

From Kyoto to Paris

The 50-cent tour

In December
countries will sign a
new international
climate change
agreement



The 2015 deal will be:

“...a protocol, another legal instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force under the Convention applicable to all Parties”

This might not sound like much to you,
but to UNFCCC-watchers, it's actually
code

[illegible]

So, to decode things, let's go back a few
years
to Kyoto



The Kyoto Protocol divided the world into two groups



This was done based on a core U.N.
principle:
**COMMON BUT DIFFERENTIATED
RESPONSIBILITIES**

(and respective capabilities)



The U.S. signed Kyoto. But Congress had different ideas.



95-0



- ▶ Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that--
- ▶ (1) the United States should not be a signatory to any protocol to, or other agreement regarding, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change of 1992, at negotiations in Kyoto in December 1997, or thereafter, which would--
- ▶ (A) mandate new commitments to limit or reduce greenhouse gas emissions for the Annex I Parties, unless the protocol or other agreement also mandates new specific scheduled commitments to limit or reduce greenhouse gas emissions for Developing Country Parties within the same compliance period, or
- ▶ (B) would result in serious harm to the economy of the United States; and
- ▶ (2) any such protocol or other agreement which would require the advice and consent of the Senate to ratification should be accompanied by a detailed explanation of any legislation or regulatory actions that may be required to implement the protocol or other agreement and should also be accompanied by an analysis of the detailed financial costs and other impacts on the economy of the United States which would be incurred by the implementation of the protocol or other agreement.

President Bush declared Kyoto dead



Over the next 10 years the fight – mostly between the US & China -- went like this:



