



Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre

The Paris Agreement

A Climate Change Exchange on the
IPCC AR5 and the UNFCCC COP 21

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UNFCCC

- Adopted in Rio in 1992
- Entered into force in 1994
- Objective: “...stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations...at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system..within a time frame sufficient to allow ecosystems to adapt naturally..., to ensure that food production is not threatened and to enable economic development to proceed in a sustainable manner”



Kyoto Protocol

- Adopted in 1997 by COP 3
 - All developed countries committed to limit their emissions by a quantified amount during the period 2008 to 2012 (First Commitment Period)
- Entered into force on 16 February 2005
 - USA did not ratify and eventually withdrew
 - Canada later withdrew
- At COP 10/CMP 1 in 2005, Parties began discussion on a Second Commitment Period for the Kyoto Protocol and a broader Dialogue for those Parties without commitments



Bali Action Plan

- Agreed to formal negotiations on a Second Commitment Period for the Kyoto Protocol
- Agreed that, in parallel, formal negotiations on Long Term Cooperative Actions for all Parties to the UNFCCC
- To be finalized in 2009



COP 15

- Held in Copenhagen in 2009
- Parties failed to agree on a Second Commitment Period for the Kyoto Protocol
- Parties failed to finalize a new agreement on “Long term Cooperative Action”
- Noted the “Copenhagen Accord”
 - The elements of the Copenhagen Accord were adopted in Cancun at COP 16 in 2010



Durban Platform

- In 2011 at COP 17, Parties agreed to negotiate a “New Agreement applicable to all”
- In 2012 at COP 18, Parties agreed that the new agreement would be a “a protocol, another legal instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force” to be finalized by 2015 and to come into effect in 2020
- Parties also adopted the Doha Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol which includes a Second Commitment Period of 2013 to 2020
 - 38 Parties have ratified, including Barbados, Grenada and Guyana
 - Requires 144 to enter into force



CARICOM Position for Paris Agreement

- Should be a protocol
- Should limit warming to as far below 1.5°C above pre-industrial level as possible
- Should provide the requisite financial, technical and capacity building support to enable developing countries to adapt to and mitigate climate change
- Actions should be transparent (measure, report and verify)
- Should address the special circumstances of SIDS
- Should have a compliance regime
 - Facilitative
 - Enforcement



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