



September, 2011

The Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC) is pleased to provide to you its Climate Change News Update. This is a compilation of major new events internationally and regionally. It also includes updates on new studies, reports and resource material on climate change. Please note that information provided is sourced from other news links. The source and link to the original news material is provided.

International News

1. U.N. Chief Ban urges world to redouble efforts on climate talks

Source: Reuters , Wed, Sep 7 2011

SYDNEY (Reuters) - The world needs to redouble efforts to fight climate change ahead of global talks in Durban, with time running out to save millions of lives in countries to be hit hardest, United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said on Thursday.

Ban, winding up a visit to Australia and small Pacific nations including several likely to be swamped by rising sea levels, said critics of climate change science were wrong.

"The facts are clear. Global greenhouse gas emissions continue to rise. Millions of people are suffering today from climate impacts. Climate change is very real," Ban said in a speech at Sydney University.

"Environmental migrants are starting to reshape the human geography of the planet. This will only increase as sea-levels rise and deserts advance. We cannot burn our way to the future," he said.

Ban rejected criticism that little progress had been made so far in several rounds of global climate talks, most recently in Mexico, which he said had delivered climate adaptation measures to protect vulnerable people.

The Durban conference must keep building on that progress, he said, and agree to ambitious mitigation targets that would ensure any increase in global average temperature remained below 2 degrees Centigrade.

"Moreover, given that the first commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol expires next year, a political formula must be found to ensure that a robust, post 2012 climate regime is agreed upon, and is not delayed by negotiating gamesmanship," Ban said.

He said many countries were already taking steps to combat climate shift.

At the 2010 talks in Cancun, governments agreed to set up a Green Climate Fund to manage \$100 billion a year by 2020 in aid to the poor nations most at

Read More at : <http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/09/08/us-climate-un-idUSTRE7870AH20110908>

2. SIDS Advance UNCSD Preparation at Inter-Regional Meeting

Source: IISD , 1 September 2011

The Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) convened a senior expert-level meeting to prepare the input of small island developing States (SIDS) for the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD, or Rio+20).

The SIDS interregional preparatory meeting on the UNCSD convened at UN Headquarters in New York, US, on 1 September 2011. It followed three sub-regional preparatory meetings of SIDS (Caribbean; Atlantic, Indian Ocean, Mediterranean and South China Seas (AIMS); and Pacific) in June and July 2011. The SIDS Unit of the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) co-organized the interregional, which brought together delegates from SIDS' capitals.

Dessima Williams, Permanent Representative of Grenada to the UN and chair of AOSIS, led delegates in a review of the draft elements prepared by the AOSIS Working Group on Sustainable Development, which is co-chaired by representatives from the Maldives and Grenada. The paper aims to capture the elements put forward by the sub-regions that enjoy consensus support from all SIDS. Williams noted that the G77/China, which includes most AOSIS members, has already prepared documentation of its views on the UNCSD's objectives and themes, and that AOSIS prefers to submit its views through that Group. She indicated that AOSIS would engage with G77/China colleagues to secure inclusion of SIDS language following the interregional meeting.

Read More at : http://sids-iisd.org/news/sids-ministers-advance-uncsd-preparation-at-inter-regional-meeting/?referrer=small-island-developing-states-update&utm_source=lists.iisd.ca&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Small+Island+Development+States+Update+-+7+September+2011+-+SIDS+Policy+%26+Practice

3. Climate Change Top Priority For Small Pacific Nations, Leaders Told

Source: BERNAMA , September 6, 2011

AUCKLAND, New Zealand, Sept 6 (Bernama) -- Climate change is the overwhelming challenge facing the development of the Pacific's smaller island nations, a summit of regional leaders in New Zealand was told on Tuesday.

The experiences of the smaller Pacific states would help shape the position of the Pacific Islands Forum nations as they sought to influence aid negotiations, Forum Secretariat Secretary General Tuiloma Neroni Slade told the 20th Small Island States (SIS) Leaders' Meeting in Auckland.

Slade was laying out "key priority areas" to address long term challenges of the SIS ahead of the main forum, which opens on Wednesday, reports China's news agency Xinhua.

"Climate change remains the overwhelming challenge in our development pursuits," Slade told

SIS leaders.

Since the Copenhagen and Cancun global climate conferences, regional governments have been considering how to better manage the flow and use of the greater available resources.

"This has been complemented by our own efforts to strengthen development coordination through the Forum Compact and by doing so, continue the significant work being undertaken in the SIS, to strengthen national systems and bring clarity to where development resources are most needed and best used," said Slade.

The Forum Compact for Strengthening Development Cooperation was endorsed by Forum Leaders in Cairns, Australia, in 2009.

