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Produced by the GUE/NGL Publications Unit:  
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Photos: European Parliament, Julia Garlito Y Romo, European Community  
Design & layout: Liz Morrison  
Printers: ArtePrint  
© GUE/NGL – Brussels, 2008  
Printed on environment-friendly paper



**The road to Copenhagen:**  
towards a **new global deal**  
on climate change



**GUE/NGL**  
European United Left/Nordic Green Left  
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## The road to Copenhagen

The first round of the Kyoto Protocol on global warming ends in 2012 and a new global deal must be struck in Copenhagen in 2009.

What are the key elements of a new global deal? What needs to be newly agreed, re-agreed or altered in Copenhagen to secure an ambitious post-2012 global climate agreement?

The future regime should be equitable, based on historical responsibility and on the basis of "common but differentiated responsibility and respective capabilities", says the **European United Left/Nordic Green Left** (GUE/NGL) Group in the European Parliament whose MEPs, working together with environmental NGOs and local communities, keep the pressure on the EU to work for an ambitious climate deal that really counts for the world's poor.

GUE/NGL will oppose any move towards an agreement based on the lowest common denominator. Developing a new green economy is our most promising path out of the present crisis. Green technology can be the basis of a new industrial revolution.

## Urgent action needed

Urgent action is needed: where situations are dramatic, urgent measures should be taken:

- ▶ Early action will avoid further costs of climate change and promote job creation; delaying action will increase the devastation caused by climate change and the associated costs.
- ▶ A 40% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2020 and a 70%–90% reduction by 2050 compared to 1990 levels is necessary to ensure that we can limit global average temperature increase to 2°C above pre-industrial levels at the very most.
- ▶ Energy efficiency and renewable energies are the best bases for environmental and economic benefits. The EU 'indicative' target of 20% greater energy efficiency by 2020 must be replaced by a mandatory target.
- ▶ A global agreement on the treatment of the international aviation and shipping sectors need to be included in the Copenhagen agreement.

GUE/NGL delegation to Greenland to observe the effects of climate change, August 2007

## Adaptation must be a priority

Don't let the developing world pay the price: adaptation must be part of the Copenhagen agreement and a priority in order to:

- ▶ **Help** the poorest nations and most vulnerable communities to cope with increasing climate change damage, as an adaptive capacity is connected to social and economic development.
- ▶ **Ensure** growth and the eradication of poverty with a view to sustainable development.
- ▶ **Assist** developing countries in the deployment of sustainable and efficient technologies by means of adequate financing and capacity building measures.
- ▶ **Tropical deforestation** should be averted. Performance-based incentives for avoided deforestation need to be part of the future climate change regime.
- ▶ **Clean development mechanism projects** should focus on renewables and must ensure additionality.

## EU Leadership

- ▶ The EU should continue and strengthen its leadership role in the global climate change negotiations. This must be backed up through domestic action.
- ▶ Re-engaging major emitters like the US, China, India and Brazil in the post-2012 regime with the climate process should be a priority

## Political and individual action needed

An action plan with clear objectives and targets will aid progress, drawing on widespread input from a range of participants and learning from best practices elsewhere. The challenge is global but individual and local actions produce solutions. No place is too small to make a contribution.

