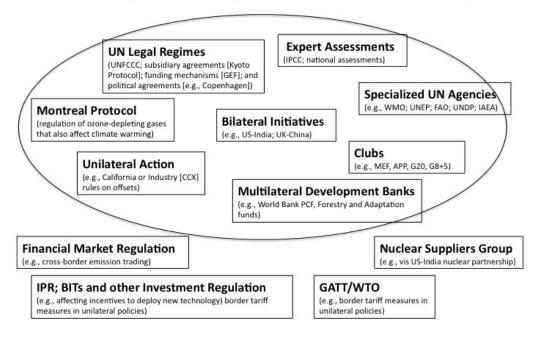
# Institutions for International Climate Governance

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Council on Foreign Relations
COP16 / 8 December 2010

#### Fragmentation is Inevitable

Issues are not well-contained

The Regime Complex for Climate Change



Source: Keohane and Victor

# Existing Institutions Can't Avoid Climate Change

- World Trade Organization
  - Trade and technology issues are already there
  - Carbon tariffs may reappear as an area for debate
- World Bank
  - Decisions on coal have forced the Bank to write rules governing climate finance
  - Tough questions of development versus emissions are unavoidable

### Involving Leaders is Essential

- Leaders have a special role
  - High-level political decisions
  - Cross-cutting tradeoffs
- Involving leaders requires smaller groups
- Options
  - G20: Too early to take on climate?
  - Major Economies Forum: A disappointing year
- Leader-level efforts need technical support

#### Where does the UNFCCC fit in?

- Whether you like the COP process of not, it's here
  - Question is what to do with it
- The COP process needs to be one of many institutional elements
  - It should focus on its relative strengths
    - Mass pressure on big emitters
    - Some elements of transparency
- Other efforts need not funnel back into the COP
  - Should be equal to others, not a "first among equals"
- "Forum Competition" can be constructive
  - Right now, it is too often destructive