



ICC's Commission on Environment and Energy

Business: Part of the solution

Business views on a UNFCCC post-2012 framework to address climate change

Copenhagen is a key moment

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) 15th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP) meeting in Copenhagen is an important moment. Governments have the opportunity to build a more inclusive and effective framework to respond to the challenges of climate change by creating an agreement that will enable long-term cooperation by all nations in the transition towards an economy with far lower greenhouse gas emissions while promoting global sustainable development. The agreement delivered in Copenhagen should allow countries and stakeholders to broaden their efforts and get to work on practical approaches.

Since the UNFCCC 13th COP meeting in 2007 in Bali, government negotiators have worked intensively to develop a post-2012 framework based on the Bali Action Plan (BAP). Recognizing the complexity of the last two years of negotiations and deliberations, the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) congratulates governments on the progress that has been made and recognizes the remaining challenges.

Business supports a post-2012 Framework Agreement

ICC wishes to underscore the fundamental importance of the Copenhagen outcome for business, as it will play a key role as actor, employer, financier, investor and innovator. A new agreement will have consequences for business operations and investments, as well as for the role of business in society.

ICC strongly supports a post-2012 framework agreement which will provide business a clear and predictable framework to contribute solutions, especially by stimulating investment and deployment of existing and advanced technology on the necessary scale to enable a transition towards a low-carbon economy.

Business is part of the solution

Business is part of the solution and strongly engaged on many fronts. Throughout the world, businesses large and small are addressing climate change at local, national, and international levels, both as enterprises and through public-private partnerships. Many companies have already reduced emissions by making major changes in how they operate, and many have seized opportunities for new processes, products, and services that help reduce GHG emissions.

ICC, as business and industry focal point for the UNFCCC negotiations, has actively contributed insights and expertise relating to the "building blocks" of the BAP on mitigation, adaptation, finance and technology in the process leading to COP 15.

Throughout the two-week meeting in Copenhagen, ICC will continue to bring together a wide range of business voices that will provide concrete examples of business actions and activities



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underway to help solve the climate challenge. This will be highlighted on 11 December when ICC along with the World Business Council for Sustainable Development and the Confederation of Danish Industry will host the Copenhagen Business Day, which will focus on how business will continue to lead in the action on climate change post-Copenhagen.

Overarching key messages

ICC believes a post 2012 framework agreement should:

- Ensure global participation and collective actions and commitments by all major greenhouse gas (GHG) emitting countries, towards achieving transition to a low-carbon economy;
- Continue to promote economic recovery and employment as essential steps to respond to climate challenges; the future agreement should work to nurture and promote ongoing economic recovery that will be essential to building and implementing solutions;
- Encourage governments to develop simple, workable, efficient and cost-effective institutional arrangements, using existing bodies to the utmost, that support international cooperative actions;
- Allow efficient interaction with other inter-governmental initiatives and partnerships such as the Major Economies Forum (MEF), the Asia-Pacific Partnership (APP), G8 and G20, etc;
- Strengthen multilateral trade and investment vital to the economic and technological flows required to implement solutions as well as avoid potential competitive distortions in international trade;
- Keep all energy options open, recognizing that innovation can overcome existing limitations and avoid placing restrictions on technologies critical to ensuring a transition to a low-carbon economy;
- Ensure that adaptation to climate change action is promoted and facilitated, particularly for vulnerable developing countries;
- Pursue public-private partnerships and other collaborative arrangements and mechanisms involving business, such as sectoral approaches, for mitigation, adaptation, technology and financing.

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