

Climate Action News **this week**

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July 9, 2008 Edition

Top Stories

G8 fails to make progress on emissions targets

G8 leaders failed to deepen their commitments to greenhouse gas reductions at this week's summit in Hokkaido, Japan. The world's so-called "leading industrialized countries" called for a global reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by at least 50% by 2050, but didn't specify a base year (ie., is that 50% of 1990 emission levels or 50% of 2008 emissions?). They also failed to indicate what their fair share of the reduction would be (rich industrialized countries need to take on targets that are more in the neighbourhood of an 80-90% reduction by 2050 from 1990 levels), and they failed to set science-based mid-term targets (ie., they did not commit to reducing emissions by at least 25 to 40% from 1990 levels as suggested by the Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change).

UN climate chief: G-8 emissions aims still unclear despite 50 percent mid-century goal:
www.iht.com/articles/ap/2008/07/09/europe/EU-UN-Climate.php

Read the Climate Action Network Press Release:
www.climateactionnetwork.ca/e/news/2008/g8-opportunity-lost-2008-07-08.html

Read the WWF press release:
www.panda.org/index.cfm?uNewsID=140161

Read the Greenpeace International coverage at:
www.greenpeace.org/international/news/g8-environment-nil-09072008

Read the official G8 communique:
www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/kinkyu/2/20080708_142934.html

100 months to save the Earth:
www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2008/jul/08/climatechange.g8?gusrc=rss&feed=networkfront

Developing nations demand more from G8 on climate

The G5 nations of Mexico, Brazil, China, India and South Africa released a statement before joining the G8 summit calling on G8 countries to cut their greenhouse gas emissions by more than 80% by 2050. South Africa put out a strongly worded statement of its own reflecting on the G8 meeting.

Read the July 8 and 9 Media Statements from the Government of South Africa:
www.environment.gov.za/

Read the G5 statement:
<http://pib.nic.in/release/release.asp?relid=40146>

G8 urged to do more for climate:
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/asia-pacific/7495641.stm>

G8 climate rift emerges:
www.thestar.com/News/World/article/456994

G8 patches up climate deal, others want more:
www.forbes.com/home/feeds/reuters/2008/07/09/2008-07-09T094946Z_01_PEK66173_RTRIDST_0_G8-WRAPUP-4-PIX-TV-GRAPHIC.html

Read the statement from the 16-nation Major Economies Meeting group:
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/asia-pacific/7496850.stm>

National News

Harper pushed for weak climate agreement at G8

A senior Canadian official said that Prime Minister Harper was one of the leaders working to ensure that the G8 did not agree to “overly ambitious goals” on greenhouse gas reductions.

Read the story:
www.thestar.com/Article/456919

Views from the carbon front: commentary on Liberal carbon tax plan

The debate continues...
Stephane Dion stands by his plan:
www.canada.com/edmontonjournal/news/opinion/story.html?id=0f68d6ee-385c-465b-b227-84e5899bf30c

Tories doing nothing in climate battle:

www.thebarrieexaminer.com/ArticleDisplay.aspx?e=1104051

www.canada.com/topics/news/national/story.html?id=d728c5f0-66d2-40f0-bb55-e547f1446375

World News

Europe to cut back on biofuel targets

European Union legislators on Monday proposed to reduce its target for biofuel use by 2020 from 10 percent down to 4 percent. Meanwhile, a new report for the British government has cast new doubt on the strategy of using biofuels to fight climate change.

<http://afp.google.com/article/ALeqM5itvqXWPO-IEmfGQbWhFa5cxyzNBQ>

Read the story:

www.iht.com/articles/2008/07/07/business/fuel.php

And now for something completely different...

Is coal clean? Find out at www.youtube.com/watch?v=PLZ-hvVVGmY

Get Involved

CANADIANS DESERVE KYOTOPLUS! Learn about this national mobilization campaign for climate action and sign the "Petition for Concerned Canadians" at www.kyotoplus.ca/en/petition.html

STOP NEW OIL SANDS PROJECTS! Sign the petition at www.nonewapprovals.ca/

Would you like to see a \$120 billion/year U.N. Green Global Fund to save species from extinction due to global warming? Sign the Care2 petition: www.thepetitionsite.com/1/to-un-secretary-general-for-creating-the-120-byr-global-green-fund-for-combatting-global-warming-and

Looking Ahead

- July 16-18 Council of the Federation Meeting, Québec City
www.councilofthefederation.ca
- July 29 Western Climate Initiative meets in San Diego.
www.westernclimateinitiative.org/
- August 21-27 UN Climate Negotiations in Accra, Ghana
<http://unfccc.int/meetings/intersessional/accra/items/4437.php>

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