



# CLIMATE – NEWS

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ICFRE – CLIMATE CHANGE NEWS From the Biodiversity and Climate Change (BCC) Division, Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education, P.O: New Forest, Dehra Dun – 248006

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## CLIMATE CHANGE INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### CLIMATE CHANGE THREATENS BRAZIL'S RICH AGRICULTURE

Raymond Colitt

1 October, 2009

<http://www.reuters.com/article/environment/News/idUSTR100M20091002?feedType--->

Varginha, Brazil (Reuters) A freak tornado and floods last month may be a harbinger of troubled future for Brazilian farmers, who worry that climate change could severely disrupt production in one of the world's breadbaskets.

Rising temperatures, a shift in seasons, and extreme weather in coming decades are likely to cut output in some areas and wipe out crops entirely in others, experts say. "Brazil is vulnerable. If we don't do anything, food production is at risk," says Eduardo Assad, an agronomist at the government's agriculture research institute, Embrapa. At stake is a \$250 billion farm industry, food for millions of poor and supplies to world markets of Brazil's major export crops such as soybeans and coffee.

Brazil is seeking a leadership role in global climate talks and says it will adopt targets on greenhouse gas emissions, after agreeing last year to slash Amazon deforestation in half. But it has been slow to research climate change, its impact and how Brazilian agriculture can adapt to the changes.

In the poor northeast region, sparse rains will diminish further and temperatures will rise by 3 - 4 degrees Celsius (5.4 - 7.2 degrees Fahrenheit) by 2050, compared to a 2 degree Celsius national and global average rise, according to Brazil's National Institute for Space Studies (INPE).

Higher temperatures threaten to wipe out staple foods, such as cassava, for millions of people in the region. "The northeast will lose one-third of its economy if we do nothing," Environment Minister Carlos Minc told Reuters. Big export crops are also likely to suffer, according to a study by Assad and Hilton Silveira Pinto, an agronomist at the University of Campinas in Sao Paulo state.

## **COPENHAGEN MAY BE 'HALF BAKED,' UN'S DE BOER SAYS**

Mathew Carr

13 October, 2009 (Bloomberg)

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601130&sid=aa10kiYFSgEI>

This year's global climate summit in Copenhagen may be "half baked" unless rich nations agree to do more to cut emissions, said Yvo De Boer, executive secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

"We need more will" and more ambitious targets from rich nations, De Boer said by video link from Bonn, Germany today. "The time for speeches is over" before final negotiations in December, he said. "Our planet is being plundered and pillaged on an unprecedented scale." While the EU, China and Japan are taking needed steps to prevent climate change, other countries need to do better, he said. China, for instance, is closing high-emitting factories and power stations, lowering its impact on air quality and the climate, De Boer said.

Almost 200 nations are working to meet a December deadline for an accord to replace or extend the Kyoto Protocol, which runs through 2012, to slow emissions and shift the world to low- carbon energy sources. Nations have yet to agree on the level of emission cuts that developed countries must take, potentially binding commitments from the developing world, or the level of aid from wealthier to poorer nations to help them adapt to global warming and develop clean-energy sources.

After climate talks in Bangkok last week, countries have another week in Barcelona in November before the December summit in Copenhagen. A successful deal could include financial incentives to change the course of energy investments, including subsidies, tax breaks and expanded carbon markets. The Group of Eight industrial nations may not achieve its target of cutting emissions by 80 percent by 2050, De Boer said. The G8 "may be biting off a little more than we can chew."

## **SOME CANADIAN RIVERS AT RISK OF DRYING UP**

15 October, 2009

<http://www.physorg.com/news174826100.html>

Some Canadian rivers are at risk of drying up as impacts of climate change intersect with growing water demand from the country's cities, industries and agriculture, a new WWF report has found.

Canada's Rivers at Risk: Environmental Flows and Canada's Freshwater Future uses a scientific approach that focuses on the importance of water flow to examine the health of 10 Canadian rivers and reveals that some are dangerously close to drying up. It concludes that Canadians must value their fresh water differently and take immediate action to protect it.

Among the rivers at risk is the mighty Mackenzie, one of the world's longest free flowing rivers but one which also rises where climate change impacts are most pronounced. To complicate the river's future, climate change also contributes to another looming threat - increased interest in low carbon hydropower development along the river. Growing water withdrawals from industries such as oil sands development also pose threats.

