



Ministry of National Development Planning /
National Development Planning Agency



Terms of Reference
Climate Change and the Millennium Development Goals
UNFCCC Conference of Parties 13 Side Event

Tuesday, 11th December, 2007, 06.00 – 07.30 PM
Wave Room, Grand Hyatt, Nusa Dua, Bali

I. INTRODUCTION.

Today it is widely accepted by the scientific community that climate change is already a reality. Recent reports released by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in February and April of 2007 confirmed that human activity – rather than just natural variations – has contributed to current levels of global warming. Further, it has provided a comprehensive analysis of how climate change is affecting natural and human systems, what the impacts will be in the future and how far adaptation and mitigation can reduce these impacts. Together with the impact of the release of Stern's Report and Al Gore's Oscar winning movie "Inconvenient Truth", there is now an unprecedented increase of climate change awareness, practically at all levels of society.

Climate Change is also more recognized as an equity issue because, it's the poorest of the poor in the world who have contributed least to the atmospheric buildup of greenhouse gases linked to the recent warming of the planet - which are being hardest hit by its impacts. But these are also countries and sections of populations who are the least equipped to deal with the harm they do face; both for reasons of lack for economic resources or as a result of being geographically located in areas with higher vulnerability to the impacts of warming. Wealthy nations which have contributed by far the most to the atmospheric changes linked to global warming are not only experiencing fewer effects but are also better able to withstand them. This has put climate change and global poverty as key global justice challenges of our times.

Even though knowledge, warnings and commitments on climate change have existed for decades, include being a Goal 7 target of the Millennium Development Goals, many are still unaware of their interdependence. The achievement of **each** of the MDGs is actually directly or indirectly threatened by global warming and climate change. Rising ocean levels, droughts, floods and extreme weather – threatens to undo decades of development gains and the efforts thus far channeled towards meeting the MDGs. Global warming already appear to be leading to many ills, including lower yields from agriculture, fishing and forestry in some places (MDG1), higher incidence of tropical diseases (MDGs 4, 5 & 6), also greater numbers of species extinctions and growing shortages of water (MDG 7).

As mitigation policies to curbing climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions have gained more grounds, still more advocacy is needed to focus adaptation policies and practices so as to secure the MDGs in the face of climate change and its associated impacts. If people were guaranteed access to healthcare, education and equality then the world would gain billions of stronger, educated, and able citizens who can constructively contribute to addressing climate change.

II. OBJECTIVES.

1. To create common understanding of the close interdependence between climate change and the Millennium Development Goals, in both problems identification and solutions formation.
2. To keep policy makers on track on MDGs commitments while pursuing climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies.
3. To ensure that adaptation policies and practices can at the same time secure and catalyze the achievements of MDGs.
4. To ensure that mitigation efforts are also creating poverty reduction opportunities while considering the energy need of the poor to reach their MDGs.

III. PLACE & TIME

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IV. ORGANIZER AND SPEAKERS:

The side event will be organized by the Ministry of National Development Planning / National Development Planning Agency (BAPPENAS) Republic of Indonesia, in collaboration with the UN Millennium Campaign. BAPPENAS is the focal point for national MDGs planning and monitoring, responsible of publishing Indonesian MDG Reports, HDI Reports, and coordinating sectoral inputs to the preparation process of the publications. UN Millennium Campaign is an inter-agency of the United Nations formed to mobilize citizens around the world to hold governments accountable for the achievement of the MDGs. Working globally, the Campaign partners with citizens across six constituencies: civil society organizations, parliamentarians, local authorities, youth, media and the private sector; from the international to the local level. It is based in New York, with a regional office for Asia based in Bangkok, which will co-organize the event together with the office of the UN Special Ambassador for MDG in Asia and the Pacific based in Jakarta, Indonesia.

Speakers are:

1. **Bert Koenders**, the Netherland's Minister for Development Cooperation;
2. **Salil Shetty**, Director of UN Millennium Campaign;
3. **A. Atiq Rahman**, Director of Bangladesh Center for Advanced Studies, Chairman of Climate Action Network South Asia (CANSA) (tbc);
4. **Mari Pangestu**, Minister of Trade, Republic Indonesia (tbc);
5. **Kevin Rudd**, Prime Minister of Australia (tbc);
6. **Erna Witoelar**, UN Special Ambassador for MDGs in Asia and the Pacific

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