Priorities for the Bali climate change talks

Thursday, 22 November 2007, 10:00-12:00
International Environment House II, ground floor

The inherent threat posed by climate change to the security of mankind is now beyond doubt. The award of this year’s Nobel Peace Prize to Al Gore and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change underscored the need for action now, before climate change moves beyond man’s control.

After a year of intense negotiations, nations are preparing to meet in Bali from 3-14 December. They aim to decide on the roadmap for a climate change deal beyond 2012, when the Kyoto Protocol’s first commitment period ends.

Today’s roundtable will explore the current state of play in the climate talks, including potential building blocks for an equitable and effective deal in Bali.

9:30  Coffee

10:00  Welcome by Christophe Bouvier, Director, Regional Office for Europe, United Nations Environment Programme

10:10  Introduction by the moderator, Ambassador Thomas Kolly, Swiss Federal Office for the Environment

10:30  Presentations by the panel members:

- Kilaparti Ramakrishna, Division of Environmental Law and Conventions, United Nations Environment Programme
- Cecilia Ugaz, Human Development Report Office, United Nations Development Programme
- Annie Roncerel, Climate Change Programme, United Nations Institute for Training and Research
- Janos Pasztor, United Nations Environmental Management Group

11:00  General debate and question and answer session

11:50  Wrap-up by the moderator

12:00  Close
Notes on the Panel members for the moderator - these notes have not been distributed

Kilaparti Ramakrishna is Deputy Director in the Division of Policy Development and Law and Chief of Cross-sectoral Environmental Issues. He has a long experience on the topic of climate change. He served as Special Advisor to the UN in drafting the Convention on Climate Change. He also assisted the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee of the Convention on Biological Diversity. Before joining UNEP, he was Deputy Director of the Woods Hole Research Center, where he published widely on climate change.

Cecilia Ugaz is Deputy Director of the Office of the UNDP’s Human Development Report, and has coordinated previous as editions as well as the 2007-2008 report which focuses on climate change. She is an economist by training, and has published widely. Before joining UNDP, she worked at the UN Research Institute for Social Development, and before that she was a Fellow of the Institute of Development Studies (IDS, University of Sussex) in the U.K., and a Research Fellow at the World Institute for Development Economics Research (UNU/WIDER) in Helsinki.

Annie Roncerel joined UNITAR in April 2001 where she is in charge of the Climate Change Programme. She previously served with UNDP as a Senior Programme Manager in its Energy and Atmosphere Programme and as Lead Officer for its Climate Change Programme. As Global Environment Facility Advisor to the UNDP Regional Bureau for Europe and CIS, she developed and monitored the implementation of a large GEF project portfolio related to climate change, international waters and biodiversity in this region.

Janos Pasztor is Director of the UN Environmental Management Group. He was previously responsible for the "Project-based Mechanisms Programme" at the secretariat of the Climate Change Convention. He has over 25 years of experience on sustainable development issues, especially related to energy and climate change, in various intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

Fighting climate change: Human solidarity in a divided world
The Human Development Approach

• Human development is about people
• It is expanding people’s real choices and substantive freedoms – capabilities – that enable them to live the lives they value
• Choice and freedom in human development means more than the absence of constraints…
Human Development and Climate Change

• Climate change will be one of the defining forces shaping prospects for human development during the 21st Century

• Nobody will be immune to the consequences but some countries and people are more vulnerable than others

Climate change will be superimposed upon a world marked by large human development deficits
The human development backdrop

The backdrop includes some good news

– The share of the population living on less than US$ 1 a day has fallen from 29 percent in 1990 to 18 percent in 2004

– Extreme poverty fell by 135 million between 1999 and 2005

– During the period 1990 to 2004, child mortality rates have fallen from 106 deaths per 1,000 live births to 83

– Life expectancy for developing countries has increased from 56 (1970-75) to 65 (2000-05)
Other news are not as good…

- Poverty, child mortality and malnutrition
  - There are still around 1 billion people living on less than a dollar a day. The MDG could be missed by around 380 million people.
  - Around 28 percent of children in LDCs are underweight or stunted.
  - Only 32 countries (of 147) are on track to achieve the MDG on child mortality.

- Inequality
  - More than 80 percent of the world’s population lives in countries where income differentials are widening.
  - Underlying inequalities act as a barrier for early recovery after shocks.
Forces unleashed by global warming could stall and then reverse progress built up over generations

Among the threats to human development identified by *Fighting climate change*:

- Additional **600 million** people facing malnutrition
- Productivity losses of **26 percent** by 2060 in semi-arid areas of sub-Saharan Africa
- **1.8 billion** people facing water stress
- Displacement of up to **332 million** people in coastal and low-lying areas
- Additional **400 million** people facing the risk of malaria
Map 4.3  Climate change threatens to reduce cereal productivity across much of Sub-Saharan Africa

Projected impact of climate change on cereal productivity, 2080 (% change on 2000), IPCC scenario A2.
- Greater than 0% of croplands
- 0 to -25%
- -25% or larger

Key affected areas:
- The Sahelian belt: Burkina Faso and cultivated regions of southern Mali, Niger, Chad and Sudan (northern parts of country uncultivated or unsuitable for cereal production).
- Nigeria, Senegal and Sierra Leone (West Africa).
- Eastern Ethiopia and Somalia.
- Southern East Africa: Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Zambia and Angola.