A more encouraging picture comes from the Nipigon in Ontario, once stifled by dams and power development consuming all but three metres of its 95 metre drop from source to Lake Superior in the Great Lakes. Now the dams are operated to restore flows to more natural conditions, and fish populations are showing strong signs of recovery. Using sophisticated flow analysis that looks at the timing of flows and the water needs of river ecosystems yields much more valid assessments of river health than just counting up overall quantities of water, said Tony Maas, Director of Fresh Water for WWF-Canada. "Looking at environmental flows forces us to look at the scale that matters most when it comes to fresh water - the watershed," Maas said. "When we do, we find that growing more food, generating more electricity, quenching the thirst of expanding cities, and fuelling industry, are taking their toll on the nation's rivers and converging with the adverse impacts of climate change.

"Even seemingly remote northern waters like the Mackenzie are at risk. As temperatures rise, and industrial water withdrawals and interest in hydropower increase, we must start planning now to protect river flows to ensure water security for the communities and economies that depend on them." "The Mackenzie River is emerging as a national priority for freshwater conservation and the federal government can play a much stronger leadership role in protecting the waters of this vast watershed by facilitating implementation of the Mackenzie River Trans boundary Water Agreement," said Maas. This will ensure increasingly intensive development in upstream jurisdictions does not impair the health of the river, and the communities, downstream. "

To avoid irreparable damage, there must be a long-term plan to keep rivers flowing for people and nature. This includes strong federal leadership to address climate change - both at the UN Climate Conference this December, as well as in implementing a credible, national action plan to reduce emissions and put strategies into place for adapting to a changing freshwater future across Canada.

"These issues are of a scope and scale that require national leadership on fresh water in Canada now," said Gerald Butts, President and CEO, WWF-Canada. "Water is our most important national resource. Our responsibility is to steward it wisely to ensure that future Canadians can benefit from it as we do today."

## **NORTH CAROLINA SEALEVELS RISING THREE TIME FASTER THAN IN PREVIOUS 500 YEARS, STUDY FINDS**

29 October, 2009

Science Daily

[http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2009/10/091028192617.htm?utm\\_source=feedburner](http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2009/10/091028192617.htm?utm_source=feedburner)

An international team of environmental scientists led by the University of Pennsylvania has shown that sea-level rise, at least in North Carolina, is accelerating. Researchers found 20th-century sea-level rise to be three times higher than the rate of sea-level rise during the last

500 years. In addition, this jump appears to occur between 1879 and 1915, a time of industrial change that may provide a direct link to human-induced climate change.

The rate of relative sea-level rise, or RSLR, during the 20th century was 3 to 3.3 millimeters per year, higher than the usual rate of one per year. Furthermore, the acceleration appears consistent with other studies from the Atlantic coast, though the magnitude of the acceleration in North Carolina is larger than at sites farther north along the U.S. and Canadian Atlantic coast and may be indicative of a latitudinal trend related to the melting of the Greenland ice sheet.

Understanding the timing and magnitude of this possible acceleration in the rate of RSLR is critical for testing models of global climate change and for providing a context for 21st-century predictions. "Tide gauge records are largely inadequate for accurately recognizing the onset of any acceleration of relative sea-level rise occurring before the 18th century, mainly because too few records exist as a comparison," Andrew Kemp, the paper's lead author, said. "Accurate estimates of sea-level rise in the pre-satellite era are needed to provide an appropriate context for 21st-century projections and to validate geophysical and climate models."

The research team studied two North Carolina salt marshes that form continuous accumulations of organic sediment, a natural archive that provides scientists with an accurate way to reconstruct relative sea levels using radiometric isotopes and stratigraphic age markers. The research provided a record of relative sea-level change since the year 1500 at the Sand Point and Tump Point salt marshes in the Albemarle-Pamlico estuarine system of North Carolina. The two marshes provided an ideal setting for producing high-resolution records because thick sequences of high marsh sediment are present and the estuarine system is microtidal, which reduces the vertical uncertainty of sea-level estimates. The study provides for the first time replicated sea-level reconstructions from two nearby sites. In addition, comparison with 20th-century tide-gauge records validates the use of this approach and suggests that salt-marsh records with decadal and decimeter resolution can supplement tide-gauge records by extending record length and compensating for the strong spatial bias in the global distribution of longer instrumental records.

