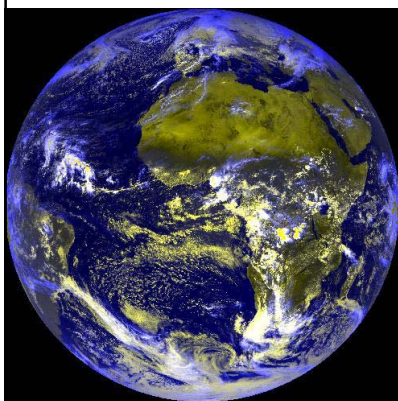


## **2009: The year of climate change**

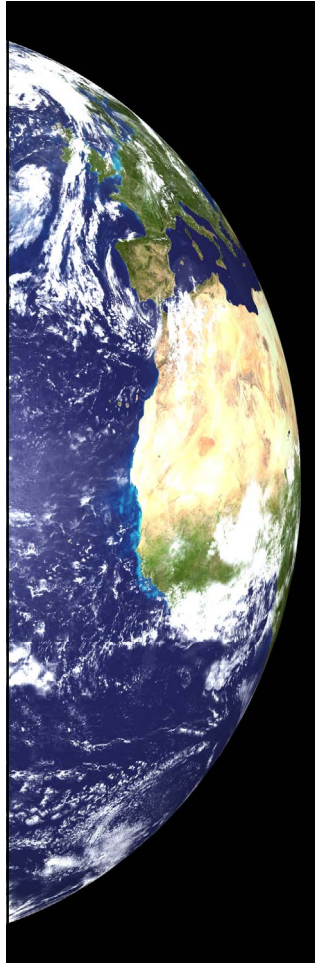
**The intergovernmental climate change  
negotiations towards Copenhagen**



***Yvo de Boer***

***Executive Secretary  
UNFCCC***





# The UN Framework Convention on Climate Change

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- 192 Parties – near universal membership
- **The ultimate objective of the Convention:** change is inevitable, but pace and intensity must be managed so that people and ecosystems can adapt.
- Principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities: **developed countries must take the lead**
- Annual meetings of all Parties at the Conference of the Parties (COP) to take decisions





# The Kyoto Protocol

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- Entry into force on 16 February 2005
- 183 Parties (December 2008)
- Commitment period: 2008 – 2012

## Main features

- **Legally binding targets** for emissions of six major greenhouse gases in industrialized countries during first commitment period
- At the end of 2012: reduction of about 5%
- New **international market-based instruments** creating a new commodity: carbon
- **Valuable architecture**, but scope not commensurate with the scale of the problem



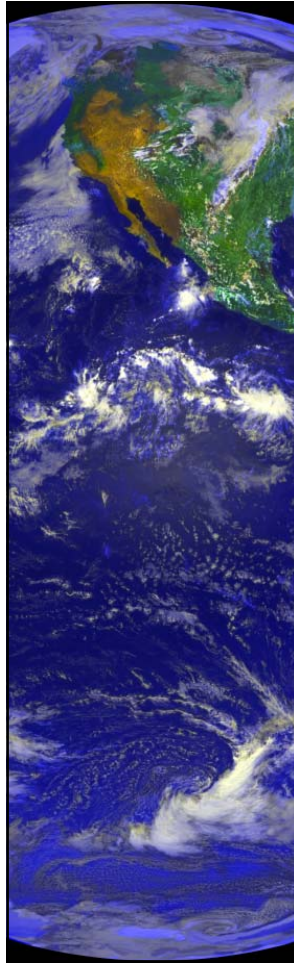


## Clean Development Mechanism

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- Industrialized countries pay for projects that **cut or avoid emissions in poorer nations**
- They earn certified emission reduction (CERs) credits to help meet their own emissions targets
- Recipient countries benefit from **sustainable development initiatives**
- Estimation: CDM projects that entered the pipeline will **result in 25 billion USD capital investment**
- **Boosts technology transfer** to developing countries
- **Adaptation Fund: 2% levy on projects**



