

## 2. Fighting Climate Change [35]

### Commitment

“[We acknowledge that the UN climate process is the appropriate forum for negotiating future global action on climate change.] We are committed to moving forward in that forum and call on all parties to actively and constructively participate in the UN Climate Change Conference in Indonesia in December 2007 with a view to achieving a comprehensive post 2012-agreement (post Kyoto-agreement) that should include all major emitters.”<sup>81</sup>

*Growth and Responsibility in the World Economy*

### Assessment

Country	Final Compliance Score		
	Lack of Compliance -1	Work in Progress 0	Full Compliance +1
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
Russia			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
<b>Average Score</b>			<b>+1.00</b>

### Background

Since the late 1980's, the G8 has focused on the United Nations as a vehicle for climate change research and alleviation. At the 1990 summit in Houston, the G7 countries affirmed their commitment to work within the United Nations Framework Protocol Convention on Climate Change.<sup>82</sup> At the 2005 Gleneagles and 2006 St. Petersburg Summits, however, the commitment text recognized the various agreements in which G8 nations were involved, including those outside of the United Nations framework.<sup>83</sup> As the international community looks past the 2012 deadline of the Kyoto protocol, the G8 leaders' commitment to address the issue of climate change within the United Nations system is significant given the divergent policies of the member states concerning the appropriate forums for negotiating reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.<sup>84</sup> Recognition of the Kyoto Protocol within the summit text and re-enforcing the importance of the Bali negotiations is significant of the growing political will for a multilateral approach to the problem of climate change.

*Team Leader: Courtney Hood*

<sup>81</sup> Growth and Responsibility in the World Economy, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 7 June 2007. Date of Access: 24 January 2008.

<<http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2007heiligidamm/g8-2007-economy.html>>

<sup>82</sup> John Kirton, "The G8's Energy- Climate Connection," The G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 2007. Date of Access: 30 May 2008. <[http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/scholar/kirton2007/kirton\\_energy-climate.pdf](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/scholar/kirton2007/kirton_energy-climate.pdf)>

<sup>83</sup> Policy Issues, Background on Climate Change, 2005 Gleneagles Summit (Gleneagles) June 2005. Date of Access: 10 January 2008.

<[www.g8.gov.uk/servlet/Front?pagename=OpenMarket/Xcelerate/ShowPage&c=Page&cid=1123951048479](http://www.g8.gov.uk/servlet/Front?pagename=OpenMarket/Xcelerate/ShowPage&c=Page&cid=1123951048479)>

<sup>84</sup> Fact Sheet: United States Policy on the Kyoto Protocol, United States Embassy (Vienna) 29 March 2001. Date of Access: 10 January 2008. <[vienna.usembassy.gov/en/download/pdf/kyoto.pdf](http://vienna.usembassy.gov/en/download/pdf/kyoto.pdf)>

## Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment on fighting climate change.

Canada attended the 13<sup>th</sup> Conference on Climate Change (COP-13) in Bali, Indonesia in December 2007.<sup>85</sup> During the Conference, Canadian Environment Minister John Baird noted that “We support the UN process as the only way to get a truly global agreement.”<sup>86</sup> Canada encouraged all other states to attend the conference,<sup>87</sup> focusing its pressure on the world’s largest contributors of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.<sup>88</sup> During the COP-13, however, Canada came under criticism from other delegates, including those from G8 member states, who perceived that its position was obstructing agreement on a path forward from the Kyoto Protocol. The head of the German delegation, Karsten Sachs, noted that “[w]e Europeans don’t see the Canadian position as constructive.”<sup>89</sup>

On 10 December 2007, Canada increased its funding of the Global Environment Facility’s (GEF) Special Climate Change Fund,<sup>90</sup> which operates within the United Nations framework, by CAD7.5 million.<sup>91</sup> The Fund assists developing states in combating climate change.<sup>92</sup>

On 28 September 2007, Minister Baird participated at the Major Emitters Meeting (MEM) in Washington D.C. The Meeting included 14 of the world’s biggest GHG emitters, including the United States. Minister Baird used his participation in the meeting to encourage other states to remain part of the UN framework.<sup>93</sup>

Canada has met the UNFCCC requirement to transfer technology and expertise to developing states in an effort to combat climate change.<sup>94</sup> A core component of Canada’s strategy for technology transfer is the Canadian International Development Agency’s (CIDA) grants for environmental projects.<sup>95</sup>

On 22 September 2007, the Canadian government agreed to a revision of the Montreal Protocol, which is designed to help reverse the depletion of the ozone layer. The revision of the Protocol will aid in the elimination of hydrochlorofluorocarbons in the atmosphere.<sup>96</sup>

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<sup>85</sup> Canada Calls New UN Agreement an Important First Step, Environment Canada (Gatineau) 15 December 2007. Date of Access: 11 January 2008. <<http://www.ec.gc.ca/default.asp?lang=En&n=714D9AAE-1&news=7CAFECCBD-2D0F-4E57-A7EA-7D53D9D2D903>>

<sup>86</sup> Canada Supports UN Principles for New Climate Change Deal, Environment Canada (Gatineau) 10 December 2007. Date of Access: 11 January 2008. <<http://www.ec.gc.ca/default.asp?lang=En&n=714D9AAE-1&news=03FCBF3A-BF0B-4237-9F8E-654DB8945D99>>

<sup>87</sup> UN Ranks Canada in Top 5 Best Places to Live – Canada Continues to Deliver Leadership on Climate Change, Environment Canada (Gatineau) 25 November 2007. Date of Access: 11 January 2008. <<http://www.ec.gc.ca/default.asp?lang=En&n=714D9AAE-1&news=D916C6A1-20B8-42EA-81A4-CA88E35EC316>>

<sup>88</sup> Canada Calls New UN Agreement an Important First Step, Environment Canada (Gatineau) 15 December 2007. Date of Access: 11 January 2008. <<http://www.ec.gc.ca/default.asp?lang=En&n=714D9AAE-1&news=7CAFECCBD-2D0F-4E57-A7EA-7D53D9D2D903>>

<sup>89</sup> Canada at odds with key Kyoto principles, risks stalling talks, The Energy Independent 13 December 2007. Date of Access: 23 February 2008. <<http://www.theenergyindependent.com/stories/canada-at-odds-with-key-kyoto-principle-risks-stalling.html>>

<sup>90</sup> Climate Change, Global Environment Facility (Washington D.C.) 2007. Date of Access: 11 January 2008. <<http://www.gefweb.org/interior.aspx?id=232>>

<sup>91</sup> Canada Takes Action to Help Developing Countries Fight Climate Change, Environment Canada (Gatineau) 9 December 2007. Date of Access: 11 January 2008. <<http://www.ec.gc.ca/default.asp?lang=En&n=714D9AAE-1&news=323B0F50-9F66-424A-AF64-34EDBFB1A461>>