The study was funded by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Coastal Ocean Program, North Carolina Coastal Geology Cooperative Program, U.S. Geological Survey and National Science Foundation.

The study was conducted by Kemp and Benjamin P. Horton of the Sea-Level Research Laboratory at Penn, Stephen J. Culver and D. Reide Corbett of the Department of Geological Sciences at East Carolina University, Orson van de Plassche of Vrije Universiteit, W. Roland Gehrels of the University of Plymouth, Bruce C. Douglas of Florida International University and Andrew C. Parnell of University College Dublin

## **FOUR NATIONS TO PROPOSE 'GREEN FUND' TO BREAK CLIMATE DEADLOCK**

10 December, 2009  
The Times of India, New Delhi

Copenhagen: Four nations will propose a "green fund" on Wednesday to try to break deadlock on ways to raise and manage billions of dollars at UN climate talks in Copenhagen, delegates said.

Britain, Australia, Mexico and Norway would outline ideas in a document for raising billions of dollars toward 2020 at the December 7 - 18 talks.

"I can confirm that there will be an initiative from these countries, not on the size of the amount but about how we see the structure of finance in a new agreement," said Hanne Bjurstrøm, head of the Norwegian delegation.

A British official said the document would look at ideas for a green fund for developing nations, partly to help them adapt to climate changes such as floods, droughts, rising sea levels and species extinction. Mexico has in the past suggested that all countries should pay into a fund that would be distributed to the poor. Norway has proposed that some carbon emission allowances could be auctioned off to raise cash for developing nations.

The United Nations estimates that the fight against climate change may cost about \$300 billion a year in the long term. Disputes over who should pay are one of the main causes of friction at the UN talks

## **SCIENTISTS TIP 2010 AS HOTTEST YET**

Deborah Smith  
10 December, 2009  
<http://www.smh.com.au/environment/scientists-tip-2010-as-hottest-yet-20091209-kk3k.html>

The past six months have been Australia's warmest winter-spring period on record and it is likely next year will set global temperature records. Scientists predict that, whatever the outcome at Copenhagen, Australia must adapt to unprecedented heatwaves.

David Jones, the head of climate analysis at the Bureau of Meteorology, said yesterday that claims by sceptics the planet was cooling were wrong. Every decade in Australia for the past 70 years had been getting warmer, and this decade has been the globe's warmest so far.

"Clearly global warming hasn't stopped, and it's warming in our backyard," said Dr Jones, who was speaking in Melbourne after the release of the World Meteorological Organisation's annual climate statement on Tuesday night. Apart from temperature records, which have been criticised by sceptics amid the stolen email affair, heating was evident from sea-level rises, disappearing snow and shrinking sea ice, he said. "The climate system's having the final say."

Dr Jones said an El Nino event in the Pacific Ocean - linked to hotter, drier conditions in Australia - would have an effect on the world's climate next year. "There is a significant probability next year will be the globe's warmest year on record." Neville Nicholls, of Monash University, said the Copenhagen summit could determine "how bad things are going to be" in the longer term but some further warming was unavoidable. Adaptations such as heatwave-warning systems were needed

## **COP15 AMONG THE LARGEST SUMMITS EVER**

Rie Jerichow

16 December, 2009

<http://en.cop15.dk/news/view+news?newsid=3015>

The 119 heads of state and government participating at the climate summit in Copenhagen represent countries that account for 89 percent of the world's GDP. 119 heads of state and government - including nine vice presidents - will participate at the climate summit in Copenhagen, according to the Danish Ministry of State. This will rank the summit among the world's largest ever and the largest outside of New York, and obviously the largest ever in Denmark. As the Copenhagen conference formally entered its high-level stage Tuesday, COP15 President Connie Hedegaard defined their responsibility in her opening address:

"We can't do anything without you, the parties. You must compromise, You must commit. You must deliver NOW. Not only because of the climate. There is even more at stake. This is also about the world's confidence in their global leaders' will and ability to cope with the challenges of our time." The 119 heads of state and government represent countries that account for 89 percent of the world's GDP, 82 percent of the world's population and 86 percent of global greenhouse gas emissions. Included in the 119 countries are the 20 largest economies and the top 15 greenhouse gas emitters in the world.