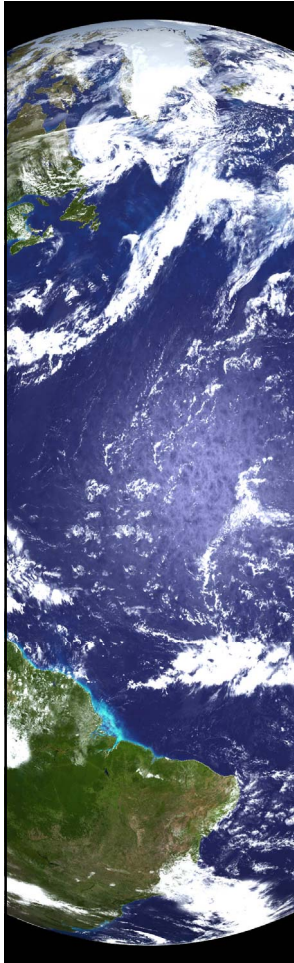


## 2007: climate change science goes mainstream

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- IPCC's fourth assessment report: recognition that **current efforts are not commensurate with the scale of the problem**
  - **Mitigation:** One IPCC scenario: industrialised countries to reduce by **25 – 40% over 1990 by 2020**; - this would avoid a range of impacts associated with higher emissions levels.
  - **Adaptation:** impacts to affect developing countries the most;
- Recognition of the **urgency to act**; Nobel peace prize
- Huge **political momentum** and increased **public awareness** on climate change





## **The UN Climate Change Conference in Bali 2007**

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**Launch of negotiations** to respond to momentum of 2007: the **Bali Road Map**

**Different streams:**

- **Convention negotiations: strengthen the international response up to and beyond 2012**
  - Negotiations on **4 building blocks: adaptation, mitigation, technology and finance**
  - **Shared vision**
- **On-going work, e.g. technology, adaptation**
- **Kyoto Protocol negotiations**
- **Agreed outcome in Copenhagen**





## **The Bali Road Map (BRM) – negotiations towards Copenhagen**

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- **The Copenhagen agreed outcome needs to:**
  - **be strong and ambitious**
  - **significantly step up international climate change action**
  - **set a clear overall direction for future global climate change action**
  - **respond to science to avoid running the planet into the ground**
- **developed countries to take the lead;**
- **a meaningful contribution by developing countries is needed**



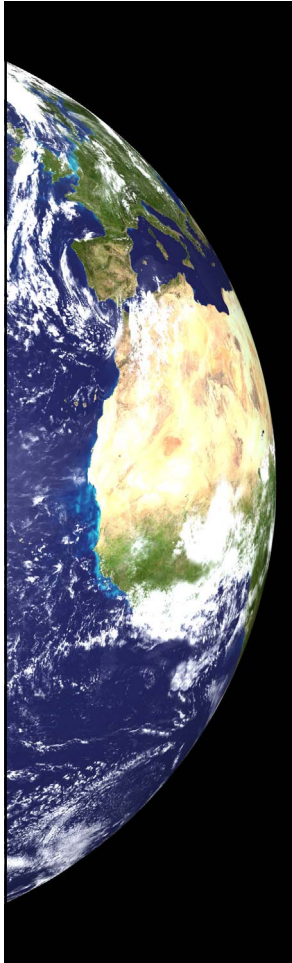


## **Four political essentials to be resolved to make Copenhagen 2009 work**

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- 1. Clarity on targets for industrialised countries**
- 2. Clarity on nationally appropriate mitigation actions of developing countries**
- 3. Clarity on how to generate support for mitigation and adaptation in developing countries**
- 4. Clarity on the governance structures to manage the generated support**