<sup>92</sup> Canada Takes Action to Help Developing Countries Fight Climate Change, Environment Canada (Gatineau) 9 December 2007. Date of Access: 11 January 2008. <<http://www.ec.gc.ca/default.asp?lang=En&n=714D9AAE-1&news=323B0F50-9F66-424A-AF64-34EDBFB1A461>>

<sup>93</sup> News Release Canada Joins Major Economies to Advance Post-2012 Climate Change Agenda, Environment Canada (Gatineau) 28 September 2007. Date of Access: 11 January 2008. <<http://www.ec.gc.ca/default.asp?lang=En&n=714D9AAE-1&news=450FE9CB-A410-4FE6-A8CE-0904E5CA75B3>>

<sup>94</sup> Fact sheet: Key decisions expected to come out of the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Bali (3-14 December), United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Bonn). Date of Access: 10 January 2008. <[http://unfccc.int/files/press/backgrounders/application/pdf/key\\_decisions\\_fact\\_sheet\\_vs4.pdf](http://unfccc.int/files/press/backgrounders/application/pdf/key_decisions_fact_sheet_vs4.pdf)>

<sup>95</sup> List by Sector, Environment, Canadian International Development Agency (Gatineau) 10 January 2008. Date of Access: 10 January 2008. <<http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/cidaweb/cpo.nsf/vWebProjBySectorEn?OpenView&Start=1&Count=1000&Expand=13#13>>

<sup>96</sup> Combating Climate Change Given Big Confidence Boost in Canada, United Nations Environment Programme (Montreal) 22 September 2007. Date of Access: 11 January 2008. <<http://www.unep.org/Documents.Multilingual/Default.asp?DocumentID=517&ArticleID=5671&l=en>>

Canada attended<sup>97</sup> the UNFCCC Bangkok Climate Change Talks held between 31 March 2008 and 4 April 2008.<sup>98</sup> The UNFCCC Bangkok Climate Change Talks were a direct outcome of the UNFCCC Bali Conference on Climate Change, which Canada attended in 2007. The Bangkok talks concluded “with agreement on a work programme that structures negotiations on a long-term international climate change agreement, set to be concluded in Copenhagen by the end of 2009.”<sup>99</sup> In addition, the talks demonstrated support for carbon markets, including the UN Clean Development Mechanism.<sup>100</sup> Canada has also incorporated the UN Clean Development Mechanism into its “Turning the Corner” plan to combat climate change.<sup>101</sup>

On 5 May 2008, the United Nations Climate Change Secretariat announced that Canada had not complied with a Kyoto Protocol mandate requiring the country to register its greenhouse gas emissions. The Canadian government claims that it is currently working on registering Canada’s emissions.<sup>102</sup>

Thus, Canada has been awarded a score of +1 for its participation in the COP-13, its engagement in UN forums, and its encouragement of other states to engage in the UNFCCC.

*Analyst: Jayme Turney*

### **France: +1**

France has fully complied with its commitment on fighting climate change.

France participated in the 13<sup>th</sup> UN Climate Change Conference in Bali, 3-15 December 2007, and was represented by Minister of the Environment Jean-Louis Borloo.<sup>103</sup> Minister Borloo held high-level meetings at the Bali Conference with the UN Secretary General and key participants, including the United States and China, in order to negotiate a compromise on the Bali Roadmap.<sup>104</sup> While at the Conference, Minister Borloo also announced that his government was “in total harmony with the position of the European Union.”<sup>105</sup> The EU has called for a reduction in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions of 20% by 2020.<sup>106</sup> Moreover, the French government has expressed its belief that the European Union, rather than the

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<sup>97</sup> Canada’s submission to UN climate change conference ‘deceitful’: critics, Canwest News Service (Toronto) 31 March 2008. Date of Access: 12 April 2008. <<http://www.canada.com/globaltv/ontario/story.html?id=f6d9ed61-44ba-411d-bac8-f64655283d61&k=84923>>

<sup>98</sup> Bangkok Climate Change Talks – 31 March to 4 April 2008, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Bonn) 4 April 2008. Date of Access: 12 April 2008. <[http://unfccc.int/meetings/intersessional/awg-lca\\_1\\_and\\_awg-kp\\_5/items/4288.php](http://unfccc.int/meetings/intersessional/awg-lca_1_and_awg-kp_5/items/4288.php)>

<sup>99</sup> Press Release UN Bangkok Climate Change Talks Reach Agreement on Work Programme for 2008 + Send Important Signal to International Carbon Markets, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Secretariat (Bonn) 4 April 2008. Date of Access: 12 April 2008. <[http://unfccc.int/files/press/news\\_room/press\\_releases\\_and\\_advisories/application/pdf/bangkok\\_closing\\_press\\_release.pdf](http://unfccc.int/files/press/news_room/press_releases_and_advisories/application/pdf/bangkok_closing_press_release.pdf)>

<sup>100</sup> Press Release UN Bangkok Climate Change Talks Reach Agreement on Work Programme for 2008 + Send Important Signal to International Carbon Markets, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Secretariat (Bonn) 4 April 2008. Date of Access: 12 April 2008. <[http://unfccc.int/files/press/news\\_room/press\\_releases\\_and\\_advisories/application/pdf/bangkok\\_closing\\_press\\_release.pdf](http://unfccc.int/files/press/news_room/press_releases_and_advisories/application/pdf/bangkok_closing_press_release.pdf)>

<sup>101</sup> News Release Government Delivers Details of Greenhouse Gas Regulatory Framework, Environment Canada (Gatineau) 10 March 2008. Date of Access: 12 April 2008. <<http://www.ec.gc.ca/default.asp?lang=En&n=714D9AAE-1&news=B2B42466-B768-424C-9A5B-6D59C2AE1C36>>

<sup>102</sup> UN to probe Canada over lack of greenhouse-gas reporting, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (Ottawa) 7 May 2008. Date of Access: 8 May 2008. <<http://www.cbc.ca/canada/story/2008/05/07/carbon-trading.html>>

<sup>103</sup> Conférence de Bali sur le changement climatique, Ministère des Affaires Étrangères (Paris). Date of Access: 25 January 2008. <[http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/fr/actions-france\\_830/environnement-developpement-durable\\_1042/diplomatie-environnementale\\_1115/changement-climatique\\_2496/conference-bali-03-15.12.07\\_56872.html](http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/fr/actions-france_830/environnement-developpement-durable_1042/diplomatie-environnementale_1115/changement-climatique_2496/conference-bali-03-15.12.07_56872.html)>

