



Bridges Trade BioRes

Biweekly news, events and resources at the intersection of trade and environment

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This edition of Bridges Trade BioRes was edited by Andrew Aziz, aaziz@ictsd.ch.

Contributors to this issue were Andrew Aziz, Jacob Chodash, Benjamin Cote, Matthew Jordan, Ana Maria Kleymeyer, and Bonnie Magnuson.

The Director is Ricardo Meléndez-Ortiz.

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FISHERIES

Bluefin Tuna Ban Receives Conditional Support from France

France announced Wednesday its support for adding bluefin tuna to Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), a move that would effectively ban all trade in the large, migratory fish. But environmentalists say France's insistence on an 18-month waiting period is a dangerous condition given the current decline in fish stocks.

The move caught many observers by surprise. Last year, France refused to support the initiative when Monaco asked for backing from its EU counterparts to present the motion to CITES as a collective (see Bridges Trade BioRes, 5 October 2009, <http://ictsd.org/i/news/biores/56863/>).

Bluefin tuna is prized in Japan where it is used to prepare high-grade sushi. Some 90 percent of Mediterranean tuna is exported to the Japanese market which, in turn, dictates prices.

Strong resistance expected

Like several other Mediterranean countries, France is under pressure from its fisheries industry to oppose the move.

"The government is really in a messy position," said Francois Wendling, head of a southern French fisheries association. "If waiting for scientific studies is so important, why is the government giving a position now? This is purely political."

Environmental groups now say the implementation date of September 2011 – which would allow another two fishing seasons to pass before a ban is implemented – is meant to appease

the fisheries industry in the lead up to March regional elections.

"Asking for 18 months to implement this measure equates to waiting until there is no more bluefin tuna before acting," Greenpeace said in a statement. "The government is buying peace with the fishermen at a time of regional elections."

In his announcement, Bruno Le Maire, France's agriculture minister, said the delay was necessary to allow for further scientific investigation of the issue and possibly permit increased small-scale fishing in coastal waters.

"We're disappointed with the delay," said Sergi Tudela, head of the WWF's Mediterranean fisheries program. "They're saying that they need time to gather more scientific data, but there's more than enough information on the table already. We're asking them to drop that condition."

While the 18-month condition has raised the ire of many in the environmental community, many acknowledge the move is a step in the right direction.

Fisheries industry small but influential

Despite its relatively small size, France's fisheries industry has proven to be influential in the past. Prior to the country's refusal to support Monaco's CITES bid in Brussels, President Nicolas Sarkozy had been publicly supportive of an outright ban. Also, when protests by fishermen erupted in 2008, Paris was quick to silence them with an aid package including fuel subsidies and funding for modernising its fleet.

Because most European Union nations – including Italy – have now said they will support the CITES addition at the Fifteenth Conference of the Parties, several observers now say the ban could well become a reality. It is not yet clear whether former opponents Spain, Malta, Greece, and Cyprus will now vote on the issue. France, Italy, and Spain account for approximately half of the global bluefin tuna catch.

If Spain – which currently holds the EU's rotating presidency – continues to oppose the Appendix I

addition it could make for an awkward moment when the country presents the EU's position on the matter at COP 15, which will be held from 13-25 March in Doha, Qatar.

Japan, which imports some 80 percent of the global bluefin tuna catch, has not officially stated how it will vote at next month's meeting. However, it is widely expected that Tokyo will oppose the move as it did when Sweden proposed a similar initiative in 1992.

Compensation

France and Italy are expected to seek financial aid from Brussels to compensate fisheries workers who find themselves out of work as a result of the ban, which would target commercial 'purse-seine' boats – high tech vessels that are responsible for some 80 percent of France's catch. Currently, only 28 of the country's approximately 200 tuna boats are purse-seiners. Traditional fishing for domestic markets will still be permitted.

Monaco's initiative seeks to address deficiencies in the current regulatory system managed by the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT). By some estimates, Bluefin stocks have declined by as much as 75 percent in the past fifty years. And environmental groups have been quick to censure ICCAT for failing to reverse this trend.

A key issue compromising effective management of the industry is illegal, unregulated, and under-reported fishing practices. By ICCAT's own figures, the actual 2007 bluefin tuna catch was more than double the authorised limit of 29,500 tonnes. By adding bluefin tuna to Appendix I of CITES it would be recognised as a "species threatened with extinction" and the body's 175 member states would be obligated to ban all imports and exports. Other species currently listed under Appendix I are the Asian elephant, gorilla, tiger, and rhinoceros, among others.

ICTSD Reporting, "France backs delayed ban on bluefin tuna trade," FINANCIAL TIMES, 3 February 2010; "France backs bluefin tuna ban but after delay," REUTERS, 3 February 2010; "Europe Leans Toward Bluefin Trade Ban," THE NEW YORK TIMES, 4 February 2010; "France

favors bluefin tuna export ban with delay,” BUSINESS WEEK, 3 February 2010.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Countries Take First Step to Comply with Copenhagen Accord

Just seven weeks after the conclusion of the UN summit on climate change in Copenhagen, at least 55 countries responded to the Copenhagen Accord's call for countries to submit their voluntary mitigation plans to the UN climate change convention.

