

Climate Action News **this week**

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December 6th 2007 Edition

The week in review...

Bali Climate Conference Begins!!!

The much anticipated United Nations climate change negotiations started on Monday, December 3^d. The word coming out of Bali is that Canada is putting forward a number of proposals that, if accepted, would slow progress towards a meaningful deal.

But there is still cause for hope. Positive signals, such as China putting forward a number of useful proposals and Australia's recent decision to ratify the Kyoto Protocol, could indicate that a "Bali roadmap" is still within reach. But how ambitious will the roadmap be? Will it contain:

- legally binding commitments?
- Absolute emissions reduction targets of 25-40% for industrialized countries?
- A firm commitment to ramp up investment in adaptation?

Week two of the conference will see relatively junior negotiators make way for the negotiating heavyweights and politicians who will be rolling into town. That's when the rubber hits the roadmap.

December 8 Global Day of Action to Stop Climate Chaos – Coming to a Town Near You:

There are currently actions being planned in 35 Canadian cities for the December 8 global day of action to stop climate chaos. Check www.climatechaos.ca for the locations nearest you.

How to keep on top of what is going on in Bali:

Check out the David Suzuki Foundation's Bali Blog at:

www.davidsuzuki.org/Bali%5FBlog/

Read ECO, a short newsletter produced daily by Climate Action Network International:

www.climatenetwork.org/eco/

Get the negotiations blow-by-blow from the IISD's Earth Negotiations Bulletin:

www.iisd.ca/climate/cop13/

Find out what's happening at side events:

www.iisd.org/

And in other News...

Today's Globe and Mail noted that Canada, the United States and Japan "are fast gaining an image as the black-hatted villains of the Bali conference. Three countries – Canada, Japan and the United States – are sparking the greatest wrath of environmentalists in the early days of the conference on global warming." To view the article, go to:

www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/RTGAM.20071206.wbalimain06/BNStory/International/home

Opposition parties are accusing the Government of hiding a damaging report on the impact of climate change in Canada. With climate change negotiations going on in Bali, is this an inconvenient time for Natural Resources Canada to release a report on the impact of global warming in Canada? Read on...

www.canada.com/topics/news/story.html?id=258fc7a6-e556-49b8-ae1a-49e61e1227cb&k=61381

Minister Baird appeared before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development last week to defend his Government's position on international climate change negotiations. He did not receive a warm welcome. For one take on the meeting see:

<http://cnews.canoe.ca/CNEWS/Canada/2007/11/29/pf-4695595.html>

All three parties in the Quebec legislature supported a motion

disassociating the national assembly from the Government of Canada's climate stand, expressing "disagreement . . . with the Canadian government's position on climate change." Coverage of the motion can be found at:

www.canadaeast.com/news/article/140578

Florida could lose \$345 billion a year in economic activity by 2100 unless action is taken to stop catastrophic climate change,

according to a new study released by Tufts University. The study concludes that two of Florida's nuclear power plants, three of its prisons and more than 1,300 hotels, motels and inns will be under water by 2100 unless we turn things around. The study can be found at:

www.ase.tufts.edu/gdae/Pubs/rp/FloridaClimate.html

Trade Unions support ambitious Kyoto II agreement in Bali

www.global-unions.org/pdf/ohsewpP_12Bc.EN.pdf

Trade Union Country-by-Country climate change profiles (7.5 MB):

www.global-unions.org/pdf/ohsewpP_12BaiEN.pdf

with explanatory pamphlet

www.global-unions.org/pdf/ohsewpB_1a.EN.pdf

Across the Provinces:

Quebec's B+ puts it Ahead in Atlantic Canada Report Card

The 2007 report card on progress in reaching voluntary targets as set under the New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers (NEG/ECP) *Climate Change Action Plan* is now out. Authors find [slow](#), spotty progress in the absence of national, legally binding commitments and caps to lower emissions growth. For the full report in English:

www.climateactionnetwork.ca/e/issues/ne-ec-report-card-2007.pdf

In French:

www.equiterre.org/docs/NECCFichedeRendemen2007Frfinal.pdf

Justice Matters...

Poverty and Climate Change...

In an open letter to Environment Minister John Baird released this week, leading humanitarian, development and environmental organizations called on Canada's government to change its policies on global warming and to do its fair share in preventing dangerous climate change. Read the letter at:

www.pembina.org/pub/1559

Looking Ahead....

December 8 – Global day of action on climate change, with demonstrations scheduled across the country. See: www.climatechaos.ca

December 9 through 11 – Ministers of the Environment from Ontario and Quebec, along with NDP, Bloc and Liberal opposition party environment critics, Liberal Leader Stéphane Dion and Environment Minister John Baird join 20,000 people at the UN climate change negotiations in Bali. Stay tuned.