

New text proposal for Paris Climate agreement - Greenpeace responds

9 December, 2015

Greenpeace COP21 Reactive

Paris, 9 December 2015 - Reacting to the publication of a new draft deal at the Paris climate talks, Kaisa Kosonen of Greenpeace said:

“Some of the words in this text are smeared with the fingerprints of the oil-producing states. It’s a mix of the good, the bad and the ugly, but we’ve got three days to force the worst stuff out and get a decent deal. It’s crunch-time now, it’s going to be hard, but there’s a lot still to fight for. It’s good that a temperature goal of 1.5 degrees C is still there.

“It’s bad that countries’ emissions targets are so weak and there’s very little in the text that makes them come back soon with something better. But worst is the deadline for phasing out carbon emissions. Right now this draft deal contains wishy-washy language instead of setting a tight deadline of 2050. Without a date it won’t have weight.”

She added:

“This shouldn’t be such hard work. Renewables are already displacing polluting energy systems across the world, contributing hugely to a possible peaking of global emissions.

“There’s a disconnect between what’s happening in this conference hall and what’s happening in the real world. The negotiators now have three days to raise the bar. If they can commit to a 1.5 degree goal, they should be able to set a fossil fuel phase-out date of 2050, as that’s the only way to get there.

“And they should agree that countries will come back soon with more ambitious emissions targets that are regularly strengthened. Ideally this deal would commit us to 100% renewables, protect Indigenous Peoples, guarantee funding for poorer countries to develop without loading the atmosphere with carbon, and compensate people on the frontlines of climate change for loss and damage.”

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