## **TALKS NEAR DEAL TO SAVE FORESTS**

Elisabeth Rosenthal

17 December, 2009

The Times of India, New Delhi

Copenhagen: Negotiators have all but completed a sweeping deal that would compensate countries for preserving forests, and in some cases, other natural landscapes like peat soils, swamps and fields that play a crucial role in curbing [climate change](#). Environmental groups have long advocated such a compensation program. Rain forest destruction, which releases the carbon dioxide stored in trees, is estimated to account for 20 percent of greenhouse gas emissions globally.

The agreement for the program, if signed as expected, may turn out to be the most significant achievement to come out of the Copenhagen climate talks, providing a system through which countries can be paid for conserving disappearing natural assets based on their contribution to reducing emissions. A final draft of the pact, called Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation is to be given to participating ministers.

## **A FACESAVER IN COPENHAGEN WITH US PUSH**

### **11th –hour deal seen as a move in the evolution of the fight against climate change**

20 December, 2009  
The Times of India, New Delhi

Copenhagen: A furious final two days of climate diplomacy and presidential brinkmanship produced two and a half thin pages called the Copenhagen Accord, a deal vague at time in any teeth. “This particular text fall far short of our expectation,” the European Commission president Jose Manuel Barrosa, said of the political declaration produced in talks on 18 December between President Barack Obama and big developing countries at the UN climate conference. Other were harsher in their criticism.

III - started though it seemed at its birth, the 11<sup>th</sup> hour deal may ultimately be seen as another halting step in the slow, painful evolution of the global fight against climate change—the two - decade old effort to negotiate coordinated cuts internationally in carbon dioxide and other industrial, transport and agricultural emissions blamed for global warming.

A final session of climate conference delegates that lasted through the night cast doubt, however as several countries, including Bolivia, Venezuela and Sudan said the document is unacceptable because it lack targets for reducing carbon emissions. The declaration touched on major elements of the climate story, sometimes with scant detail, always with no legal obligation attached:

Nations agreed to cooperate in reducing emissions, “with a view” to scientists’ warnings to keep temperatures from rising more than 2 degrees Celsius (3.6 degrees F) above preindustrial levels, that is, 1.3 degrees C (2.3 degrees F) above today’s average temperatures.

Developing nations will report every two years on their voluntary action to reduce emissions. Those reports would be subject to “international consultations and analysis”—a concession by China to the US.

Richer nations will finance a \$10 billion a year, three year program to fund poorer nation’ projects to deal with drought and other climate change impacts, and develop clean energy.

They also set a “goal” of mobilizing \$100 billion a year by 2020 for the same adaptation and mitigation purposes.

In a US concession to China and other developing nations, text was dropped from the declaration that would have set a goal of reducing global emission by 50 % by 2050. Developing nations thought that would hamper efforts to raise their people from poverty.

#### WHAT'S THE FINAL 'DEAL' ABOUT ?

Long term goal: To reduce global emission and bring global temperature below 2<sup>0</sup> C  
Legally binding deal: a proposal attached to the accord calls for a legally binding treaty by next year.

Finance: The deal promises short-term financing pledges from developed countries for 2010-2012. EU: \$10.6 bn, Japan: \$11bn, US: 3.6\$ bn

Emission cuts: Detail of mitigation plans are included in separate annexes, one for developed country targets and one for the voluntary pledges of developing countries.

## COPENHAGEN CLIMATE DEAL MEETS QUALIFIED UN WELCOME

22 December, 2009

BBC News

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/science/nature/8422133.stm>

UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon has welcomed a US-backed climate deal in Copenhagen as an "essential beginning". But he said the accord, reached with key nations including China and Brazil, must be made legally binding next year. After intense wrangling, delegates passed a motion simply taking note of the deal, without formally adopting it. The pact did not win unanimous support, amid outrage from some developing nations who said it lacked specific targets for reducing carbon emissions.

The accord includes a recognition to limit temperature rises to less than 2<sup>0</sup> C and promises to deliver \$30bn (£18.5bn) of aid for developing nations over the next three years. It outlines a goal of providing \$100bn a year by 2020 to help poor countries cope with the impacts of climate change. The agreement also includes a method for verifying industrialised nations' reduction of emissions. The US had insisted that China dropped its resistance to this measure.