The Copenhagen Accord, the primary outcome document of the December climate talks, has not won the support of all parties to UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), so it is officially a political document, not a legal one.

Among its provisions, the Accord called on parties to the UNFCCC to submit by 31 January their national pledges to cut or limit emissions of greenhouse gases between now and 2020. The UNFCCC reported that 55 countries met the deadline; at time of writing, however, 61 countries were listed on the UNFCCC website as having submitted national pledges.

Accord is “living document”

These voluntary plans represent the first step toward compliance with the Copenhagen Accord and indicate that the principles of the document are gaining momentum. In a press briefing in Bonn, Germany on 20 January, Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC Yvo de Boer referred to the accord as a “living document” and expressed his hope that it would continue to grow and develop in the coming months.

Thirty-eight industrialised countries, including the EU bloc of 27, submitted quantified emissions targets. The US submission aims to reduce emissions “in the range of” 17 percent by 2020 compared with 2005 levels, with the final number depending on the corresponding legislation passed by the Senate.

Of the developing countries, 23 have submitted ‘nationally appropriate mitigation actions’. China said it would ‘endeavor’ to lower its CO2 emissions per unit of GDP by 40 to 45 percent, and India's goal is to reduce the emissions intensity of its GDP, excluding agriculture, by 20 to 25 percent. Both nations set their standards based on 2005 levels.

Brazil is the only South American nation to submit a proposal so far, and only seven out of 55 African countries have made submissions.

Although more than 130 countries have not made pledges, the 55 countries that met the 31 January deadline together account for 78 percent of global emissions from energy use, according to a statement from the UNFCCC.

End of January deadline not firm

The original text of the Copenhagen Accord set a deadline of 31 January for submissions. However, de Boer stated at the recent press briefing that he did not expect every country to make their submissions by that date. He characterised it as more of a “soft deadline.”

“If you fail to meet [the deadline], then you can still associate with the Accord afterwards,” de Boer said.

The pledges are national targets only and therefore voluntary; they create no legally binding international obligation for either the developing or developed countries.

No countries have really upped the commitments they made at Copenhagen, merely pledging the minimum already offered. Any potential higher reductions were made conditional on other countries' actions. De Boer called for “greater ambition...to meet the scale of the challenge.”

Behind the numbers

The national pledges are an effort to move towards the Copenhagen Accord's intended objective of limiting the rise in global average temperature to below 2 degrees Celsius. Many developing nations desire to go further and keep the increase limited to 1.5 degrees.

“At 9.7 gigatonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent, the pledges total just under half the [20 gigatonne] reduction required from business as usual to stay on the low carbon pathway,” said Leo Johnson, PrincewaterhouseCoopers partner for Sustainability and Climate Change. “There is still a big gap between the pledges and the two degree pathway.”

“It is correct to say that the proposed accord has no meaningful targets for emission reduction from Annex 1 (industrialised countries),” wrote Sunita Narin, director of the Centre for Science and Environment, in her blog mid-January. “Global emissions will increase or reduce at best marginally.”

ICTSD reporting; “Fifty-five countries pledge to cut greenhouse emissions,” GUARDIAN, 2 February 2010.

IN BRIEF

GM Wheat Could Cause US Prices to Plummet: Report

Wheat prices in the US could decline by as much as 40 percent if a biotech industry initiative to develop genetically modified wheat succeeds, according to a report released by the Western Organization of Resource Councils (WORC). The 44-page document – issued by the Montana-based farmer and rancher advocacy group late last month – bases these claims on consumer opposition to GM wheat in key markets, including the EU, Japan, and elsewhere in Asia.

According to the report, the introduction of GM wheat would be a “risky proposition,” since buyers in these regions might shift their purchases elsewhere, resulting in a sharp drop in demand for US wheat. A Pew Global Attitudes Report released in 2003 found that Japanese and Western Europeans are overwhelmingly opposed to GM crops of all types because of perceived health and environmental concerns.

The document also highlights the fact that laws requiring genetically altered crops to be labelled as

such would dissuade the public from buying GM wheat. Such laws are strongly supported in Europe and Japan, with 80 percent of respondents advocating more stringent labelling in one Japanese survey. Additionally, fears over contamination of non-GM wheat from the US could drive others to stop purchasing American wheat altogether. Some 45 percent of US wheat exports go to the EU and Japan.

At present, GM wheat is several years away from being commercialised, with major biotech companies including Monsanto and Dow AgroSciences researching ways to make wheat more drought-tolerant and capable of yielding higher harvests, among other traits. In 2004, after having made significant progress towards the development of GM wheat, Monsanto suddenly stopped its programme, citing opposition from growers and sellers in North America, in addition to consumer concerns.

Since then, however, a report released last February by the US National Association of Wheat Growers found that three-quarters of US farmers desire access to GM wheat to resist drought, frost, pests, and disease. Monsanto’s decision to restart its GM wheat programme last year was lauded by many farmers in the US, who believed GM wheat provided an excellent opportunity to revive wheat farming in the US.