<sup>104</sup> Bilan de la conférence de Bali, Ministère des Affaires étrangères et européennes (Paris) 15 December 2007. Date of Access: 8 January 2008. <[http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/fr/actions-france\\_830/environnement-developpement-durable\\_1042/diplomatie-environnementale\\_1115/changement-climatique\\_2496/bilan-conference-bali-3-15.12.2007\\_57722.html](http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/fr/actions-france_830/environnement-developpement-durable_1042/diplomatie-environnementale_1115/changement-climatique_2496/bilan-conference-bali-3-15.12.2007_57722.html)>

<sup>105</sup> Conférence de Bali sur le changement climatique, Ministère des Affaires Étrangères (Paris). Date of Access: 25 January 2008. <[http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/fr/actions-france\\_830/environnement-developpement-durable\\_1042/diplomatie-environnementale\\_1115/changement-climatique\\_2496/conference-bali-03-15.12.07\\_56872.html](http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/fr/actions-france_830/environnement-developpement-durable_1042/diplomatie-environnementale_1115/changement-climatique_2496/conference-bali-03-15.12.07_56872.html)>

<sup>106</sup> Conférence de Bali sur le changement climatique, Ministère des Affaires Étrangères (Paris). Date of Access: 25 January 2008. <[http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/fr/actions-france\\_830/environnement-developpement-durable\\_1042/diplomatie-environnementale\\_1115/changement-climatique\\_2496/conference-bali-03-15.12.07\\_56872.html](http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/fr/actions-france_830/environnement-developpement-durable_1042/diplomatie-environnementale_1115/changement-climatique_2496/conference-bali-03-15.12.07_56872.html)>

national governments of the 27 EU member states, should take the lead in realizing the goals of the Bali Conference.<sup>107</sup>

In a statement released at the conclusion of the conference, Minister Borloo expressed the disappointment of the French delegation at the absence of specific cuts to GHG emissions in the Bali Roadmap.<sup>108</sup> The French delegation also spoke in favour of a stronger stance on deforestation, forest degradation, desertification, soil degradation and low-carbon development.<sup>109</sup> Nevertheless, Minister Borloo emphasized the commitment of France to continued negotiations towards a post-Kyoto framework through UN, EU, and G8 forums.<sup>110</sup>

On 27 November 2007, President Sarkozy met with Chinese Premier Hu Jintao. After their meeting, President Sarkozy announced that he and his Chinese counterpart had signed a joint declaration on the importance of Chinese cooperation in multilateral efforts to tackle climate change, particularly given the approaching UNFCCC Conference in Bali.<sup>111</sup> He stressed that Chinese economic growth should be “carbon-free.”<sup>112</sup>

On 25 January 2008, France united with India to release a joint statement re-affirming the import of international cooperation, the promotion of new technologies, and GHG emissions stabilization to climate change, particularly within the framework of the United Nations.<sup>113</sup>

On 18 April 2008, the French government convened the Ministers of Economies Meeting (MEM) on Energy and Climate in Paris. The MEM is a group of major emitters, including European countries, Brazil, and the United States. It was convened in Paris in order to catalyze discussions regarding emissions caps. The meeting, however, produced no agreement on the issue of emissions caps.<sup>114</sup> During the meeting, President Sarkozy delivered a speech stressing that climate change negotiations “must be finalised no later than end 2009, for the United Nations Conference in Copenhagen.”<sup>115</sup>

Thus, France has been awarded a score of +1 for its consistent support for climate change talks within the UN system.

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<sup>107</sup> Allocutions du M. le Président, Présidence de la République (Paris) 18 January 2008. Date of Access: 25 January 2008. <[www.elysee.fr/download/?mode=press&filename=18.01\\_Voeux\\_Ambassadeurs.pdf](http://www.elysee.fr/download/?mode=press&filename=18.01_Voeux_Ambassadeurs.pdf)>

<sup>108</sup> Bali: 190 pays contre le réchauffement climatique, Le ministère de l'Ecologie, du Développement et de l'Aménagement durables (Paris) 20 December 2007. Date of Access: 8 January 2008. <[http://www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/recherche.php3?lang=fr&forcer\\_lang=true&recherche=bali&validsearch.x=0&validsearch.y=0](http://www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/recherche.php3?lang=fr&forcer_lang=true&recherche=bali&validsearch.x=0&validsearch.y=0)>

<sup>109</sup> Bali: 190 pays contre le réchauffement climatique, Le ministère de l'Ecologie, du Développement et de l'Aménagement durables (Paris) 20 December 2007. Date of Access: 8 January 2008. <[http://www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/recherche.php3?lang=fr&forcer\\_lang=true&recherche=bali&validsearch.x=0&validsearch.y=0](http://www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/recherche.php3?lang=fr&forcer_lang=true&recherche=bali&validsearch.x=0&validsearch.y=0)>

<sup>110</sup> Point sur la Conférence des Nations Unies de Bali sur les changements climatiques, Le ministère de l'Ecologie, du Développement et de l'Aménagement durables (Paris) 29 December 2007. Date of Access: 8 January 2008. <[http://www.developpementdurable.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/le\\_point\\_sur\\_la\\_conference\\_de\\_bali\\_cle57dd36.pdf](http://www.developpementdurable.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/le_point_sur_la_conference_de_bali_cle57dd36.pdf)>

<sup>111</sup> Déclaration de Monsieur Nicolas Sarkozy, Président de la République française, lors de la conférence de presse conjointe avec Monsieur Hu Jintao, Président de la République Populaire de la Chine, Présidence de la République (Paris) 27 November 2007. Date of Access : 25 January 2008.

<[http://www.elysee.fr/documents/index.php?lang=fr&mode=view&cat\\_id=38&press\\_id=712](http://www.elysee.fr/documents/index.php?lang=fr&mode=view&cat_id=38&press_id=712)>

<sup>112</sup> Déclaration de Monsieur Nicolas Sarkozy, Président de la République française, lors de la conférence de presse conjointe avec Monsieur Hu Jintao, Président de la République Populaire de la Chine, Présidence de la République (Paris) 27 November 2007. Date of Access: 25 January 2008.

<[http://www.elysee.fr/documents/index.php?lang=fr&mode=view&cat\\_id=38&press\\_id=712](http://www.elysee.fr/documents/index.php?lang=fr&mode=view&cat_id=38&press_id=712)>

<sup>113</sup> India, France Issue Joint Declaration on Global Warming, Thaindian News (Bangkok) 25 January 2008. Date of Access: 18 May 2008. <[http://www.thaindian.com/newsportal/india-news/india-issues-joint-declaration-on-global-warming\\_10014707.html](http://www.thaindian.com/newsportal/india-news/india-issues-joint-declaration-on-global-warming_10014707.html)>

<sup>114</sup> Climate Change: Progress at polluters' talks, but obstacles ahead, AFP (Paris) 18 April 2008. Date of Access: 17 May 2008. <<http://afp.google.com/article/ALeqM5i5F-QlDqPpaTzK4YavRCQgrWCgtw>>

<sup>115</sup> Third MEM: Speech by Mr. Nicolas Sarkozy, president of the French Republic, Ministère des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 18 April 2008. Date of Access: 18 May 2008. <[http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/france-priorities\\_1/environment-sustainable-development\\_1097/events\\_2130/third-mem-speech-by-mr-nicolas-sarkozy-president-of-the-french-republic-paris-18-april-2008\\_11139.html](http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/france-priorities_1/environment-sustainable-development_1097/events_2130/third-mem-speech-by-mr-nicolas-sarkozy-president-of-the-french-republic-paris-18-april-2008_11139.html)>

## Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to fight climate change.