## Current status of the negotiations towards Copenhagen

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- Parties met at additional sessions in 2008:
  - **clarified ideas and proposals**
- At this session:
  - **Focus document**: identified areas in the negotiations that need additional focus
  - Need clarity on the approach to be taken for drafting the **first negotiating text** – text to be on the table for the June session
  - **Real negotiating mode about to begin**





## Current status of the negotiations : enhanced action on mitigation

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- **Industrialised country ambition:**
  - Or else developing countries will not see why they should mitigate
- **Developing country engagement:**
  - Or else not all industrialised countries are willing to show ambition
- Industrialised country **ambition** will trigger **more financial and technological support.**
- More support will trigger **more engagement by developing countries.**
- More engagement will trigger **more industrialised country ambition**





## **Current status of the negotiations : enhanced action on mitigation # 2**

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**Parties are discussing:**

- **Developed countries: quantified emission limitation and/or reduction objectives**
- **Developing countries:**
  - **Nationally appropriate mitigation actions (NAMAs), to be measured, reported and verified**
  - **NAMAs to be enabled by technology, finance and capacity building, in a measurable, reportable and verifiable manner.**
  - **NAMAs need to contribute to green economic growth and sustainable development**
  - **NAMA registry**





## Current status of the negotiations : enhanced action on adaptation

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### Parties are discussing:

- How to increase support for the **implementation of adaptation** actions, especially in LDCs, SIDS, African countries;
- Enhanced action on the provision of **financial resources**;
- **Adaptation framework to support and enable the work at regional and national level – recognizing that action on the ground is the priority**
- **Mechanisms to manage loss and damage, including insurance**





## Current status of the negotiations : financial resources

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- Need to generate **significant** financial and technological support to **enable meaningful action by developing countries**.
- Financial crisis: generate funding within the regime

### Parties are discussing:

- How to **increase public funding – but not repackage ODA**
- How to generate funds through the **carbon market**, **but:** it won't generate enough
- How could the **carbon market** structure be **expanded?**
- How to develop **other mechanisms?**





## **Current status of the negotiations : governance structures**

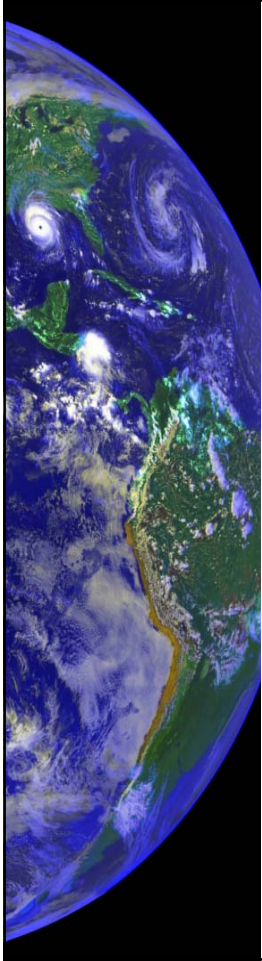
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- Parties want to **be in control** of the governance structures
- Developing countries want governance structures that respond to their needs, **founded in equity**

### **Parties are discussing:**

- **Whether the governance should be under the Conference of the Parties COP**
- **Whether the governance should be through existing institutions such as the World Bank**





## Next steps

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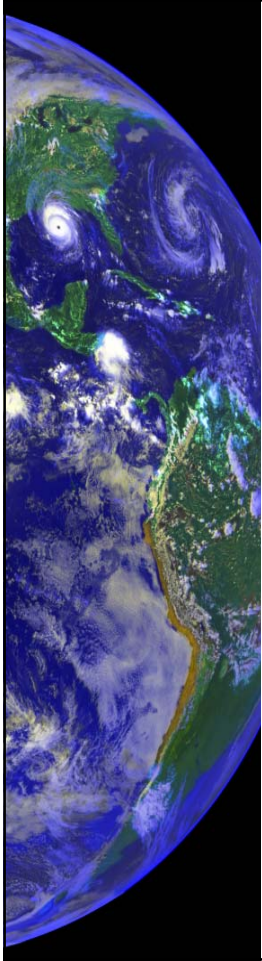
### **In the climate change process:**