But the BBC's environment correspondent Richard Black says the Copenhagen Accord looks unlikely to contain temperature rises to within the 2<sup>0</sup> C (3.6F) threshold that UN scientists say is needed to avert serious climate change. US President Barack Obama described negotiations as "extremely difficult and complex", but said they had laid "the foundation for international action in the years to come". "This progress did not come easily, and we know that progress on this particular aspect of climate change negotiations is not enough," he added.

# CLIMATE CHANGE NATIONAL NEWS

## 'CROPS TO FACE CLIMATE BRUNT'

16 October, 2009

The Times of India, New Delhi

The preliminary results of the second set of extensive studies on the impact of climate change on India are out. Unchecked climate change could cause dramatic changes in the monsoon and lead to mixed affects on agricultural productivity in the country, the results suggest.

The studies, only the second set of government-backed bouquet of scientific research on the impacts of increasing greenhouse gas emissions, were shared between the scientific community and the government on Wednesday. These studies will form part of India's official submission to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) as part of what's dubbed its 'national communication'. They were discussed on Wednesday with environment minister Jairam Ramesh and other environment ministry officials in a seminar.

The preliminary results show that in case the emissions remained unchecked, the monsoon patterns in the country could change substantially in character. Dr K Krishna Kumar of the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology said that the country could see a decrease in the number of rainy days but increase the intensity of rains when they do fall. He pointed out that the country had already witnessed an increase of 0.51 degree Celsius in the 20th century with an accelerated warming of 0.21 degree Celsius per 10 years after 1970s. But he also mentioned that the trend had flattened off in the current decade with a warming of 0.1 degree Celsius per 10 years being recorded.

He pointed out that the length of the monsoon season, vital for agriculture, could also change substantially under some scenarios that the Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change projects on changes in atmospheric greenhouse gases. His studies also project possible increase in the daily maximum temperatures from one to six degrees under specific climate change conditions in future. He pointed out that studies had shown that minor changes in the night time temperatures could impact rice productivity and while the overall average rainfall may not change the alteration in monsoon patterns held significant challenges for agriculture.

Dr P K Aggarwal of Indian Agriculture Institute, in his presentation, said that the increase in CO2 concentration in the atmosphere to 550 ppm would increase yields of rice, wheat, legumes and oilseeds by 10-20%. But he warned that a one degree Celsius increase in temperatures could reduce yields of wheat, soybean, mustard, groundnut, and potato by 3-7%. The losses would be much higher if the temperatures rose further. The productivity of most crops could decrease marginally by 2020 but by 2100 the loss could be as high as 10-40%. On the flip side, the country could see possible improvement in yields of chickpea, rabi maize, sorghum and millets; and coconut in the west coast.

## **WEST MUST PAY FOR GREEN TECH, SAYS PM Clarifies India Stands By Kyoto Pact Requirements**

23 October, 2009

The Times of India, New Delhi

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Thursday cleared India's position on climate change, stating that "equating GHG emissions across nations on a per capita basis is the only just and fair basis for a long-term global arrangement on climate change which is truly equitable". The PM was speaking at a two-day international climate change technology conference hosted by India. In a speech as eagerly awaited at home as aboard, Singh, renewed India's call for a deal at Copenhagen that adheres to the Bali Action Plan and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change.

With doubts being raised about a shuffle of Indian stance on climate change negotiations, the PM's speech helped reset the Indian position before senior delegates gathered from more than 30 countries, including many from the G77 group of countries and China. It was amply clear that the speech was as much oriented for a domestic audience as well as a signal to the rest of the world that India had not budged from its position ahead of the semi-final round of negotiations in November at Barcelona. In a speech peppered with statements echoing India's position on key elements of the negotiations, Singh said, "We believe that continuation of the process of incentivizing the adoption of climate friendly technologies in developing countries in the second commitment period of Kyoto Protocol should be a priority concern."

He also lobbed the ball back in the industrialized countries' court, saying, "I have no doubt that if developed countries make a serious effort to bring their per capita emissions within tolerable levels, they will unleash large resources directed towards research. This will generate an upsurge of technology that will make it much easier for other countries to follow suit."