On 3-15 December 2007, Germany was represented at the UN Bali Conference on Climate Change (COP-13) by the German Environment Minister Sigmar Gabriel.<sup>116</sup> The country exhibited leadership in the forging of a multilateral accord at the COP-13.<sup>117</sup> Upon the conclusion of the Conference and the announcement that the parties had reached an agreement, German Minister for Development Heidemarie Wiecek-Zeul commented that “It is good that the international community has adopted the so-called Bali road map for further negotiations. That is certainly a successful outcome.”<sup>118</sup>

Germany is also keen on the long-term importance of the UNFCCC and on advancing the work of the Conference. On the conclusion of the COP-13, German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier commented that “I am delighted that the delegates at the Climate Change Conference in Bali managed to reach agreement after difficult negotiations. The fact that all key states, in particular the US and China, are on board is a great success ... During the coming two years, we will continue to work hard to convince others to support this undertaking and to champion ambitious reduction targets. In addition to this, we, together with our European partners and a number of US states, will press on with our efforts to standardize the emissions trading systems.”<sup>119</sup>

Germany sent a delegation to the UNFCCC Bangkok Climate Change Talks, held between 31 March 2008 and 4 April 2008, in order to further negotiate the commitment period after the Kyoto Protocol.<sup>120</sup> Furthermore, at the United Nations Biodiversity Conference on 19 May 2008, German Environment Minister Sigmar Gabriel stated that, “climate change and the loss of biodiversity are the most alarming challenges on the global agenda,” demonstrating the country’s strong commitment to the issue.<sup>121</sup>

Between 16 April 2008 and 18 April 2008, the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, along with the Government of Senegal, the African Union, and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), organized the “International Conference on Renewable Energy in Africa” in Dakar, Senegal, regarding the need to invest in sustainable energy in Africa.<sup>122</sup>

Thus, Germany has been awarded a score of +1 for its commitment to working towards the alleviation of climate change within the framework of the United Nations.

## Italy: +1

Italy has fully complied with its commitment on fighting climate change.

Italy was represented at the 13<sup>th</sup> United Nations Conference on Climate Change (COP-13) in Bali, Indonesia by the Under-Secretary of the Environment, Gianni Piatti.<sup>123</sup> On 4 December 2007, Under-

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<sup>116</sup> Wiecek-Zeul “Bali is a first step, others must follow”, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 15 December 2007. Date of Access: 25 January 2008.

<[http://www.bmz.de/en/press/pm/2007/december/pm\\_20071215\\_152.html](http://www.bmz.de/en/press/pm/2007/december/pm_20071215_152.html)>

<sup>117</sup> The Road From Bali, World Resources Institute (Washington, DC) 18 December 2007. Date of Access: 10 January 2007. <<http://www.wri.org/stories/2007/12/road-bali#>>

<sup>118</sup> Wiecek-Zeul “Bali is a first step, others must follow”, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 15 December 2007. Date of Access: 25 January 2008.

<[http://www.bmz.de/en/press/pm/2007/december/pm\\_20071215\\_152.html](http://www.bmz.de/en/press/pm/2007/december/pm_20071215_152.html)>

<sup>119</sup> Federal Minister Steinmeier on the outcome of the Climate Change Conference in Bali, Federal Foreign (Berlin) 15 December 2007. Date of Access: 25 January 2008. <<http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/diplo/en/Infoservice/Presse/Meldungen/2007/071215-Klimakonferenz-Bali.html>>

<sup>120</sup> Bangkok Climate Talks end in agreement. Bangkok Post (Bangkok). Date of Access: 18 May 2008.

<[http://www.bangkokpost.com/breaking\\_news/breakingnews.php?id=126928](http://www.bangkokpost.com/breaking_news/breakingnews.php?id=126928)>

<sup>121</sup> Herculean task to safeguard biodiversity: Germany. Reuters (Berlin) 19 May 2008. Date of Access: 19 May 2008.

<<http://www.reuters.com/article/environmentNews/idUSL1628283020080519>>

<sup>122</sup> International Conference on Renewable Energy in Africa, United Nations Industrial Development Organization (Vienna) 18 April 2008. Date of Access: 20 May 2008. <<http://www.unido.org/index.php?id=o76539&L=0>>

<sup>123</sup> Bali. Piatti: andiamo alla Conferenza con il massimo impegno del Governo sulla direttrice dell’Unione Europea, Ministero dell’Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare (Rome) 3 December 2007. Date of Access: 28 January 2008. <[http://www.minambiente.it/index.php?id\\_doc=1130&id\\_oggetto=2](http://www.minambiente.it/index.php?id_doc=1130&id_oggetto=2)>

Secretary Piatti clarified Italy's support for the plan put forward by the European Union and that the Italian government hoped that the COP-13 would lead to a comprehensive agreement on emissions for the post-2012 period.<sup>124</sup>

On 3 December 2007, the Italian Ministry for the Environment and Protection of Land and Sea issued its Fourth National Communication under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. The Ministry hopes that a global agreement for the post-Kyoto period will be reached by 2009.<sup>125</sup> In addition, the report envisaged a reduction in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions of 6.5% for Italy over the period 2008-2012.<sup>126</sup>

On 18 June 2007, Italy participated in the fifth US-Italy Joint Meeting on Climate Change Science and Technology in the hope of finding solutions to the global challenge of climate change through increased bilateral and multilateral cooperation.<sup>127</sup> The two delegations discussed renewable energy, hydrogen technologies, climate change adaptations, vulnerability and mitigation as well as climate change modeling and prediction. They also reinforced their commitment to the United Nations Framework Climate Change Convention.<sup>128</sup> Between 27 and 31 August 2007, Italian representatives also participated in the Vienna Climate Change Talks, which gathered scientists and policy makers in advance of the Bali Conference.<sup>129</sup>

In addition, Italian officials took part in the Major Economies Meeting (MEM) in Paris from 16 to 18 April 2008. The MEM was aimed at improving climate change negotiations and building consensus on principles related to the long-term vision foreseen by the Bali road map.<sup>130</sup>

Thus, Italy has been awarded a score of +1 for its participation in the Bali Conference and its commitment to the United Nations Framework.

