

Climate Action News **this week**

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December 13, 2007

SPECIAL BALI EDITION

Canada Holds to Hypocritical Stand as Diplomatic Gloves Fly

The Government of Canada is trying to fend off an unprecedented storm of international criticism at the UN Climate Change Conference in Bali. This week will determine whether the world can agree on the key areas and a process for reaching a deal on a new global regime for post-2012. Here is a sampling of quotes about Canada from high places:

"This particular government has been a government of skeptics. They do not want to do anything on climate change." Rajendra Pachauri, head of the Nobel-prize winning Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

AFP, December 6, 2007

<http://afp.google.com/article/ALeqM5hjgJAYTz1867ZFCzP0IQIDnFdDcA>

"Canada is becoming a bargain discount version of Australia of old."

Yvo de Boer, UN Climate Chief, Toronto Star Blog, Dec. 6, 2007

<http://www.thestar.com/article/282004#day6toby>

Wir Europäer halten die kanadische Position nicht für zielführend."

(translation: "We Europeans don't see the Canadian position as constructive."

Karsten Sach, German head of delegation, DPA, December 9, 2007

Youth Raise Hell at Baird Snub

The Canadian youth delegation is not letting Minister Baird off the hook for ducking out of Canada's formal "side-event" in Bali Tuesday. Mr. Baird was supposed to present and answer questions on the government's "Turning the

Corner" approach to reducing Canada's greenhouse gas emissions, but three corporate representatives spoke about their companies instead.

For the Canada Press video of the controversy:

http://www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/Page/document/video/vs?id=RTGAM.20071211.wvbaird_climate1211

For the CanWest News Story:

<http://www.canada.com/globaltv/national/story.html?id=19099531-45f0-436c-8c4b-d07f9e847d0a&k=47187>

Leaked document shows Canadian negotiators were instructed to block absolute targets for developed countries

A federal government document leaked to Climate Action Network in Bali shows Canadian negotiators were under explicit instruction to undermine a fundamental principle of the Kyoto Protocol - a position that is threatening to derail the UN climate negotiations.

And related press release:

www.climateactionnetwork.ca/e/news/2007/bali-leak-2007-12-08.html

Read the document:

www.climateactionnetwork.ca/e/news/2007/post-2012-document.pdf

Canada Slides Downhill Fast in Annual Review of 56 Worst Polluters

Canada fell from 46th in 2006 to 54th in Germanwatch's 2008 Climate Change Performance Index. Only Australia, USA and Saudi Arabia performed worse than Canada. Sweden ranked first. The list is developed based on standardized criteria for evaluating climate change performance for 56 countries that, together, are responsible for more than 90 percent of global energy-related CO₂ emissions.

For the complete list of 56 countries:

www.germanwatch.org/klima/ccpi08c.pdf

For related press release and other documents:

www.germanwatch.org/klima/ccpi.htm

Quebec to Adopt California Emissions Standards

Dec 11, Bali - Quebec Environment Minister Line Beauchamp announced that her province will adopt California-style pollution standards for cars and light trucks (including mini-vans). The new standards will come into effect between 2010 and 2016. Manufacturers will have to reduce emissions by 30 per cent.

Read the story:

www.canada.com/topics/news/story.html?id=0a917fe1-c448-4e8d-8d26-3cb249e7108a&k=47112

Global Day of Action Rallies Mark New Era for Canadian Climate Change Movement

Thousands demonstrated in cities across Canada on Saturday December 8th to demand that the Government of Canada reverse its position and put real action to their words on climate change. Congratulations go to all of the organizers for an impressive preview of Global Day of Action 2008!

Get the Canadian story:

<http://cnews.canoe.ca/CNEWS/Canada/2007/12/08/4714698-cp.html>

Get the international story:

http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/7134060.stm

See the photos:

<http://gallery.globalclimatecampaign.org/d8global>

Government to invest \$85.9 million over four years on domestic adaptation

The federal government used the Bali conference as a platform to announce \$85.9 million in spending over four years on adaptation. Critics note that the funding simply restores 2006 funding cuts but at lower levels and pales compared to the need across Canada.

For the news story:

www.canada.com/topics/technology/story.html?id=4768bb4b-d299-4029-8542-071ee3027c82&k=45660

For the government announcement:

www.ec.gc.ca/default.asp?lang=En&n=714D9AAE-1&news=03FCBF3A-BF0B-4237-9F8E-654DB8945D99

KAIROS Calls for Climate Justice

December 11 - KAIROS: Canadian Ecumenical Justice Initiatives issues a statement saying "The unbreakable bond between social justice and ecological wholeness impels Canadian churches to address the issue of climate change." KAIROS says PM Harper's rejection of the Kyoto Protocol is a rejection of "a significant instrument to address the gap between rich and poor."

Media Advisory:

www.marketwire.com/mw/release.do?id=801656

and the full statement:

http://kairoscanada.org/e/media/statements/stmBaliUNConference_5Dec07.pdf

Nobel Peace Laureate Delivers Gender Imperative

Wangari Maathai, 2004 Nobel Peace Laureate, Member of the Kenyan Parliament and Founder of the Green Belt Movement: "Women's experiences, creativity and leadership must be part of the solution if we, whether from North or South, are serious about addressing global warming. That is why I am urging that the voices of women be heard in Bali..."

Read the story:

www.nobelwomensinitiative.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=166&Itemid=49

Read the mission statement:

www.nobelwomensinitiative.org/images/stories/news/2007/Global_Gender_Climate_Alliance_Brief.pdf

Looking Ahead....

**Family, friends & good cheer for all !!!! Happy Holidays!
- Graham Saul and Ruth Edwards**