The point was not lost on the gathering. The industrialized countries have been demanding for a while now that emerging economies like India sign on to a deal that obliges them to take emission reduction obligations at their own cost in coming years. Painting India as 'obstructionist', the industrialized countries have so far shied away from offering either credible money or commitment for deep emission cuts. Urging India to take 'leadership' and become a 'deal maker' on climate change is the euphemism often used to convince the government to take 'emission control obligations'. Touching on the crucial issue of intellectual property rights, and citing the example of the compulsory licensing in the case of HIV treatment, the PM said, "The IPR regime applied to those (climate friendly) goods should balance rewards for innovators with the need to promote common good of humankind."

The conference, crucial in its own right, for attempting to produce a political statement of important countries on technology transfer issues, had gathered greater significance with the political storm that enveloped the Indian climate agenda but had the radars of observers up across the globe watching for any loosening of the Indian stance.

## **CLIMATE: G77 TAKES ON WEST**

### **At Barcelona meet, India says rich-poor distinction being ignored.**

Nitin Sethi

6 November, 2009

The Times of India, New Delhi

The Barcelona talks on climate change saw further fireworks with the chairperson of one of the two parallel tracks of the negotiations coming under fire from G77 countries, including India, for directing the process away from the ambit of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Bali Action Plan, which differentiates between rich countries and the rest.

The Indian delegation warned that the proposals being made by the chairperson and industrialised countries did away with distinctions between developed and developing countries and imposed new commitments on developing countries and imposed new commitments on developing countries.

India also strongly disagreed with US on the suggestion that areas of disagreement on crucial issues of a long-term agreement on climate change be sent to respective ministers to decide. India pointed out that it was not mere divergence of viewpoints but the fact that US and others were asking for a deal which fell out of the rules of the UN convention.

Even as the African countries on Tuesday night accepted a temporary truce on the Kyoto Protocol track of negotiations, the G77 and China grouping led a powerful counter offensive against the attempt to hoist a greenhouse gas emission reduction regime on developing countries similar to the one right now in place for industrialised countries.

The UN negotiations on climate are running on two parallel tracks. One of the tracks, referred to as Ad-hoc Working Group on Long-Term Cooperation, is meant to hammer out a deal on mitigation, adaptation, finance and technology in the long run. The other set of negotiations, called the Ad-hoc Working Group on Kyoto Protocol, is meant to discuss targets for emission reductions by industrialised countries under the protocol starting 2012 besides other issues. Earlier, the African countries had boycotted all talks under Kyoto track unless the industrialized countries put up firm numbers for mitigation. Tuesday brought the talks in long-term cooperation negotiations also to a near stalemate with the G77 insinuating that the chairperson of the talks was biasing the discussions in favour of industrialized countries.

The chairperson, Michael Zammit Cutajar of Malta, had prepared a note for the Barcelona meet which suggested that countries focus on the discussions on a shared vision leading up to a political commitment, instead of a comprehensive agreement at Copenhagen in December. His note and the other documents that washed over the differences between the commitments of the developed countries and the rights of the developing world came under fire at Barcelona and promised to raise more controversy over the next couple of days.

## **NO CHANGING KYOTO PROTOCOL: INDIA**

### **New Delhi's proposal on climate Innovation centres gets nod**

14 December, 2009  
The Times of India, New Delhi

Copenhagen: India made it clear that it was opposed to any amendment of the Kyoto Protocol that prescribes mandatory emission cuts on developed countries as the 12- day climate talks headed into the second week where environment ministers would seek to give a political push to the negotiation which were in disarray. Informal talks among the environment ministers on the draft, criticized by rich nations and emerging economies, continued over the weekend with the hope that they could agree on a text that could be put before the heads of state and government assembling for the plenary here later next week. "There are articles bracketing the Annex 1 and non-Annex countries and allows Annex1 (developed nations) to abandon Kyoto, which is not the right message to give at this point of time," India's environment secretary Vijay Sharma said.

Meanwhile, India has made its fist breakthrough in the Copenhagen climate change conference, a news channel reported. There are reports on India's proposal to set up climate innovation centres for developing countries and sharing green technologies has been approved. One of these technology centres will be in India.

## **INDIA : KYOTO PACT IN INTENSIVE CARE**

Elisabeth Rosenthal  
17 December, 2009  
The Times of India, New Delhi

Copenhagen: The Kyoto Protocol which binds nearly 40 rich nations to limit carbon emissions is in "intensive care" and global negotiations to extend Developing countries want rich nations to be held to their Kyoto obligations, and sign up to a second round of tougher commitments from 2013. But Mr Jairam Ramesh said many developed countries were "vehemently opposing" the protocol and some of them wanted a single new accord obliging all nations to fight global warming. "The sense we get is that Kyoto (Protocol) is in intensive care if not dead," Ramesh told reporters.