*Analyst: Adina Dedi*

#### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with commitment on fighting climate change.

Japanese representatives attended the 13<sup>th</sup> UN Conference on Climate Change (COP-13) in Bali, Indonesia, 3-15 December 2007. The Japanese delegation cooperated with other national representatives, including the US delegation, in the interests of reaching a compromise agreement before the end of the Conference.<sup>131</sup>

On 24 September 2007, Japan attended the United Nations High Level Event on Climate Change held in New York. The Japanese government was represented by Special Envoy to the Prime Minister, Yoshiro

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<sup>124</sup> Bali. Piatti: andiamo alla Conferenza con il massimo impegno del Governo sulla direttrice dell'Unione Europea, Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare (Rome) 3 December 2007. Date of Access: 28 January 2008.

<[http://www.minambiente.it/index.php?id\\_doc=1130&id\\_oggetto=2](http://www.minambiente.it/index.php?id_doc=1130&id_oggetto=2)>

<sup>125</sup> Italy. Fourth national communication under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea (Rome) 1 November 2007. Date of Access: 11 January 2008.

<<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/natc/itanc4.pdf>>

<sup>126</sup> Italy. Fourth national communication under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea (Rome) 1 November 2007. Date of Access: 11 January 2008.

<<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/natc/itanc4.pdf>>

<sup>127</sup> Joint Statement of United States of America and Italy on Climate Change Research Technology, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 18 June 2007. Date of Access: 11 January 2007.

<<http://www.state.gov/q/oes/rls/or/86789.htm>>

<sup>128</sup> Joint Statement of United States of America and Italy on Climate Change Research Technology, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 18 June 2007. Date of Access: 11 January 2007.

<<http://www.state.gov/q/oes/rls/or/86789.htm>>

<sup>129</sup> Vienna UN Conference Shows Consensus on Key Building Blocks for Effective International Response to Climate Change, UN Information Service (Vienna) 31 August 2007. Date of Access: 7 January 2008.

<<http://www.unis.unvienna.org/unis/pressrels/2007/unisinf230.html>>

<sup>130</sup> Climate Change: Progress at polluters' talks, but obstacles ahead, AFP (Paris) 18 April 2008. Date of Access: 17 May 2008. <<http://afp.google.com/article/ALeqM5i5F-QIDgPpaTzK4YavRCQqrWCqtw>>

<sup>131</sup> December 10 Press Conference by the Delegation of the United States, U.S. State Department (Washington D.C.) 10 December 2007. Date of Access: 25 January 2008. <<http://www.state.gov/g/oes/rls/rm/2007/96694.htm>>



Mori.<sup>132</sup> At the meeting, Special Envoy Mori discussed the importance of providing assistance to developing countries, and Japan received special mention in regards to the technologies it has put forth to reduce emissions.<sup>133</sup> Special Envoy Mori also stressed that while long term targets are important, there are many initiatives that can be undertaken immediately, and that these should be focused on.<sup>134</sup> Special Envoy Mori further provided examples of such immediate measures, including reducing or eliminating tariffs on products that are effective in reducing greenhouse gases; promoting green purchasing; and controlling air conditioning settings.<sup>135</sup>

At the Climate Change and Perspective for Japan-EU Cooperation Symposium held on 23 January 2008, Japan pushed for a mid-term target for the establishment of an international framework for climate change beyond 2012.<sup>136</sup> The three principles for this framework proposed by Japan included that, first, all major emitters must participate; second, that the framework must be flexible and diverse; and finally, that it must be conducive to both environmental protection and economic growth<sup>137</sup>. Furthermore, Mr. Etsuro Honda, Deputy-Director General of the European Affairs Division of the Department of Foreign Affairs, stated at the symposium that, “Japan will make every possible effort to ensure that the Bali Roadmap produces the most effective framework by the time of COP15 in Copenhagen.”<sup>138</sup>

The Government of Japan has also engaged in technology transfer to developing countries, and has dispatched a project formation survey mission to Tuvalu and the Republic of the Fiji Islands from 26 February to 15 March 2008 to investigate the possibility of cooperation to help Tuvalu adapt to climate change.<sup>139</sup> Furthermore, in March 2008 the Ministry of Foreign Affairs established an Experts’ Panel on Development Cooperation in the Field of Climate Change to discuss goals and principles to be shared by the international community. The Panel also discussed actions to be taken by members of the international community to promote development cooperation in the field of climate change.<sup>140</sup> Finally, Japan attended and contributed to the UNFCCC talks in Bangkok in April 2008.<sup>141</sup>

Japan has also engaged in bilateral negotiations aimed at committing major emitters to the UN framework. On 14 April 2008, Japan’s Minister of Foreign Affairs, Masahiko Koumura, and the Russian Minister of Energy and Industry, Viktor Khristenko, discussed post-Kyoto negotiations.<sup>142</sup> On 27 April 2008, then Russian President V. Putin and Japanese Prime Minister Yasuo Fukuda discussed climate change and decided to collaborate in the framework of international negotiations on GHG reduction after 2012.<sup>143</sup>

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<sup>132</sup>The United Nations High Level Even of Climate Change (Overview and Evaluation), The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan 24 September 2007. Date of Access: 12 December 2007.

<<http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/environment/warm/cop/overview0709.html>>

<sup>133</sup>The United Nations High Level Even of Climate Change (Overview and Evaluation), The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 24 September 2007. Date of Access: 12 December 2007.

<<http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/environment/warm/cop/overview0709.html>>

<sup>134</sup> The United Nations High Level Even of Climate Change (Overview and Evaluation), The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 24 September 2007. Date of Access: 12 December 2007.

<<http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/environment/warm/cop/overview0709.html>>

<sup>135</sup> The United Nations High Level Even of Climate Change (Overview and Evaluation), The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 24 September 2007. Date of Access: 12 December 2007.

<<http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/environment/warm/cop/overview0709.html>>

<sup>136</sup> Address by Mr. Etsuro Honda, Deputy Director-General, European Policy Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan at the Symposium “Climate Change and perspective for Japan-EU Cooperation”. Date of Access 10 May 2008.

<<http://www.mofa.go.jp/region/europe/eu/cooperation0801/address.pdf>>

<sup>137</sup> Address by Mr. Etsuro Honda, Deputy Director-General, European Policy Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan at the Symposium “Climate Change and perspective for Japan-EU Cooperation”. Date of Access 10 May 2008.

<<http://www.mofa.go.jp/region/europe/eu/cooperation0801/address.pdf>>

<sup>138</sup> Address by Mr. Etsuro Honda, Deputy Director-General, European Policy Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan at the Symposium “Climate Change and perspective for Japan-EU Cooperation”. Date of Access: 10 May 2008.

