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## The Climate Dialogue at Pocantico

*International Climate Efforts Beyond 2012*

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*Nairobi, Kenya*

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## The Pew Center on Global Climate Change

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- **Established in 1998 as a non-profit, non-partisan and independent climate organization**
  - **The Center's mission is to provide credible information, straight answers, and innovative solutions in the effort to address global climate change**
  - **Three-fold structure:**
    - Research
    - Actively advise on policy
    - Facilitate business engagement on climate through the Business Environmental Leadership Council (BELC)
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## Dialogue Background

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- **Motivated by a concern for the climate change challenge**
  - **Facilitated discussion around important issues**
  - **Coordinated research inputs to dialogue**
  - **Goal of developing a consensus around a set of approaches the group believed worthy of consideration by the broader community**
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## Dialogue Overview

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- **Off-line discussions among 25 senior policymakers and stakeholders from 15 countries on options for advancing the international climate effort beyond 2012**
  - **Met four times from July 2004 to September 2005**
  - **The group's report, released in November 2005, recommends ideas and approaches for consideration by the broader policy community**
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## Dialogue Participants

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- **Assembled an intentionally diverse group, representing different:**
    - geographic regions
    - sectoral expertise
    - organization types (government, non-government, private sector)
    - roles within organizations (e.g. diplomats, regulators, legislature)
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## Dialogue Participants

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- **Participate in personal capacities only**
    - Crucial disclaimer
  - **No alternates permitted**
    - Allowed for the thinking of the entire group to evolve together, over time
  - **Influential in own agencies, but not overly constrained**
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## Dialogue Participants

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- **Policymakers**
    - Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Germany, Japan, Malta, Mexico, Tuvalu, UK, US (Senate)
  - **Stakeholders**
    - Alcoa, BP, DuPont, Eskom (S. Africa), Exelon, Rio Tinto, Toyota, TERI (India), World Economic Forum, Pew Center,
  - **Advisors**
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## Dialogue Structure

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- **Venue**
    - Secluded, comfortable
    - Consistent, familiar
  - **Small group**
    - to facilitate conversation, camaraderie
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## Dialogue Goals

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- **A product that would belong to the group (not a “Pew report”)**
  - **A document everyone would want their name affiliated with, even if they didn’t agree with every single point**
  - **Conversations were not open-ended, but guided and focused by facilitators**
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## INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE EFFORTS BEYOND 2012

REPORT OF THE  
CLIMATE DIALOGUE AT POCANTICO

## I. The Case for Action

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- **Clear scientific justification for stronger action now and over the coming decades**
  - **Strong economic rationale for acting now to reduce emissions and develop new technologies**
  - **Delaying action could increase long-term costs and undermine economic growth**
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## II. Framing the Future Effort

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- **Climate change is inherently a global challenge; should be met with a global response**
  - **UN Framework Convention on Climate Change establishes a foundation, and fundamental guiding principles, for a global approach**
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## Framing the Future Effort

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### **A post-2012 framework must:**

- **Engage major economies**
  - **Provide flexibility for different national strategies and circumstances**
  - **Integrate climate and development**
  - **Couple near-term action, long-term focus**
  - **Address adaptation needs**
  - **Be viewed as fair**
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## III. Options for Strengthening Multilateral Action

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### **Six Elements:**

- **Targets and trading**
  - **Sectoral approaches**
  - **Policy-based approaches**
  - **Technology cooperation**
  - **Adaptation**
  - **Aspirational long-term goal**
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## From Elements to Action

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- **Linking Elements – Two Options**
    - **Parallel tracks**
    - **An integrated approach**
  - **A Dialogue Among Major Economies**
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## Linking Elements: Parallel Tracks

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- **Groups of like-minded countries form agreements along different tracks**
    - **Could report to the Framework Convention**
  - **Would launch action on multiple fronts, build confidence, provide lessons for future**
  - **But ad hoc mix may not yield an overall effort that is sufficiently timely or robust**
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## **Linking Elements: An Integrated Approach**

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- **Linking and negotiating across tracks may produce a more balanced and ambitious effort**
  - **Negotiations could be could take the form of sequential bargaining**
  - **Critical issue: Terms of engagement**
    - **May need to agree at the outset that certain countries negotiate within designated tracks appropriate to their circumstances**
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## **Follow-on Work**

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- **No future meetings of the Pocantico dialogue currently planned**
  - **Pursuing analytic work on elements recommended by the group**
  - **Have been presenting the Dialogue outcome in many international venues for offline discussion on climate change**
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## Value of Dialogue Processes

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- **IGES dialogue is an important contribution in coordinating stakeholder input in the Asian region on post-2012 climate regimes**
  - **Dialogues with different goals can be extremely useful in facilitating informal interactions; information sharing**
  - **Equally important that the outcome of such dialogues be brought back to the UN process so findings can inform negotiations**
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## Contact Information

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