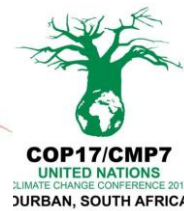


An Update on the UN Climate Change Negotiations



Center for Strategic and International Studies

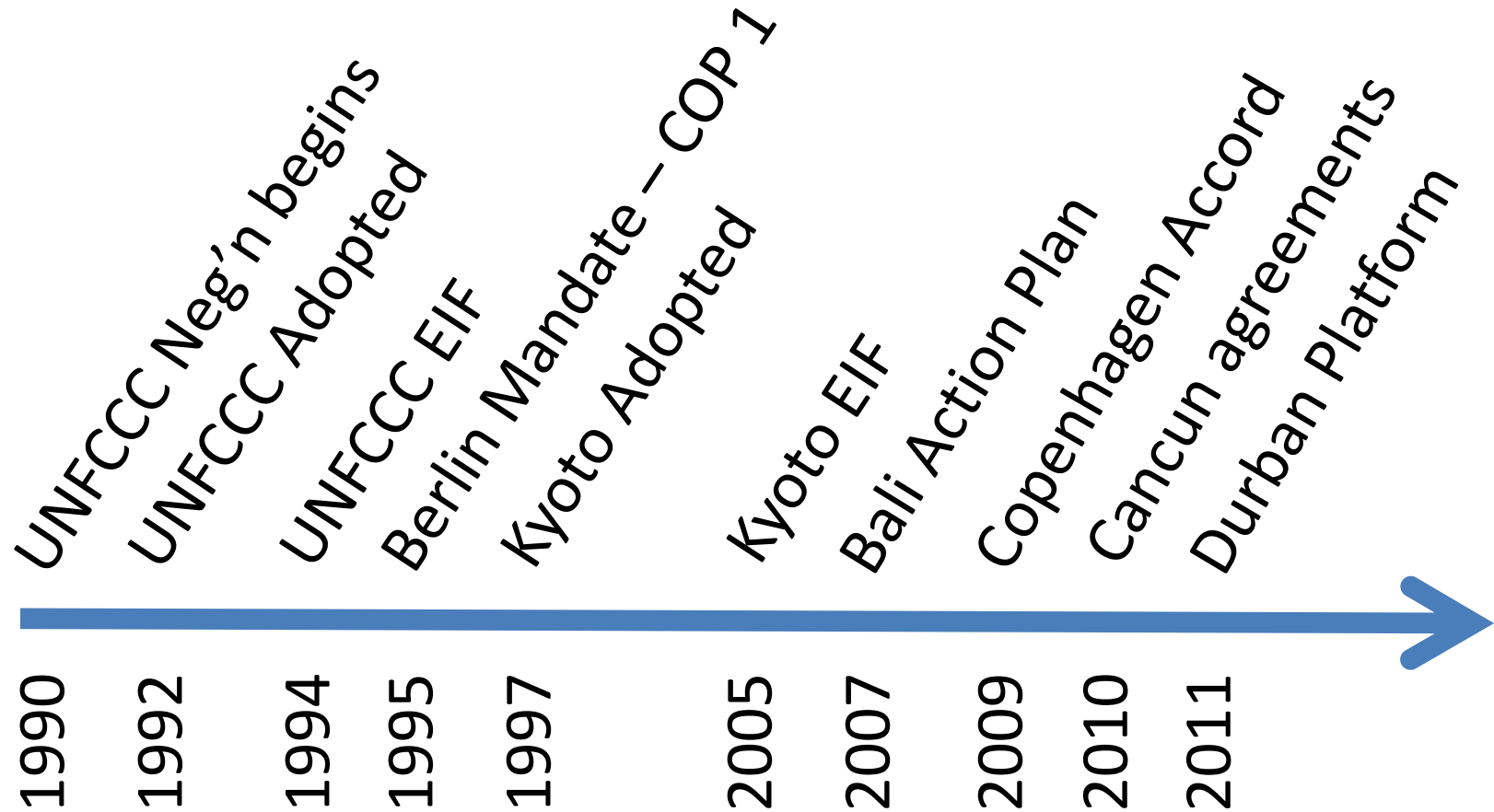
January 2012



Dr. Jonathan Pershing

Deputy Special Envoy for Climate Change, US Department of State

Timeline of the Negotiations



COP 15: COPENHAGEN

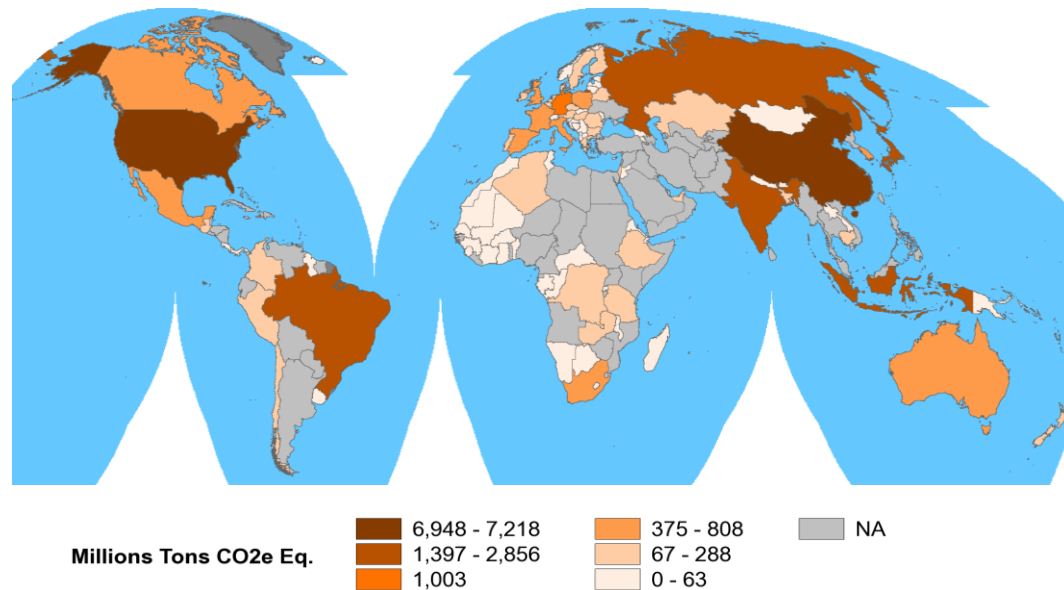


The Copenhagen Accord

- Set a global goal to hold increase in temperature below 2°C
- Provided for mitigation commitments from both developed and developing countries -- with specific targets (for developed countries) and specific actions (for developing countries) to be listed in appendices
- Recognized crucial role of reducing deforestation, need for enhanced technology, and use of markets
- Called for scaled up financing (approaching \$30 billion between 2010 and 2012, and committing to the goal of mobilizing \$100 billion/year by 2020)
- Recognized critical need for action on adaptation

Associations with the Accord

- 116 Countries, representing over 80% of global GHG emissions
- Includes major countries (e.g., US, China, India, and Brazil)



Source: WRI and UNFCCC

Mitigation Actions Listed

- **Brazil**: 36 – 39% below BaU by 2020
- **China**: 40-45% reduction in emissions intensity below 2005 by 2020
- **EU**: 20 – 30% below 1990 levels by 2020
- **India**: 20-25% reduction in emissions intensity below 2005 by 2020
- **Indonesia**: 26-41% below BaU by 2020
- **Japan**: 25% below 1990 by 2020 contingent on others acting
- **Mexico**: up to 30% below BaU by 2020
- **USA**: in the range of 17% below 2005 levels by 2020 in conformity with US legislation

COP 16: Cancun



Pablo Solon, Bolivia