<<http://www.mofa.go.jp/region/europe/eu/cooperation0801/address.pdf>>

<sup>139</sup> Dispatch of Survey Mission on Climate Change to Tuvalu and Fiji, The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 27 February 2008. Date of Access: 13 April 2008. <[http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/event/2008/2/1178247\\_928.html](http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/event/2008/2/1178247_928.html)>

<sup>140</sup> Basic Policy on Development Cooperation in the Field of Climate Change, The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) March 2008. Date of Access: 10 May 2008.

<<http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/environment/warm/cop/policy0803.pdf>>

<sup>141</sup> Bangkok Climate Change Talks Close, Reuters (Paris) 4 April 2008. Date of Access: 19 May 2008.

<<http://www.reuters.com/article/latestCrisis/idUSBK183394>>

<sup>142</sup> Japan and Russia arranged about negotiations beginning, PointCarbon (Moscow) 15 April 2008. Date of Access: 11 May 2008. <<http://www.pointcarbon.com/ГЛАВНАЯ/Новости/article27756-304.html>>

<sup>143</sup> Japan and Russia talk on climate change mitigation, PointCarbon (Moscow) 29 April 2008. Date of Access: 11 May 2008. <<http://www.pointcarbon.com/ГЛАВНАЯ/Новости/article28015-304.html>>

Thus, Japan has been awarded a score of +1 for its commitment to the discussions on climate change within the UN framework.

*Analysts: Jennifer Taves and Dasha Frolova*

### **Russia: +1**

Russia has fully complied with its commitment on fighting climate change.

The Russian Delegation participated in the 13<sup>th</sup> UN Conference on Climate Change (COP-13) in Bali Indonesia, 3 to 15 December 2007. Moreover, Russia supports the Bali Action Plan<sup>144</sup> to “launch a comprehensive process to enable the full, effective and sustained implementation of the Convention through long-term cooperative action, now, up to and beyond 2012”.<sup>145</sup>

After the Bali Conference, Russia continued to participate in negotiations on GHG reduction after 2012 by taking part in the Bangkok Climate Change Talks on 31 March to 4 April 2008<sup>146</sup> and in the G20 Conference in Japan in March 2008, which was devoted to negotiations on post-Kyoto Protocol commitments.<sup>147</sup>

According to Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Alexander Yakovenko, Russia advocates international cooperation in addressing the problem of global climate change.<sup>148</sup> In order to encourage the active participation of all parties in global negotiations on a post-Kyoto agreement, Russia has proposed voluntary commitments on GHG reduction in developing countries.<sup>149</sup>

Moreover, Russia has engaged in bilateral negotiations on climate change mitigation. On 14 April 2008, Japan’s Minister of Foreign Affairs, Masahiko Koumura, and the Russian Minister of Energy and Industry, Viktor Khristenko, discussed post-Kyoto negotiations.<sup>150</sup> On 27 April 2008, then Russian President V. Putin and Japanese Prime Minister Yasuo Fukuda discussed climate change and decided to collaborate in the framework of international negotiations on GHG reduction after 2012.<sup>151</sup>

Thus, Russia has been awarded a score of +1 for its active participation in UN and other negotiations on climate change.

*Analyst: Natalia Churkina*

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<sup>144</sup> Bali roadmap will be signed at the UNFCCC Conference on Climate Change in Indonesia, Alexander Yakovenko, Rossiyskaya Gazeta (Moscow) 4 December 2007. Date of Access: 18 December 2007.  
<<http://www.rg.ru/2007/12/04/a193074.html>>

<sup>145</sup> Bali Action Plan, United Nations (New York). Date of Access: 11 January 2008.  
<[http://unfccc.int/files/meetings/cop\\_13/application/pdf/cp\\_bali\\_action.pdf](http://unfccc.int/files/meetings/cop_13/application/pdf/cp_bali_action.pdf)>

<sup>146</sup> Bangkok Climate Change Talks, UNFCCC (Bonn) 4 April 2008. Date of Access: 11 May 2008.  
<<http://www.iisd.ca/climate/ccwq1/02.html>>

<sup>147</sup> G20 Conference has begun in Japan, PointCarbon (Moscow) 17 March 2008. Date of access: 11 May 2008.  
<<http://www.pointcarbon.com/ГЛАВНАЯ/Новости/article27272-304.html>>

<sup>148</sup> Bali roadmap will be signed at the UNFCCC Conference on Climate Change in Indonesia, Alexander Yakovenko, Rossiyskaya Gazeta (Moscow) 4 December 2007. Date of Access: 18 December 2007.  
<<http://www.rg.ru/2007/12/04/a193074.html>>

<sup>149</sup> Conclusions on the report of the President on consultations concerning the proposal of the Russian Federation, UNFCCC (Bonn) 15 December 2007. Date of Access: 18 December 2007.  
<<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2007/cmp3/eng/l09.pdf>>

<sup>150</sup> Japan and Russia arranged about negotiations beginning, PointCarbon, 15 April 2008. Date of access: 11 May 2008.  
<http://www.pointcarbon.com/ГЛАВНАЯ/Новости/article27756-304.html>

<sup>151</sup> Japan and Russia talk on climate change mitigation, PointCarbon, 29 April 2008. Date of access: 11 May 2008.  
<http://www.pointcarbon.com/ГЛАВНАЯ/Новости/article28015-304.html>



## United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment on climate change.

The United Kingdom attended the Bali UNFCCC 13<sup>th</sup> Conference on Climate Change (COP-13) in Bali, 3-15 December 2007.<sup>152</sup> During the COP-13, the UK delegation attempted to act as a self-described mediator, bringing divergent sides together to ensure the viability of the Conference.<sup>153</sup> In addition, the UK actively participated in the negotiations on a Roadmap by pushing for the consideration of international transportation emissions in any new agreement that might emerge from the COP-13.<sup>154</sup>

The United Kingdom has also fulfilled the UNFCCC requirement to transfer technology and expertise to developing states in an effort to combat climate change through its contributions to the Global Opportunities Fund.<sup>155</sup>

In September 2007, the United Kingdom agreed to amendments to the Montréal Protocol.<sup>156</sup> The changes to the Protocol are design to hasten the elimination of hydrochlorofluorocarbons in the atmosphere.<sup>157</sup>

The United Kingdom attended<sup>158</sup> the UNFCCC Bangkok Climate Change Talks held between 31 March 2008 and 4 April 2008,<sup>159</sup> a direct outcome of the Bali Conference on Climate Change. The Bangkok talks concluded “with agreement on a work programme that structures negotiations on a long-term international climate change agreement, set to be concluded in Copenhagen by the end of 2009.”<sup>160</sup> In addition, the talks demonstrated support for carbon markets, including the UN Clean Development Mechanism.<sup>161</sup>

Thus, the UK has been awarded a score of +1 for its participation in the COP-13 and its engagement in UN forums.

