

# Climate Slamdown

Justice or Just Us?

Day by day accounts of the Copenhagen Climate Talks

## There is nothing outside the text

A six page draft (half of which appears to be [brackets around things still up for negotiation] has been released by the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Co-operative Action under the Convention. (AWG-LCA) It includes calls on developed nations to cut greenhouse gas emissions by 25-45% from 1990 levels by 2020. (current pledges add up to roughly 18%. It leaves open the exact target for limiting temperature rise, (1.5, which is what those pesky 'hey, we don't want to die because of this mess you caused' small island states and Africans and so on. It doesn't give a target date for when emissions are to start to decline. Some commentators are cautiously optimistic, while other groups slam it.

"Most developed and some developing country parties said the text could be used as a starting point, but expressed reservation on certain parts of the text. Many developing countries, however, said the text was unacceptable as a starting point and that many proposals were not reflected in the text." (iisd) Erwin Jackson of the Australian Climate Institute: "It would be a huge backwards step if this is adopted. There is no mandate for a legally binding treaty that would take in the US or the big developing countries like China and India."

This is what is going to get kicked around next week by ministers and heads of state, so it bears reading.

<http://en.cop15.dk/news/view+news?newsid=2938>

## No, show me some REAL money...

Meanwhile, the EU's offer of 7.2bn euros over three years, until money from a Copenhagen deal becomes available, gets the "that don't impress me much." The total sum is regarded as inadequate, most of it is recycled/renamed money, and much of it will fail to materialise.

"Eastern European countries, which had protested they were too poor to pay, have also made contributions although some are merely symbolic, says the BBC's Oana Lungescu in Brussels.

Many, like Poland, say they are unable to give cash and have offered instead a percentage of the future sale of unused carbon credits."

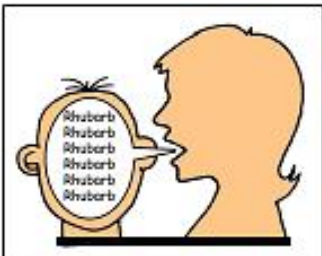
## protest news



Police in Copenhagen arrested 68 protesters during the first day of serious demonstrations connected with the UN climate talks. Protestors met in Nytorv Square in the centre of the city at 10am before dispersing to targets including the

Danish Energy Association, Deloitte, Repsol, Shell and the shipping company Maersk. And McDonalds, of course. **Numbers-** according to police, 250. Organisers say 500 to 1000. Truth therefore 375 to 621.5? Expect much more number-spinning today, the day of the NGO - sponsored "Flood" (a march in Copenhagen)

## Quoteable Quotes



"Climate wonks are fond of saying that the Chinese symbol for 'crisis' also means 'opportunity'. I have no idea if that's true. What I do know is that the English words 'climate crisis' translate into 'branding opportunity'." <http://adamwelz.wordpress.com> 10th December

Stern words for.. Stern. "I don't want to say the gentleman is ignorant. I think he lacks common sense where he made such a comment vis-a-vis funds for China. Either lack of common sense or extremely irresponsible." Chinese negotiator He Yafei on US lead negotiator Todd Stern, who has said no US public money will be available to help China adapt to climate change.

## Taking care of business...

"Elsewhere in Copenhagen, the role of private sector finance dominated the discussions as the various "Days" events kicked off with the Business Day. Taking the lead from UNFCCC Executive Secretary Yvo de Boer's briefing Friday morning, approximately 400 business representatives discussed ways that the private sector could contribute to quick-start activities. Existing sectoral initiatives, including for cement, were highlighted as areas in which the business community could contribute immediate action. Business leaders also emphasized the desirability of a stable, long-term government-led framework on climate change, as many highlighted that business cannot take the lead towards a low-carbon economy without a price being set on carbon." (iisd)

## On this day in

### History

1946 Unicef created,

1994 Boris Yeltsin orders troops into Chechnya

[www.climateslamdown.wordpress.com](http://www.climateslamdown.wordpress.com)  
[climateslamdown@googlemail.com](mailto:climateslamdown@googlemail.com)

## Further Reading

[www.ft.com/climatechange](http://www.ft.com/climatechange)

[www.iisd.ca/cop15](http://www.iisd.ca/cop15)

[www.bbc.co.uk](http://www.bbc.co.uk)

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[www.manchesterclimatefortnightly.info](http://www.manchesterclimatefortnightly.info)

## New Internationalist

Climate Slamdown originally appeared in New Internationalist Magazine, although these updates are by Marc Roberts and Marc Hudson alone.