Key Elements Of the Cancun Agreements

- Codified and maintained parallelism established in Copenhagen
- Added detail on:
 - Shared Vision
 - Adaptation
 - Enhanced Action on Mitigation
 - Transparency
 - Finance
 - Reduced Emissions from Deforestation
 - Technology

Durban: Some of the Key Players



South African President Jacob Zuma with
UNFCCC Exec. Sec. Christiana Figueres



Maite Mashabane
S. African For. Min.
and COP President



Amb. Diseko
S. Africa



BASIC Ministers with
UNSyG Ban-ki Moon



Todd Stern
(US)



Jorge Arguello
(Argentina, G77)



Connie Hedegaard
(EU)



Jayanthi Natarajan
(India)



Xie Zhenhua
(China)



Dessima Williams
(Grenada, AOSIS)

OCCUPY EARTH



Critical Issues in Durban

- Kyoto Protocol/legal form
- Roadmap, including operationalization of Cancun and Copenhagen decisions
- Green Fund

Kyoto Protocol

- Next period to start Jan 1, 2013
- Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) and Emissions Trading to continue
- One chemical added (NF_3)
- Scale of ambition and duration of period still TBD
- Focus on EU
 - Some others also join (e.g., Norway, Switzerland)
 - Others indicate they will not (Canada, Japan, Russia)

Durban Platform

- The Durban Platform launches "a process to develop a protocol, another legal instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force under the Convention "
- Negotiations on the future agreement are to conclude by 2015, and to come into effect from 2020.
- The new legal agreement will be "applicable to all Parties" – meaning that all will be equally legally bound
- No explicit mention of CBDR/RC, no reference to Annex I and non-Annex I Parties, and content of new agreement not prescribed