Read more : <http://www.bernama.com.my/bernama/v5/newsindex.php?id=611694>

Regional News

4. Call for Applications: Caribbean Regional Writeshop to Support Developing Country Publications on Adaptation to Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction

Source: Centre for Resource management and Environmental Studies (CERMES), University of the West Indies (UWI), Cave Hill Campus, Barbados

The Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI), the UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR) and UWI-CERMES are calling for applications from young scholars, practitioners, policymakers, and others from the Caribbean who are working in the field of climate change and disaster risk reduction to participate in a Writeshop from 24-28 October 2011 in Bridgetown, Barbados.

The Writeshop will be hosted by CERMES-UWI. Through the Writeshop, participants will produce a peer-review, publishable quality article and they will gain enhanced awareness of the process of writing papers for academic journals. These skills will allow their work to be eligible for incorporation into publications of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and other high-level scientific bodies and consequently inform policy making on key issues of risk and climate.

The Writeshop will involve one-on-one work with facilitators to provide guidance and supplemental training on academic writing skills and argumentation, in order to help new authors reach a standard of writing suitable for publication in peer-reviewed journals. A maximum of fourteen (14) participants will be selected.

Selection Criteria and Applications:

Applications in Word or pdf formats should be emailed to writeshop@sei-us.org by 23 September 2011, with the Subject line: Caribbean Writeshop. Please read the selection criteria carefully, as we cannot consider any exceptions. All travel costs and lodging will be covered by the organisers, including visa costs if applicable.

5. NGOs partner to strengthen Jamaica's climate change efforts

Source : Jamaican Observer , Wednesday, August 31, 2011

EFFORTS to improve the lives of Jamaicans affected by climate change are to get a boost from a partnership between two non-governmental organisations (NGOs), as they move to increase the island's capacity to access and manage funds to deal with the troubling phenomenon.

The two NGOs — Panos Caribbean, with an office in Kingston, and Germanwatch out of Europe — signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) in June this year, agreeing to co-operate with each other on a range of issues to do with climate change.

Under the MOU, Panos — which works to empower marginalised and vulnerable people in the region — consented to, among other things, work to build awareness among civil society about climate change. They also agreed to help ramp up civil society buy-in and involvement in Jamaica's climate change adaptation efforts — led by the Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ) — which is deemed necessary if the measures are to yield long-term success.

In exchange, Germanwatch — founded in Germany 20 years ago and which lobbies to ensure that the voices of developing countries are heard in Germany and the European Union — has pledged to help finance a baseline study to gauge awareness levels and actions being taken among civil society on climate change and climate change adaptation.

Germanwatch, which also monitors the effect of Germany's climate, corporate and agriculture policies on the world, also agreed to help fund the cost of getting players from within civil society to participate in the international climate talks, held annually at various locations across the world

Read more: http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/environment/NGOs-partner-to-strengthen-Jamaica-s-climate-change-efforts_9483078#ixzz1XBiMCNwX

6. Caribbean radio drama builds resilience to climate change

Source: IUCN , 30 August 2011 | News story

Conservation messages about coral reefs, mangroves and forests are featured in a story-telling radio programme by My Island-My Community, a partnership of PCI-Media Impact and the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States.

Small islands, like those in the Caribbean, are the first to suffer the impacts of climate change. My Island – My Community, a partnership of PCI-Media Impact and the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), works with government, media and community organizations throughout the region to re-script the narrative around a broad range of health and environmental topics.

The partnership's most recent production is 'Callaloo' -- not the traditional stew for which the region is known, but a new radio drama promoting messages about climate change,

environmental conservation, health and economic integration in 15 island nations. My Island – My Community, is rooted in the principles of Entertainment-Education, which incorporates vital information into entertaining media programs to simultaneously educate and amuse audiences.

Starting this month, local teams in each country are playing the regionally-produced Callaloo as part of hour-long national talk shows that will engage listeners in conversations about local issues. New episode of the drama will air twice a week for two years. Community mobilization campaigns will complement the work, making it easy for local residents to engage directly with the issues.

My Island – My Community launched in 2010. The initiative directly responds to a determination by the OECS – a key partner - that messages of adaptation to a changing environment and health landscape must be shared with the general public.

The My Island-My Community program has been made possible with the financial support of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, KfW on behalf of the German Financial Cooperation, Global Environment Fund Small Grants Programme (GEF SGP), implemented by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), USAID, The Nature Conservancy and the Global Island Partnership, with implementation being lead by PCI-Media Impact.

For more information, contact Jessica Robbins, Islands Communication Manager, PCI-Media Impact and GLISPA, jrobbins@mediainpact.org

Read More: <http://cms.iucn.org/about/union/commissions/cec/?8120/Caribbean-radio-drama-builds-resilience-to-climate-change>

**Prepared by the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC),
September, 2011**

Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre
2nd Floor Lawrence Nicholas Building , Ring Road
Belmopan , Belize
Tel: + (501)822-1104 / 1094; Fax: + (501) 822-1365
Website: www.caribbeanclimate.bz
Email: info@caribbeanclimate.bz