



COP17/CMP7
UNITED NATIONS
CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE 2011
DURBAN, SOUTH AFRICA

UNITED NATIONS SUPPORTING CLIMATE ACTIONS

UN system-wide response to climate change

Under the chairmanship of the Secretary-General, the UN System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) brings together 29 UN system organizations to jointly support Member States in meeting global challenges.

In 2007, CEB adopted the **Climate Change Action Framework**, a joint action-oriented approach in line with the decisions of the UNFCCC Parties. The UN system supports Member States in implementing their commitments and in responding to emerging challenges.

At COP 17/CMP 7, the UN system is presenting its ongoing work and practical solutions and tools at side events and exhibits and through this joint package of thematic information.

Contact: ceb@un.org

CEB Website:

www.unsceb.org/ceb/priorities/climate-change/

SUPPORTING GLOBAL, REGIONAL AND NATIONAL ACTION

UN System side event on mitigation actions

Wednesday, 30 November 2011

Room Hex River from 13:15 to 14:45

The UN system supporting climate change action. UN agencies will provide comprehensive information on how they can assist countries, in particular, developing countries, in their transformation to low carbon economies. The event will focus on broad and important areas in terms of emissions and sustainable development: food, energy and transport

FOOD: The agriculture sector has to increase its production by 70% to meet the needs of a growing population while responding to impacts of climate change. The sector has a high impact on the natural resource base and energy use and is a major contributor to emissions, especially when considering deforestation. Presenters from FAO and partners will highlight the significant transformation that the sector will need to undergo and present climate smart solutions at the level of practices, policy and finance.

ENERGY: Energy demand is set to grow with fossil fuels continuing to dominate global energy supply for most of the 21st century. Efficiency improvements throughout the energy system combined with accelerated market penetration of low-carbon energy options are key measures for effective GHG mitigation. Presentations address planning and analysis tools for NAMA analyses, the importance of urban planning, as well as the role of biofuels and smart energy supplies for the agricultural sector. Presentations by IAEA, UN HABITAT, UNEP and FAO will focus on mitigation planning and capacity building in the energy sector. Smart Energy for Food, People and Climate.

TRANSPORT: Presentation on current and predicted transport emissions, how the world needs to move into a multimodal integrated transport chain and what actions, at a high level, developing and developed countries respectively will have to take to make this transition. Relevant UN agencies will provide information on how they can, or already are, helping developing countries in this context, including UNEP, UNDP, ICAO, UN HABITAT and IMO.

United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination Climate Change Action Framework

Focus (left) and Cross-Cutting Areas (right) have been identified in pursuance of the broader mandates and capacities in the UN system (with corresponding convening agencies) to ensure better coordination and cooperation for concrete deliverables:

Adaptation
Technology transfer
Forestry and Agriculture
Financing mitigation and adaptation action
Capacity-building

Climate knowledge: science, assessment, monitoring and early warning
Supporting global, regional and national action
Public awareness-raising
Social Dimensions of Climate Change

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UN agencies taking part in the UN mitigation side event in Durban

During the twentieth century, the earth's surface warmed by about 0.74° C, according to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). Science has made great strides in determining the potential causes for that change. The IPCC's Fourth Assessment Reports in 2007 stated that warming of the climate system is "unequivocal" and that most of the observed increase in global average temperatures since the mid-twentieth century is "very likely" due to the rise in greenhouse gases generated by human activity. Under the IPCC's most stringent emissions reduction scenario, the world has a 50 per cent chance of limiting further temperature increases to 2° C. Achieving that would require a comprehensive global mitigation effort, including a further tightening of existing climate policies in developed countries and concurrent emissions reductions in developing nations.

FAO's mandate is raise levels of nutrition, improve agriculture productivity, better the lives of rural populations and contribute to the growth of the world economy. Under its Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) programme FAO supports its member states in developing production systems that sustainably increase productivity, resilience (adaptation), reduce/removes GHGs (mitigation) and enhance the achievement of national food security and development goals. www.fao.org

IAEA's mission is to accelerate and enlarge the contribution of atomic energy to peace, health and prosperity throughout the world. IAEA serves as the global focal point for nuclear cooperation; helps its Members use nuclear science and technology productively and for exclusively peaceful purposes; facilitates technology and knowledge transfer to its Members, including by building capacity in energy planning and other areas; promotes high levels of nuclear safety; and verifies that States comply with their non- proliferation commitments. www.iaea.org

UNEP supports countries to make the transition to low-carbon growth and green economies by assessing emissions reduction opportunities, phasing out obsolete technologies, facilitating access to finance including stimulating private sector involvement, and promoting the scaling up of clean and renewable energy sources and energy efficiency through policy, technology and investment choices. UNEP's capacity building activities extend to areas as varied as technology needs assessments, resource assessments, end-user financial mechanisms, development of small sustainable energy businesses and sustainable biofuel development. UNEP also helps countries respond to obligations arising from the UNFCCC process. www.unep.org

WMO is the UN system's authoritative voice on the state and behaviour of the Earth's atmosphere, its interaction with the oceans, the climate it produces and the resulting distribution of water resources. WMO's Global Atmosphere Watch programme issues the annual Greenhouse Gas Bulletin, which reports on the latest trends and atmospheric burdens of all greenhouse gases. Since 2008, WMO, in close cooperation with FAO and other partners, has organized international conferences for the development of Regional Adaptation Frameworks for Climate Change that could help developing countries take pro-active adaptation and mitigation actions. www.wmo.int

UN-HABITAT through its Cities and Climate Change Initiative is assisting cities in developing countries to mitigate climate change by reducing the emission of greenhouse gases within their jurisdictions by developing Urban Low Emission Development Strategies that may include low carbon urban planning and design approaches; energy-efficient building technology; climate-smart water, sanitation and waste systems; low-carbon urban transport; and urban carbon sequestration, implemented by municipalities, in partnership with private sector and civil society, through self-governing, provision, regulation and enabling. www.unhabitat.org

IMO through its Integrated Technical Cooperation Programme assists developing countries in improving their ability to comply with international rules and standards related to maritime transport, in establishing permanent self-sustaining legal, policy and institutional arrangements to ensure uniform application of IMO's standards and policies for enhanced ship safety and reduction of all sources of emissions from ships, whilst combating poverty and promoting sustainable development. www.imo.org

ICAO through its member States' Action Plans on CO₂ emissions reduction activities from international aviation, to be submitted by June 2012, will assess progress in achieving the global aspirational goals of the sector; identify the assistance needs of implementing States; and develop a mechanism to facilitate the provision of technical and financial assistance to States, including for the development and deployment of sustainable alternative fuels for aviation. ICAO will continue to provide support to States in preparation and implementation of their action plans, towards a sustainable future of international aviation. www.icao.int/env

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