMBER 2008

Addressing Heads of State and Government and Ministers at the 19th meeting of the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme in Pohnpei, Micronesia, Yvo de Boer called on Small Island Developing States (SIDS) to be more vocal regarding their needs under an agreed outcome in Copenhagen, and to bring elaborated proposals for solutions to the negotiations. He stressed that SIDS have much to gain



under a strong agreed outcome in Copenhagen in 2009, including both mitigation support and, crucially, additional and predictable funding for adaptation. [More...](#)

OTHER UN CLIMATE NEWS

COMBATING CLIMATE CHANGE COULD CREATE MILLIONS OF JOBS, SAYS UN-BACKED STUDY

Tackling climate change could potentially generate millions of new employment opportunities, according to a new United Nations-backed study, the first of its kind on the emergence of a "green economy" and its impact

on labour. [More...](#)

Three language versions of the report can be downloaded [here](#).

UN PARTNERS WITH YOUTUBE TO LAUNCH ONLINE TELEVISION CHANNEL

The United Nations has launched its television channel on YouTube, a popular video sharing and social networking web site, in an effort to reach a broader and younger audience on a range of issues on the UN agenda. [More...](#)

NEW UN-BACKED REPORT WARNS OF COSTS OF INACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Government leaders must take urgent action to ensure that weather-related hazards, which are becoming more intense and frequent due to climate change, do not lead to a corresponding rise in disasters, according to a new UN-backed report. India, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Indonesia are identified as being among global warming's "hotspots." [More...](#)
The report can be viewed [here](#).

UNDP INTRODUCES YOUTH VERSION OF 2007-2008 HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT

The youth version of the UNDP's 2007-2008 Human Development Report has been released. The title, "Two degrees of separation between hope and despair," refers to the Human Development Report's warning that temperatures must not rise more than two degrees Centigrade above pre-industrial levels. [More...](#)

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



GUEST COLUMN

CATALYZING CLIMATE ACTION AND INVESTMENT

By Joelle Chassard

Manager, Climate Finance Unit, The World Bank

The future looks a little brighter in Senegal following a unique agreement last month between the Senegalese Rural Electrification Agency and the World Bank to provide some 1.5 million compact fluorescent lamps to tens of thousands of rural households. While half a world away in northern Russia, estimated emissions of 6.7 million tons of CO2 equivalent are set to be avoided, following an agreement with the Bank for the recovery and utilization of the associated petroleum gas at the Komsomolskoye oil field. [More...](#)



DID YOU KNOW?

DUTCH VENUE MAKES CLUBBING ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY

A club where dancers generate power to light the floor, drinks come in recyclable cups and toilets flush with rain water opened in the Netherlands on Thursday, hoping to lure environmentally conscious clubbers. [More...](#)

WARMER WINTERS SPUR POLISH VINTNERS TO INFILTRATE VODKA COUNTRY

As rising temperatures hurt vineyards in places like Spain, vintners more than 1,000 miles north in Poland are trying to turn the European Union's biggest vodka producer into a burgeoning wine country. [More...](#)

EINSTEIN FRIDGE DESIGN CAN HELP GLOBAL COOLING

An early invention by Albert Einstein has been rebuilt by scientists at Oxford University who are trying to develop an environmentally friendly refrigerator that runs without electricity. [More...](#)

ELECTROSMOG ENTERS THE DICTIONARY

"Electrosmog," "eco-village" and "carbon footprint" are among the new environmental terms which have made it into the latest Chambers Dictionary. Dictionary editors said the new words painted a "vivid picture of current interests and concerns." [More...](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

06 – 10 OCT
BONN, GERMANY

COMPLIANCE 5

The fifth meeting of the plenary of the Compliance Committee of the Kyoto Protocol will be held in Bonn, Germany from 8 to 10 October 2008. This meeting will be preceded by the sixth meeting of the enforcement branch, which will take place from 6 to 7 October 2008, and the sixth meeting of the facilitative branch, which will take place on 7 October. [More...](#)

22 – 24 OCT
SANTIAGO, CHILE

CDM-EB 43

Forty-third meeting of the Executive Board of the Clean Development Mechanism.

22 – 23 OCT
ATHENS, GREECE

UNFCCC WORKSHOP ON THE SECOND REVIEW OF THE KYOTO PROTOCOL PURSUANT TO ITS ARTICLE 9

This pre-sessional workshop is being held in preparation for the second review of the Kyoto Protocol pursuant to its Article 9, which will take place at Poznań in December. [More...](#)

27 – 28 OCT
SANTIAGO, CHILE

DNA FORUM 6

Sixth meeting of the Designated National Authorities Forum.

06 – 07 NOV
RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL

EXPERT MEETING ON MONITORING AND EVALUATING CAPACITY-BUILDING IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

The meeting will focus on experiences in using performance indicators at the national level.

26 – 28 NOV
POZNAN, POLAND

CDM-EB 44

Forty-fourth meeting of the Executive Board of the Clean Development Mechanism.

27– 28 NOV
POZNAN, POLAND

JISC 13

Thirteenth meeting of the Joint Implementation Supervisory Committee. The JISC will consider a number of issues with regard to the operation of the Track 2 procedure it oversees, and related governance matters. [More...](#)

01 – 12 DEC
POZNAN, POLAND

COP 14 AND CMP 4

The United Nations Climate Change Conference in Poznań will be a milestone on the road to success for the processes launched under the Bali Road Map. The conference will include the 29th sessions of the Convention's subsidiary bodies – SBSTA and SBI – as well as the 4th session of the AWG-LCA and the 2nd part of the 6th session of the AWG-KP. [More...](#)

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