Then the Obama administration came to town
























Let's flash forward to Copenhagen, 2009



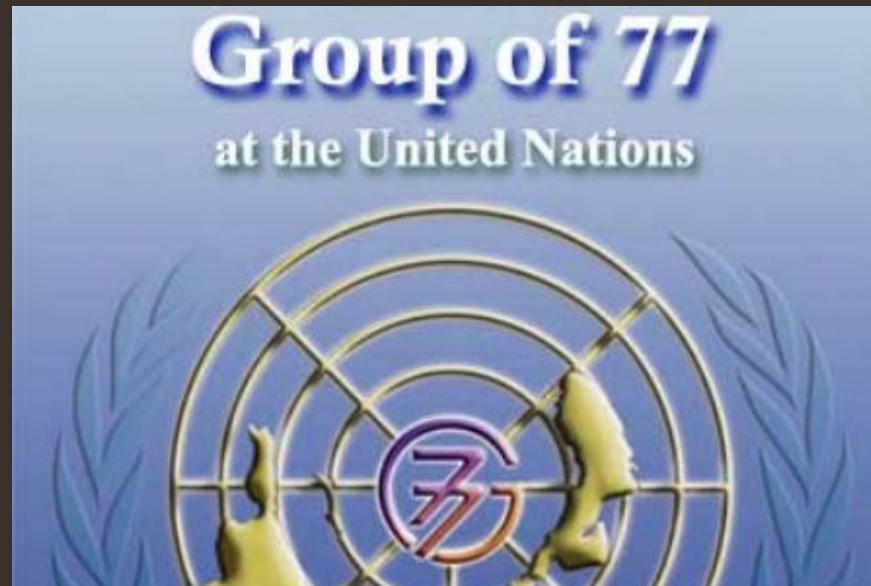
The result: The Copenhagen Accord

Committed to the Copenhagen Accord

	Country	Date	Description	Reduction by 2020	Reduction Base Year	Reduction Type	Reduction on 1990 Scale	Share of World's Total GHGs	CO ₂ Emissions per capita (tCO ₂ e)	Source
	Brazil	12/20 2009	President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva Tuesday signed a law requiring that Brazil cut greenhouse gas emissions by 38 percent by 2020, meeting a commitment made at the Copenhagen climate change summit. Read more	39%	NA		+1.7% ³	6.6%	15.3	
	South Korea	12/20 2009	South Korea announced it would commit to a voluntary 2020 emissions target of 20 percent below business as usual. Read more	20%	NA		+48.2% ³	1.3%	11.8	
	South Africa	1/5 2010	Country officials say they plan to submit a mitigation plan for achieving 34 percent by 2020 reductions to the U.N. climate regime by Jan. 31. Read more	34%	NA		+87.3% ⁴	0.98%	9.0	
	Ghana	1/13 2010	Ghana's Minister of Environment, Science and Technology stated the government is prepared to commit to a 40% reduction in deforestation and forest degradation. Read more	-	NA		-	0.5%	1.0	
	Australia	-	They will accept the Copenhagen Accord, according to a UNFCCC spokesman. Specific commitments since Copenhagen have not yet been shared.	-	NA		-	1.30%	9.6	
	France	-	They will accept the Copenhagen Accord, according to a UNFCCC spokesman. Specific commitments since Copenhagen have not yet been shared.	-	NA		-	1.27%	9.0	
	Canada	-	They will accept the Copenhagen Accord, according to a UNFCCC spokesman. Specific commitments since Copenhagen have not yet been shared.	-	NA		-	1.86%	24.9	
	Papua New Guinea	-	They will accept the Copenhagen Accord, according to a UNFCCC spokesman. Specific commitments since Copenhagen have not yet been shared.	-	NA		-	0.12%	8.7	
	Maldives	-	They will accept the Copenhagen Accord, according to a UNFCCC spokesman. Specific commitments since Copenhagen have not yet been shared.	-	NA		-	0.00%	2.5	

Durban, South Africa: Where the huddle - and a new deal - was born





This is where that code comes in again

[illegible]

“...a protocol, another legal instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force under the Convention applicable to all Parties





Greater Expectations: The New Geopolitics of Climate Change exposes the on-the-ground reality of developing countries challenged by a world that will require every nation to cut carbon emissions. Photo illustration by Andrew Holmes.

NATIONS:

30 years after famine and strife, Ethiopia sees a future that is bright green

ClimateWire: Tuesday, October 13, 2015

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia -- From atop Mount Entoto, which rises 10,500 feet above sea level and draws thousands of pilgrims annually as one of this country's most revered spiritual sites, it is impossible to look upon the sprawling capital below without sensing both the burden of Ethiopia's history and the promise of its future.

PART FOUR

ETHIOPIA

Determination to use clean energy as a foundation for economic development may not be enough to lift its people past years of famine and hardship.

Addis Ababa, meaning "new flower" in Amharic, has been shaped by forces both internal and external since its founding in 1887. They include a devastating 16-year civil war and communist tyranny, multiple foreign invasions, and chronic cycles of drought, flood and famine that contributed to more than a million deaths since 1970.

Today, 24 years since its last government overthrow and 30 years since its last crippling famine, the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia is enjoying relative peace and prosperity. Those conditions have helped Addis Ababa emerge as one of Africa's political and economic superhubs alongside

Johannesburg, Nairobi and Accra.

Unlike many of its sub-Saharan neighbors, however, which have embraced economic growth at the expense of environmental protections, Ethiopia has embarked on one of the world's most ambitious green growth and climate mitigation programs.

[READ THE FULL STORY](#)

TURKEY:

Can a country planning 80 coal-fired power plants get serious about climate change?

ClimateWire: Friday, October 9, 2015

ISTANBUL -- Driving along the E5 highway, this ancient city's jumble of concrete block high-rises and Ottoman-domed mosques recedes into the distance. The future gleams.

PART THREE

TURKEY

Hunger for coal-fired power and infrastructure may push this European neighbor past the point of no-environmental return.

Sleek luxury condominiums and shopping malls tower over modern new suburbs. Orange construction cranes have taken up residence along the side of the roads, feeding the teeming city's seemingly endless building boom.