- June Climate Change Talks
- Bangkok Climate Change Talks
- COP 15/ UN Climate Change Conference at Copenhagen in December 2009

### **Outside the process**

- G8 Summit
- Major Economies Forum (MEF)
- High-level event in September by the SG





## Climate change needs an economic solution

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- The global economy needs to be transformed to a low-emissions economy.
- Economic stimulus packages: e.g. **China – encouraging first step into a new era**
- The **private sector needs to be involved** since the largest share of finances and environmentally sound technologies lie in their hands.
- A solution to climate change **can only work** if it is **economically viable**
- **Citizens expect solid political solutions from their governments**



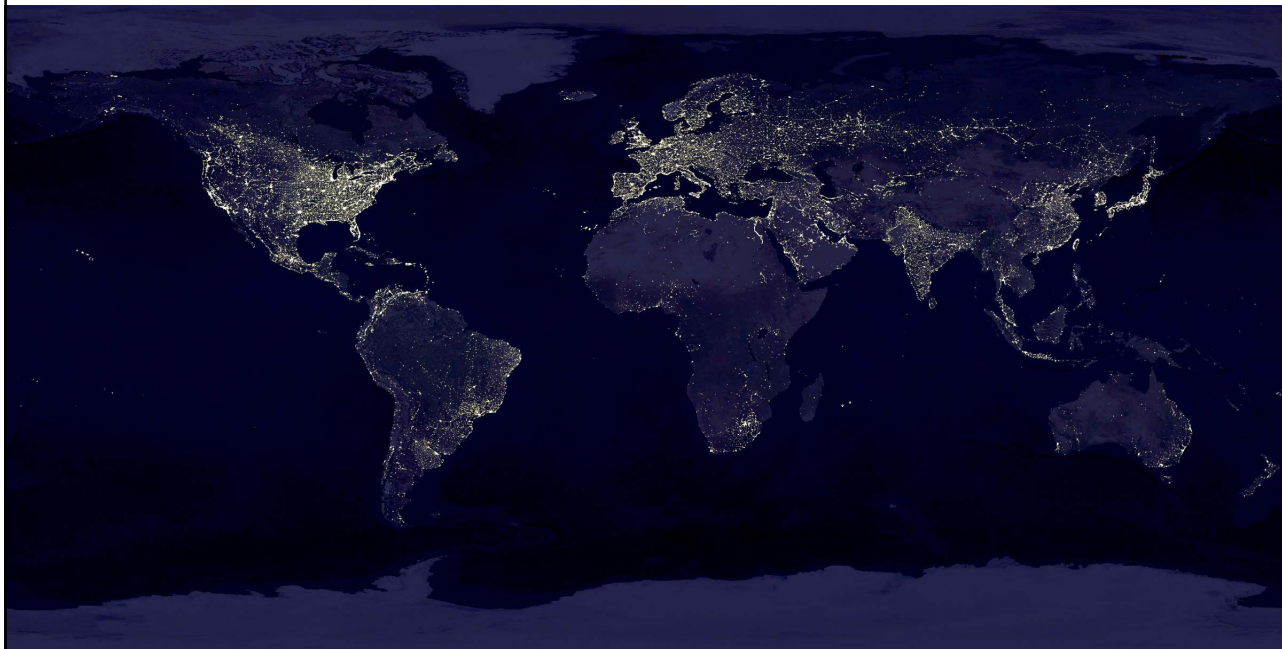


## Copenhagen 2009

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- Copenhagen 2009 needs to ensure that **all countries can participate in green growth, e.g. NAMAs, and boost resilience.**
- Copenhagen 2009 is about:
  - **creating value for change**
  - **creating new investment opportunities**
  - **creating rewards for change**
  - **generating funding for adaptation**
- Copenhagen 2009 needs to ring in the era of **green global economic growth**





**Thank you**