## ICFRE NEWS

### FIVE DAYS TRAINING COURSE FOR SCIENTISTS AND OFFICERS AT ICFRE, DEHRADUN

Five days training course for scientists and officers on “Carbon Sequestration” was organized by the Biodiversity and Climate Change Division at ICFRE, Dehradun from 5<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> October, 2009. 15 scientists and officers of different Institutes participated in this course. The programme was highly appreciated and rated by the participants.



### PARTICIPATION OF ICFRE AT BARCELONA CLIMATE CHANGE TALK 2 - 6 NOVEMBER, 2009

Mr V.R.S. Rawat, Scientist 'D', Biodiversity and Climate Change Division, ICFRE participated in the meetings as part of the Government of India delegation.

### PARTICIPATION OF ICFRE IN FIFTEENTH CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE UNFCCC / FIFTH MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE KYOTO PROTOCOL AT COPENHAGEN, DENMARK 7-18 DECEMBER, 2009

Mr V.R.S. Rawat, Scientist 'D', Biodiversity and Climate Change Division, ICFRE participated in the Fifteenth conference of the parties to the UNFCCC / fifth meeting of the parties to the Kyoto Protocol as part of the Government of India delegation.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **4<sup>TH</sup> REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON CLIMATE CHANGE**

01- 03 March, 2010

Tehran , Iran abstract: Scientific assessment and understanding climate change, The Assessment of Climate Change Impacts, Actions to be made in facing Climate Change Effects, Public services and Media for Climate Change topics: Scientific assessment, understanding, facing Climate Change, Public services  
weblink: <http://www.4rccc.irimo.ir>

### **UNFCCC SUBSIDIARY BODIES**

31 May - 11 June, 2010

Venue to be confirmed. The venue for the June 2010 meetings of the UNFCCC Subsidiary Bodies is likely to be Bonn, Germany. For more information contact: UNFCCC Secretariat; tel: +49-228-815-1000; fax: +49-228-815-1999; e-mail: [secretariat@unfccc.int](mailto:secretariat@unfccc.int); Internet: [http://unfccc.int/meetings/unfccc\\_calendar/items/2655.php?year=2010](http://unfccc.int/meetings/unfccc_calendar/items/2655.php?year=2010)

### **SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CLIMATE, SUSTAINABILITY AND DEVELOPMENT IN SEMI-ARID REGIONS (ICID II)**

16 - 20 August, 2010

Fortaleza, Brazil. ICID I was held in 1992 in the run up for the Rio Conference and delivered substantive technical inputs for the UN Convention to Combat Desertification negotiations.

### **2010 INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION CONFERENCE**

29 June - 01 July, 2010 Australia (Gold Coast)  
<http://www.preventionweb.net/english/professional/trainings-events/events/v.php?id=11468>

Other host Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO )  
National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility (NCCAR)  
Description

Co-hosted by Australia's National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility and the CSIRO Climate Adaptation Flagship, this conference will be one of the first international forums to focus solely on climate impacts and adaptation. It will bring together scientists and decision makers from developed and developing countries to share research approaches,

methods and results. It will explore the way forward in a world where impacts are increasingly observable and adaptation actions are increasingly required. The climate adaptation futures conference will showcase leading impacts and adaptation research from around the world. It will explore the contribution of adaptation science to planning and policy making, and how robust adaptation decision making can proceed in the face of uncertainty about climate change and its impacts. The coordination of the conference programme has been led by an International Steering Committee of world leaders in the field of climate change adaptation.

## **MONTREAL PROTOCOL OEWG-30**

21 - 25 June, 2010

Bangkok, Thailand.

<http://ozone.unep.org/Events/meetings2010.shtml>

The Open-ended Working Group of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer is tentatively scheduled to meet in Bangkok, Thailand, from 21-25 June 2010. For more information contact: tel: +254-20-762-3850/1; fax: +254-20-762-4691; e-mail: [ozoneinfo@unep.org](mailto:ozoneinfo@unep.org); Internet:

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