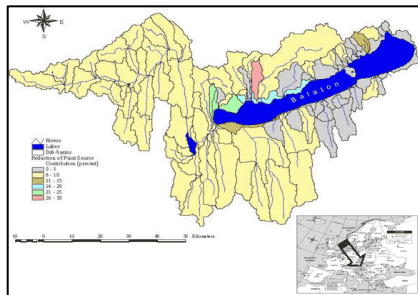
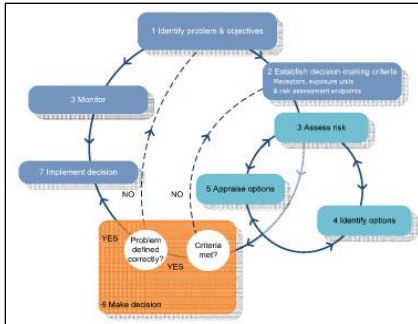
Transparency

To build confidence that countries are implementing their mitigation efforts.

Developed Countries	Developing Countries
Agreed biennial report guidelines	Agreed biennial update report guidelines
Agreed international assessment and review (IAR) modalities and procedures	Agreed international consultation and analysis (ICA) modalities and guidelines
	Agreed a registry will be used as voluntary reporting tool on the web for activities seeking international support or recognition



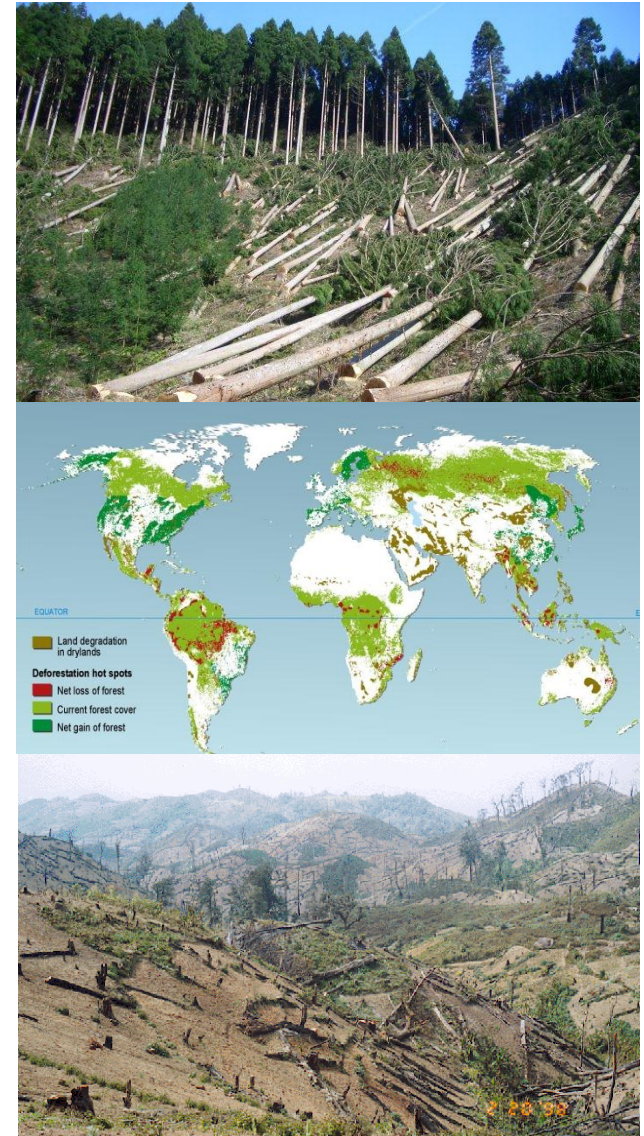
Adaptation



- **New adaptation committee:** 16 members, under the COP, to provide technical support, develop good practices, support coordinating functions
- **NAP:** Agreed on guidelines for least developed countries' national adaptation plans
- **Loss and damage:** Agreed to implement a work program

Reduced Emissions from Deforestation

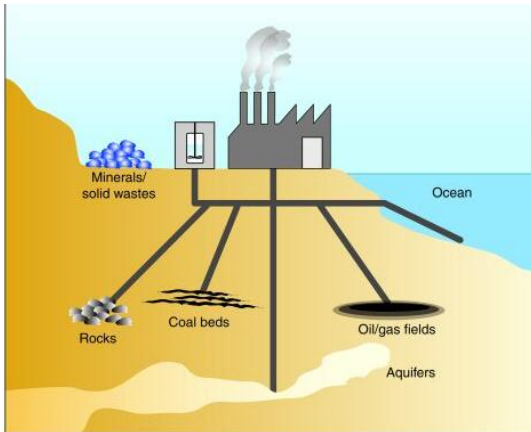
- Guidance for a “REDD+” mechanism
 - Benchmarks for measuring emissions reductions
 - Reaffirmed importance of social and environmental safeguards
- Finance decisions
 - Sources to include public and private, bilateral and multilateral and market based measures and offsets



