

# Copenhagen Climate Summit

## Greenpeace Demands – March 2009

The reality of climate change is outstripping research findings and it is clear that the threat of irreversible impacts is far more immediate than we imagined. The window of opportunity for avoiding runaway climate change is closing rapidly.

We now know that an increase in global temperature of even 1.5°C could lead to irreversible impacts, and 2°C risks triggering catastrophic runaway climate change. We need a global plan that peaks global temperature rise as soon as humanly possible and enables us to return to well below current levels.

While the challenge is huge, the momentum for change is now better than ever before. Grasping and shaping the opportunity presented by the Copenhagen Climate Summit in December requires the world's Heads of Government to take responsibility and work together to protect the people, the environment and the planet that – collectively - they represent, and ensure that:

***global greenhouse gas emissions peak by 2015 then decline rapidly, reaching as close to zero as possible by mid-century.***

Greenpeace calls on governments gathering in Copenhagen for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Summit in December 2009, to agree the following:

- 1. Developed countries, as a group, must reduce emissions by at least 40% by 2020 (compared to 1990 levels). At least three quarters of these reductions must be achieved domestically. In order to meet this timescale, developed countries as a group must agree reductions of 23% in the next round of cuts (2013-2017).**

Copenhagen will not produce the ambitious deal needed without unprecedented leadership by developed countries who created the problem originally and who continue to add to it disproportionately compared to developing countries. They must take responsibility and live up to the leadership promises they made in Rio de Janeiro (1992) and Kyoto (1997). This is the only way to build the necessary mutual trust between developed and developing countries.

- 2. In the spirit of a gradual widening, deepening and strengthening of global action, developing countries must reduce their projected emissions growth by 15-30% by 2020, with support from industrialised countries.**

Countries in this group range from the very poor nations who have scarcely contributed to climate change to those that are richer than some industrialised countries and clearly they cannot all be treated the same. In order to be fair, the level of action should be based on a country's historical responsibility for emissions and its capability and potential to reduce them.

A few developing countries would qualify for binding economy wide caps in the next round of cuts while by the Kyoto Protocol's third round (2018-2022) those countries that are rapidly developing will have a greater capacity to act and will be expected to take on binding, absolute emissions reductions.

- 3. A funding mechanism must be established to stop deforestation and associated emissions in all developing countries by 2020, with key areas (Amazon, Congo Basin, Paradise Forests) achieving zero deforestation by 2015. Priority must be given to protecting forests with a high conservation value and those that are important for the livelihoods of indigenous peoples and forest communities. These emission reductions must be in addition to developed country emission reductions.**

**Developed countries need to commit to adequate funding to enable developing countries to speed up the switch to clean technology, rapidly reduce tropical forest destruction and to adapt to unavoidable climate change impacts on a wide scale. Public funding in the region of USD 140 billion (€110 billion) a year will be required.**

Such large sums would never be pledged and channelled annually through national budgets so we need mechanisms that generate predictable funding automatically. Industrialised countries must **pay for their emissions permits** and these revenues should go into a fund that would have different funding windows for:

- Urgent and enhanced adaptation action in the areas of risk management and risk sharing, disaster reduction strategies and international cooperation
- Research and development cooperation, faster clean technology uptake in developing countries and policies and measures that would create the necessary conditions for an energy revolution – and zero tropical deforestation.

**From 2013 onwards the project-based Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) should be limited to those developing countries with little capacity to reduce emissions. New market mechanisms should be created that provide incentives to the more able countries to move to a low carbon development path.**

The CDM has channelled more funding to developing countries than any of the UNFCCC funds, but the money has gone to only a few countries. It has contributed little to sustainable development and has actually allowed a net increase in emissions. New market mechanisms could deliver additional emissions reductions whilst lowering costs, but they need to be carefully designed. They must go beyond simply offsetting industrialised country emissions and encourage action and sustainable development by developing countries.

Governments should reject the use of market-based mechanisms to reduce emissions from deforestation as they are not appropriate in a situation where public control over forest protection measures and funding is necessary to ensure that emissions reductions go hand-in-hand with protecting biodiversity and forest dependent peoples' rights.

**Nuclear power, CCS and other unsustainable technologies should not count as 'measured, reported and verified' support by developed countries under the post-2012 agreement. Furthermore, dirty credits (achieved with unsustainable technologies) should be excluded from all international carbon markets.**

Developing countries have agreed to take 'measurable, reportable, and verifiable' action to cut their emissions as long as industrialised countries support them with technology transfer and finance that is also 'measurable, reportable and verifiable'. However, technologies such as nuclear power and CCS contribute nothing to sustainable development and should not be considered for technology transfer under the UNFCCC or earn credits for industrialised countries.

**International aviation and maritime emissions must be properly tackled in the post-2012 agreement. Both sectors are fast-growing and significant sources of emissions.**

Industrialised countries must include aviation emissions in their overall emissions reduction targets and account for them at the fuel's point of sale. A sector-specific approach is likely to be the best way to address shipping emissions.

**All financing generated through the Copenhagen deal should be monitored within the UN structure and must be accompanied by a strong compliance regime with severe penalties. The governance of these mechanisms must be democratic, inclusive, accountable and transparent, and should allow participation from those directly involved.**

The Copenhagen agreement will create a need for monitoring and managing big sums of existing and additional public funding, and this money needs to be well spent. It is clear that the UNFCCC will need to bring in more expertise to ensure oversight and create new expert panels and bodies to support this. Civil society will also need to be involved in planning and monitoring how the money is spent and ensure transparency.

**An international hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) phase-out must be part of the Copenhagen deal**

There will be an accelerated phase-out of hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) under the Montreal Protocol over the coming decade. If these are primarily replaced with HFCs there will be a rapid increase in greenhouse gas emissions as most HFCs are potent greenhouse gases. As part of the Copenhagen agreement, an international HFC phase-out arrangement should be agreed.