Note: The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Source: Fischer and others 2005.
The potential human costs of climate change have been understated

- Climate related risks force people into a downward spirals of disadvantage that undermine future opportunities
- Climate change erodes human potential, freedoms and human rights
- The forthcoming conference of the parties in Bali is a unique opportunity to put the interests of the world’s poor and future generations at the heart of climate change negotiations
Tackling Climate Change: Global carbon accounting

- Defining dangerous – keeping within 2°C
- Establishing a 21st Century carbon budget
- Defining a sustainable emission’s pathway
- The problem of inertia – the case for adaptation
It is necessary to achieve broad participation

• Agree to a sustainable emissions pathway aimed at reducing world’s GHG emissions by 50 percent from 1990 levels

• Increase the level of ambition in setting targets for emission targets for developed countries

• Give incentives to developing countries to undertake policy reforms to reduce emissions
  – Current instruments are insufficiently funded to finance low carbon transition in developing countries
  – Creation of a Climate Change Mitigation Facility which can fund the incremental cost to a transition to a low carbon growth
  – Strengthening cooperation on financing technology transfer and capacity-building is vital for the credibility of the post 2012 agreement
  – Dialogue based on nationally-owned energy strategies

• Let’s do not forget adaptation
The HDR 2007/2008 will be launched 27 November 2007

http://hdr.undp.org
Adaptation: what has occurred so far? Short term & longer term priorities and options to address the needs?
Outline

- The UNFCCC & Kyoto Protocol Process
- Funding: GEF
- Investments and Financial Flow Study
- The point of view of Oxfam
- The point of view of a region at risk!
- The point of view of a country at risk!
Adaptation in the UNFCCC & KP

A series of programmes mandated by the COP:

• Vulnerability and adaptation assessment under the National communication process
• The NAPAs
• Technologies for adaptation
• The Buenos Aires Programme of work on adaptation and responses measures
• The Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability & adaptation to climate change
What is expected in Bali?

• Importance of adaptation / current context

- IPCC AR4 findings: impacts on agriculture, fisheries (sea-level rise) coastal zone management, water resources and health impact!
- It is not “only” an environmental issue, but a key development “bottle neck”.

UNITAR
What is expected in Bali?

• Mandated activities on Knowledge (SBSTA): Nairobi WP, Technology, System of Observation

• Capacity (SBSTA and SBI) National Communication, capacity building, Art. 6.

• Resource for implementation (SBI): Funding issues, Adaptation Fund under KP
Current Funding Options: the GEF

- RAF
  Ex: Samoa!
  *GEF Trust fund*

- Strategic Priority on Adaptation
  SPA
  *GEF Trust Fund*

- GEF managed Assistance to Address Adaptation

- Least Developed Countries Fund
  UNFCCC - LDCF

- Special Climate Change Fund
  UNFCCC SCCF

- Adaptation Fund ??
  Kyoto Protocol Dec. 5/CMP.2

11/29/2007
GEN - Climate Change Round table - 22 November 2007
Different features of overall GEF funding

**GEF TRUST FUND**
- Focus on global environment
- Incremental cost
- Global benefits
- RAF
- Co-financing

**“NEW” GEF ADAPTATION FUNDS**
- Focus on development, climate change impacts on human activities and life
- Additional costs
- No Global benefits
- Sliding scale (optional)
- No RAF
- Different approach to co-financing
Initial lessons, challenges & opportunities

- Flexibility, learning by doing
- Dialogue with stakeholders
- Integration of adaptation measures into development?
- How to estimate the costs of adaptation?
- More information and data are needed!
- Many existing good practices and indigenous knowledge to cope with current climate stresses; but
- Enough knowledge and expertise on the ground to implement adaptation action now.
AGENDA ITEM 7: ADAPTATION FUND

- Decision by the Council: “GEF’s willingness to support a decision - should one been made -- by the COP-MOP requesting the GEF secretariat to function as the secretariat of the Adaptation Fund”.
  - Legally possible
  - Politically feasible
Investments and Financial Flow Report

UNFCCC Secretariat Report on the analysis of existing and potential investment and financial flows relevant to the development of an effective and appropriate international response to climate change (2007)

- needed in 2030 to meet worldwide mitigation and adaptation requirements for various scenarios and their impacts on Developing countries

http://unfccc.int/meetings/dialogues/itmes/4048.php
Investments and Financial Flow Report

Key Findings

- Investment flows to developing countries could result in 68% of global emission reductions in 2030

- Energy supply: 432 billion projected => USD 148 could be shifted to low carbon options

- Industry, Buildings, Transportation, Agriculture etc…. High emission reduction potential in developing countries by 2030 => shift, scaling up and optimizing financial flows
Adapting to climate change: What’s needed in poor countries and who should pay?

- Important signal that a development NGO produced such a report => not only an environmental problem!
- Rich countries must lead in drastically reducing GHG emissions
- Additional finance for adaptation must come from innovative mechanisms.
The point of view of a region at risk!

- 14th SAAR Summit, 3-4 April 2007
- The Delhi Declaration recognizes climate change as a regional concern, calling for collective action => climate resilient development
- www.saarac-sec.org
The point of view of a country at risk!

From the Climate Change Cell – Department of Environment of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh

- Bringing the USA on board and persuade all responsible countries to agree on mitigation targets
- Bringing large developing countries for example China, and Brazil to reduce their emissions
- Ensuring that the principles of equity, right, justice are integral to the future agreement.
The building blocks of an effective response

Global action guided by shared goals and principles

Sustainable development objectives and national circumstances

Investment and Finance

Mitigation

Adaptation

Technology