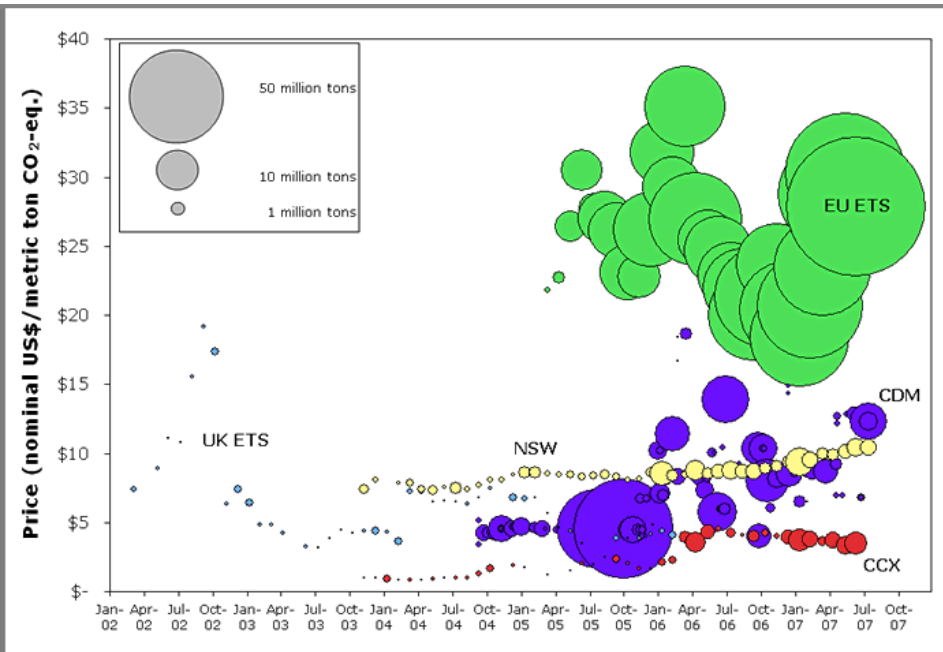
Technology



- RFP for the Climate Technology Center and Network (CTC&N) to:
 - Identify available technologies
 - facilitate preparation of project proposals
 - enhance capacity to handle technology cycles
 - help facilitate finance for these activities
- Hear report from the Technology Executive Committee (TEC) on progress toward assessing technology opportunities
- No text on Intellectual Property Rights



Markets



- Agreed to design a new UNFCCC-administered market mechanism
 - A work program will recommend a decision to COP 18.
- Acknowledged that countries may develop unilateral or bilateral offset programs as long as those programs apply environmental integrity standards;
 - agreed to consider a framework to address these programs



Sectoral approaches

- Agreed to consider issues related to agriculture
- Agreed to continue discussing aviation and maritime sectors

Finance

- **Standing Committee:** new expert body that reports to the COP and evaluates climate finance flows, promoting linkages and coordination on climate finance, makes recommendations on effectiveness and efficiency of the financial mechanism
- **Long term finance (\$100 B/year by 2020):** work program to contribute to ongoing efforts to scale up public and private sources.
- **Fast start finance (\$30B over period 2010-2012):** donor country pledge for good faith commitment to support climate mitigation and adaptation

Finance: The Green Climate Fund

- Regional constituency-based Board of 24 to be selected in next 3 months (12 from developing; 12 from developed countries)
- Interim secretariat to be managed by UNFCCC and GEF
- Bids for permanent secretariat by April 2012
- World Bank as interim trustee, with a new, competitive process after 3 years
- Private Sector Facility

Next Year's Agenda



- 18th Session of the UNFCCC Conference of the Parties in Doha, Qatar, December 2011
- So far, one preparatory meeting scheduled (May)
- Parties will provide submissions in the first half of the year on clarifying their pledges, ambition, markets, the transparency provisions, planning of the Durban Platform work program, etc.
- Stand up the Adaptation Committee, the Green Climate Fund, the CTC&N, etc.

Conclusions

- Clear Progress made in Durban:
 - Agreement provides for all Parties to be equally legally bound by the new agreement
 - Continued implementation of national actions/programs
 - Continued market signal
 - Agreement on financing, technology, REDD, adaptation

BUT...

- No room for complacency
 - 2011 ninth hottest year on record (and 2010 tied for highest with 1998)
 - Global emissions still rising rapidly
 - Global peaking must occur very soon if climate is to be stabilized without major damages