*Analyst: Jayme Turney*

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<sup>152</sup> News Release Success at Bali Talks, Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (London) 15 December 2007. Date of Access: 11 January 2008. <<http://www.defra.gov.uk/news/2007/071215a.htm>>

<sup>153</sup> Bali Climate Talks’ Sticking Point Is Money, U.K. Minister Says, Bloomberg (New York) 13 December 2007. Date of Access: 11 January 2008. <<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601080&sid=a.4KDjRN3Ltk&refer=asia>>

<sup>154</sup> Bali Climate Talks’ Sticking Point Is Money, U.K. Minister Says, Bloomberg (New York) 13 December 2007. Date of Access: 11 January 2008. <<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601080&sid=a.4KDjRN3Ltk&refer=asia>>

<sup>155</sup> Global Opportunities Fund Climate Change and Energy Programme, Foreign and Commonwealth Office (London) July 2007. Date Access: 11 January 2008. <[http://www.fco.gov.uk/Files/kfile/UC-2007-07-24-FINAL\\_Project\\_Document\\_0.pdf](http://www.fco.gov.uk/Files/kfile/UC-2007-07-24-FINAL_Project_Document_0.pdf)>

<sup>156</sup> Evolution of the Montreal Protocol Status of Ratification, United Nations Environment Programme Ozone Secretariat (Nairobi) 2004. Date of Access: 11 January 2008. <[http://ozone.unep.org/Ratification\\_status/](http://ozone.unep.org/Ratification_status/)>

<sup>157</sup> Combating Climate Change Given Big Confidence Boost in Canada, United Nations Environment Programme (Montreal) 22 September 2007. Date of Access: 11 January 2008.

<<http://www.unep.org/Documents.Multilingual/Default.asp?DocumentID=517&ArticleID=5671&l=en>>

<sup>158</sup> Highlights for Thursday, 3 April 2008, International Institute for Sustainable Development Reporting Services (New York) 3 April 2008. Date of Access: 13 April 2008. <<http://www.iisd.ca/climate/ccwg1/03.html>>

<sup>159</sup> Bangkok Climate Change Talks – 31 March to 4 April 2008, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Bonn) 4 April 2008. Date of Access: 12 April 2008. <[http://unfccc.int/meetings/intersessional/awg-lca\\_1\\_and\\_awg-kp\\_5/items/4288.php](http://unfccc.int/meetings/intersessional/awg-lca_1_and_awg-kp_5/items/4288.php)>

<sup>160</sup> Press Release UN Bangkok Climate Change Talks Reach Agreement on Work Programme for 2008 + Send Important Signal to International Carbon Markets, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Secretariat (Bonn) 4 April 2008. Date of Access: 12 April 2008. <[http://unfccc.int/files/press/news\\_room/press\\_releases\\_and\\_advisories/application/pdf/bangkok\\_closing\\_press\\_release.pdf](http://unfccc.int/files/press/news_room/press_releases_and_advisories/application/pdf/bangkok_closing_press_release.pdf)>

<sup>161</sup> Press Release UN Bangkok Climate Change Talks Reach Agreement on Work Programme for 2008 + Send Important Signal to International Carbon Markets, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Secretariat (Bonn) 4 April 2008. Date of Access: 12 April 2008. <[http://unfccc.int/files/press/news\\_room/press\\_releases\\_and\\_advisories/application/pdf/bangkok\\_closing\\_press\\_release.pdf](http://unfccc.int/files/press/news_room/press_releases_and_advisories/application/pdf/bangkok_closing_press_release.pdf)>

## United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with its commitment on fighting climate change.

On 27-28 September 2007, the United States hosted the Major Economies Meeting (MEM) in Washington D.C. The MEM brought together seventeen of the world's major economies in order for them to work multilaterally to contribute to the UNFCCC by addressing economic growth, energy security and climate change.<sup>162</sup>

The US attended the 13<sup>th</sup> UN Climate Change Conference (COP-13) in Bali, 3-15 December 2007, and was represented by its Senior Climate Negotiator, Harlan L. Watson.<sup>163</sup> The United States was an active participant at the Bali Conference, welcoming the findings of the IPCC's Fourth Assessment Report and encouraging national communication on emissions from non-Annex I parties such as China and India.<sup>164</sup> On 4 December 2007, the United States announced US\$100 000 in new funding for the UNFCCC Trust for Supplementary Activities to strengthen the ability of non-Annex I parties to report on their progress.<sup>165</sup>

On 3 December 2007, the American delegation announced that "the United States is committed to advancing negotiations and developing a 'Bali Roadmap' that will guide the negotiations on a new post-2012 global climate change regime that is environmentally effective and economically sustainable."<sup>166</sup> One of the primary concerns of the American government was the need for any agreement that emerged from the Bali Process to bind both developing and developed countries alike.<sup>167</sup> The American delegation came under intense criticism during the Conference for allegedly breaching the commitments on climate change that it had made at the meeting of the G8+5 in Heiligendamm, Germany in June 2007.<sup>168</sup> Nevertheless, the US delegation supported the Roadmap that emerged from the Bali Conference, which it said would "guide our work under the Conference of the Parties up to 2009."<sup>169</sup>

On 30-31 January 2008, the United States organized the second Meeting of Major Economies (MEM) on Energy Security and Climate Change, involving the UNFCCC and 16 other major economies and lending support to the United Nations negotiations on climate change.<sup>170</sup> The United States sent a delegation to the Bangkok Climate Change Talks in April 2008, although its stance on discussions came under heavy criticism for being too pro-industry.<sup>171</sup> The US also participated in the third Major Economies Meeting on Energy Security and Climate Change (MEM), held 16-18 April 2008 in Paris. The goal of the 3<sup>rd</sup> MEM was to further negotiations on a post-2012 framework for fighting climate change in the international arena.<sup>172</sup>

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<sup>162</sup> Final Chairman's Summary: First Major Economies Meeting on Energy Security and Climate Change, White House Council on Environmental Quality (Washington D.C.) 28 September 2007. Date of Access: 4 January 2008.