Fueling Istanbul's growth -- and, as the country's economic center, Turkey's development, as well -- is coal. With the second-highest energy consumption growth after China, Turkey is highly dependent on Russian and Iranian oil and gas. Even as the country works to take advantage of its location between Europe and Asia to become a regional

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TURKEY -- Hunger for coal-fired power and infrastructure may push this European neighbor past the point of no-environmental return. (10/09/2015)

ETHIOPIA -- Determination to use clean energy as a foundation for economic development may not be enough to lift its people past years of famine and hardship. (10/13/2015)

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INDIA (Part 1) -- Prioritizing economic development primarily through coal-fired power has come at the cost of rising emissions and the country's most unfortunate citizens. (10/16/2015)

INDIA (Part 2) -- Enviros want India's poor to get solar power, but villagers clamor for cheaper, reliable coal. (10/19/2015)



GREATER expectations

NEGOTIATIONS:

The pending Paris accord: not your father's climate agreement

Lisa Friedman, E&E reporter

ClimateWire: Wednesday, October 7, 2015



The 2011 "huddle to save the planet" that led to the upcoming Paris climate accord. Photo courtesy of Susan Bastrass.

By the time Ambassador Karl Hood took the microphone on a warm South African evening in December 2011, many hours into a marathon overtime U.N. climate change negotiation, he had just about enough.

For days, major emerging economies led by India had pushed back against efforts to launch a new deal that included all nations, insisting they should not be forced to cut greenhouse gas emissions. Wealthy countries have not done enough to fight climate change, they argued, and poorer nations must have the right to develop with unrestricted fossil fuel use.

Those representing the most vulnerable countries -- like Hood's tiny island of Grenada -- disagreed, but were reluctant to rupture the united front developing nations presented to the world. The role of battling China, India and other advancing powers was usually left up to the United States and Europe. Hood decided something had to change.

SPECIAL SERIES



Greater Expectations: The New Geopolitics of Climate Change exposes the on-the-ground reality of developing countries challenged by a world that will require every nation to cut carbon emissions.

"I was listening [and] thinking, 'If only a country could pollute their own atmosphere, that's fine. But if we're all going to pay the price of it, somebody needs to be responsible here.' I didn't feel that I should keep my mouth shut. I felt somebody had to stand up," Hood said from Beijing, where he now serves as Grenada's ambassador to China.

Stand up he did, arguing that night that all countries have a responsibility to keep global temperatures at safe levels, and no one -- even historically low emitters -- should have a right to unchecked development. "While they develop, we die. And why should we accept this?" he asked a packed plenary hall of surprised diplomats.

Hood's intervention was the climax of a long-standing fight over whether developing nations should play a stronger hand in abating the greenhouse gas emissions that scientists say are warming the planet. As it set in motion a new international accord that could be completed in Paris in December, it also underscored a rupture that has only deepened within the Group of 77 and China, nominally representing the interests of all developing nations.

When leaders from 194 countries meet in Paris, they will find a starkly different landscape than the one under



NATIONS:

In Chile, solar power lights the way to a cleaner, more competitive economy

ClimateWire: Thursday, October 8, 2015



Chile has added a wave of "first-of-its-kind" solar power plants in an effort to power the country's mining sector.

CUICABA, Chile -- About 700 miles north of Santiago in the Atacama Desert, the Gabriela Mistral solar recreational center emerges as an unexpected touch of modernity among the sandy, colored mountains. Over a path of rippled stone leading to the cafeteria, the site is peppered with low-angled solar panels that up of brown-green rocks -- a telltale sign of the presence of copper veins.

Since opening in 2009, the solar installations at the Gabriela Mistral mine -- or Misma Valley -- have been a source of pride for their innovative approach to energy and community development. More recently, Misma has drawn the attention of scholars and government officials as an unconventional yet practical example of how renewable energy-related measures can not only be necessary, but also can be economically convenient.

TURKEY:

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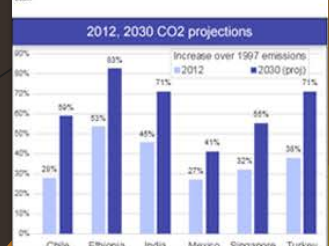
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To read more *Greater Expectations*:

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2. Legal Form

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4. Ambition