<<http://www.state.gov/g/oes/climate/mem/93021.htm>>

<sup>163</sup> Press Conference by the Delegation of the United States, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 3 December 2007. Date of Access: 25 January 2008. <<http://www.state.gov/g/oes/rls/rm/2007/96155.htm>>

<sup>164</sup> COP 13: Intervention by the United States Delegation -- IPCC Fourth Assessment Report (AR4) (Agenda Item 7), Meeting of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technical Advice (Bali) 4 December 2007. Date of Access: 5 January 2008. <<http://www.state.gov/g/oes/climate/rmks/96440.htm>>

<sup>165</sup> COP 13: Intervention by the United States Delegation -- National Communications from Parties Not Included in Annex I (Agenda Item 4), Meeting of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (Bali) 4 December 2007. Date of Access: 05 January 2008. <<http://www.state.gov/g/oes/climate/rmks/96435.htm>>

<sup>166</sup> Press Conference by the Delegation of the United States, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 3 December 2007. Date of Access: 25 January 2008. <<http://www.state.gov/g/oes/rls/rm/2007/96155.htm>>

<sup>167</sup> Press Conference by the Delegation of the United States, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 3 December 2007. Date of Access: 25 January 2008. <<http://www.state.gov/g/oes/rls/rm/2007/96155.htm>>

<sup>168</sup> December 13 Press Conference by the U.S. Delegation, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 13 December 2007. Date of Access: 25 January 2008. <<http://www.state.gov/g/oes/rls/rm/2007/97472.htm>>

<sup>169</sup> Closing Statement at the Conference of the Parties, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 15 December 2007. Date of Access: 25 January 2008. <<http://www.state.gov/g/rls/rm/98070.htm>>

<sup>170</sup> Surya Prassai, US reassures on Global Climate Change Commitment in Honolulu, The American Chronicle (Beverly Hills, CA) 2 February 2008. Date of Access: 20 May 2008. <<http://www.americanchronicle.com/articles/51079>>

<sup>171</sup> US Cites Recession Fear in Climate Talks. Bangkok Post (Bangkok) 13 April 2008. Date of Access: 18 May 2008. <<http://www.wtop.com/?nid=220&sid=1379414>>

<sup>172</sup> Top Emitters in Paris, worries on U.N. overlap, Reuters (Paris) 15 April 2008. Date of Access: 20 May 2008. <<http://uk.reuters.com/article/environmentNews/idUKL1572568620080415>>

Thus, the United States has been awarded a score of +1 for its commitment to climate change negotiations within the UN framework.

*Analysts: Farnam Bidgoli and Courtney Hood*

### **European Union: +1**

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment on fighting climate change.

On 13 December 2007, at the 13<sup>th</sup> UN Climate Change Conference (COP-13) in Bali, European Commissioner for the Environment Stavros Dimas encouraged all industrialized countries to follow the example of the European Union and take the lead in the fight against climate change.<sup>173</sup> In addition, European Commission President José Manuel Barroso welcomed the agreement reached at Bali to launch formal negotiations amongst the parties to the UNFCCC with regards to taking the necessary steps in the fight against climate change beyond 2012.<sup>174</sup>

In reaction to the Bali Conference on Climate Change, the Members of the European Parliament agreed to pass legislation that would ensure the EU reaches its own target of greenhouse gas (GHG) reductions of 20% by the year 2020.<sup>175</sup> Earlier, on 9 November 2007, the delegation from the European Parliament's Temporary Committee on Climate Change requested that industrialized countries commit themselves to a reduction in emissions "by at least 30% by 2020 and 60%-80% by 2050 compared to 1990."<sup>176</sup>

On 27-31 August 2007, officials from the European Union attended the "Vienna Climate Change Talks 2007", hosted by the UNFCCC. A consensus was reached among the participants on the development of an effective and appropriate international response to climate change.<sup>177</sup>

With the conclusion of the EU-Japan Summit in Tokyo on 23 April 2008, President José Manuel Barroso expressed his support for ensuring the development of a "fair and flexible" framework for action on climate change and encouraged all major economies to become involved.<sup>178</sup>

From 31 March to 4 April 2008, delegates from the European Union participated in the Bangkok Climate Change Talks, where they introduced a proposal for cutting emissions by a fifth from 1990 levels by the year 2020.<sup>179</sup> On 15 April 2008, EU Environment Commissioner Stavros Dimas stated that multilateral negotiations on fighting climate change have to continue in light of the Bangkok Climate Change Talks, as international gatherings can contribute importantly to the UN process, which "remains the only forum for a comprehensive post-2012 agreement".<sup>180</sup>

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<sup>173</sup> Speech by Commissioner Dimas at the press conference in Bali, European Union (Brussels) 13 December 2007. Date of Access: 3 January 2008.

<<http://www.europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=SPEECH/07/819&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>>

<sup>174</sup> Climate Change: EU welcomes agreement to launch formal negotiations on a global climate regime for post-2012, European Union (Brussels) 15 December 2007. Date of Access: 3 January 2008.

<<http://www.europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=MEMO/07/588&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>>

<sup>175</sup> Kyoto to Bali to Copenhagen? Climate MEPs react to conference, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 18 December 2007. Date of Access: 5 January 2007. <[http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/public/story\\_page/064-15570-351-12-51-911-20071214STO15563-2007-17-12-2007/default\\_en.htm](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/public/story_page/064-15570-351-12-51-911-20071214STO15563-2007-17-12-2007/default_en.htm)>

<sup>176</sup> Climate Change: why China matters, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 9 November 2007. Date of Access: 7 January 2008. <[http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/public/story\\_page/064-12744-309-11-45-911-20071107STO12743-2007-05-11-2007/default\\_en.htm](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/public/story_page/064-12744-309-11-45-911-20071107STO12743-2007-05-11-2007/default_en.htm)>

<sup>177</sup> Vienna UN Conference Shows Consensus on Key Building Blocks for Effective International Response to Climate Change, UN Information Service (Vienna) 31 August 2007. Date of Access: 7 January 2008.

<<http://www.unis.unvienna.org/unis/pressrels/2007/unisinf230.html>>

<sup>178</sup> 17<sup>th</sup> Japan-EU Summit, European Commission (Brussels) 23 April 2008. Date of Access: 8 May 2008.

<[http://ec.europa.eu/commission\\_barroso/president/pdf/statement\\_20080423\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/commission_barroso/president/pdf/statement_20080423_en.pdf)>

<sup>179</sup> Thailand: Bangkok Climate Talks Progress Smoothly So Far, Reuters Alert Net (London) 1 April 2008. Date of Access: 1 May 2008. <<http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/IRIN/030a5daea84368e56e255a87f4dd30e6.htm>>

<sup>180</sup> Stavros Dimas: EU Activities on Climate Change, European Union (Brussels) 15 April 2008. Date of Access: 6 May 2008.

<<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=SPEECH/08/196&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>>

Although outside of the UN forum, European Commission representatives also participated in the Major Economies Meeting on energy security and climate change, which took place in Paris, 16-18 April 2008. The Paris MEM held was one of three such meetings, the summaries of which will help form the basis of climate change discussions at the G8 Summit in Toya-ko, Japan.<sup>181</sup>

Thus, the EU has been awarded a score of +1 for its active participation in the COP-13 and other international forums aimed at fighting climate change.

*Analyst: Adina Dediu*

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<sup>181</sup> Protecting our Nation's Environment, The White House (Washington D.C.). Date of Access: 30 May 2008. <<http://www.whitehouse.gov/infocus/environment/>>