“US wheat growers generally recognize that, if our industry is to prosper, we need to take advantage of technological changes, and that to feed 9 billion people by mid-century, the farmers of the world need to do so as well,” said Alan Tracy, president of US Wheat Associates, a Washington, DC-based lobby group.

US wheat acreage is down 26 million acres, or about one third, since its peak in the early 1980s. This is mostly due to better profitability of crops like corn and soy, which have received heavy investment from biotech firms.

Other farmer’s organisations, however, remain wary about biotech wheat, believing conventional breeding could result in some of the same benefits without damaging the market for US wheat.

"I don't think that anybody should be rushing in to try to commercialise GMO wheat," said Bill Wenzel director of the Farmer to Farmer Campaign on Genetic Engineering, citing continued opposition to GM wheat on global markets.

Currently, the US wheat industry is working to improve consumer acceptance of biotech wheat in anticipation of its potential future introduction into markets.

ICTSD Reporting: "Biotech wheat could slam U.S. wheat prices –report," REUTERS, 28 January 2010; "Modified wheat concerns group," BILLINGS GAZETTE, 28 January 2010; "Monsanto back in the wheat breeding business," FARM AND RANCH GUIDE, 19 January 2010; "GM wheat is on its way," GUARDIAN, 19 December 2009; "A Review of the Potential Market Impacts of Commercializing GM Wheat in the U.S.," WESTERN ORGANIZATION OF RESOURCE COUNCILS, January 2010; "World still weary as biotech wheat advances," REUTERS, 17 July 2009.

Indigenous Groups Resist EU-Malaysia Timber Trade Deal

The European Union and Malaysia had hoped to conclude negotiations on deal to combat trade in illegal timber by the end of 2009, but the deadline has been pushed back to this summer. Government officials report that there are just a few technical details to resolve, but indigenous groups say the deal now on the table is fundamentally flawed.

The Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA) is part of the European Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) Action Plan. The bilateral deal aims to ensure that only licensed Malaysian timber is traded in the EU, an attempt to halt the trade of illegally harvested timber and to encourage sustainable forest management.

Indigenous groups in Malaysia have raised significant resistance to the VPA. They criticise the EU for its willingness to sign the trade agreement. Their concern is not with the attempt

to halt illegal logging but with the definition of what constitutes legal logging in the first place.

The two NGOs, Jaringan Orang Asal SeMalaysia and Jaringan Orang Asal dan NGO Tentang Isu-isu Hutan (JANGOHutan), reject the deal's definition of the source of harvested timber as legal based on existing laws. They assert that this disregards how logging licences have often been issued on land claimed by indigenous communities without their 'free, prior, and informed consent'.

Last March, the indigenous groups walked out of the multi-stakeholder consultations being held by the Malaysian government in protest.

Speaking in Kuala Lumpur last week, Vincent Piket, the Head of the EU delegation to Malaysia, dismissed fears that the NGOs' boycott would delay the negotiations beyond July. The groups' concerns are being heard, he said, noting that the NGOs had met with Plantation, Industries and Commodities Minister Tan Sri Bernard Dompok at the end of 2009.

The Malaysian government expects the agreement to help Malaysian timber exporters. The licences—which will prove the legality and sustainability of their products—will give them a 'green lane' to the European market, officials have said.

The EU is currently the third-most important destination for Malaysian timber. As of 2009, Malaysia exported RM 2.8 billion (€600 million) of wood products to the EU each year.

The European Commission estimates that one-fifth of the timber that enters the EU is illegally harvested. Worldwide, total loss of forest cover causes nearly 20 percent of annual greenhouse gas emissions.

The EU previously signed VPAs with Ghana in September 2008 and the Republic of Congo in May 2009. It is also negotiating VPAs with Cameroon and Indonesia. Informal discussions have also begun with multiple African, Asian, and Latin American timber-producing countries.

The EU has been negotiating the VPA with Malaysia since 2007. If signed, it will be the first such deal in Asia.

ICTSD reporting; “EU, Malaysia Make Substantial Progress in VPA Talks,” BERNAMA, 25 January 2010; “NGOs upset with EU’s stand on disputed timber,” THE STAR, 27 January 2010; “EU and Malaysia in Final Phase of Timber Trade Talks,” BUSINESS TIMES, 26 April 2009.

Aquaculture Subject of First-Ever Vietnam WTO Dispute

Vietnam has requested WTO consultations with the United States over Washington’s anti-dumping duties on Vietnamese shrimp. The move marks the first time that Vietnam has ever filed a complaint with the global trade body’s dispute settlement system.

The complaint centres on anti-dumping duties of as much as 25 percent that the US has slapped on imports of Vietnamese shrimp since 2005.

The Vietnamese private sector is confident that country’s challenge will be successful, largely due to the fact that Washington used a practice known as ‘zeroing’ in calculating the margin by which Vietnamese shrimp were being ‘dumped’ - or sold at below-normal value - in the US market. The WTO has repeatedly ruled against zeroing on the grounds that it artificially inflates dumping margins.

“The WTO has concluded that the US was wrong in applying the zeroing method in precedent cases,” said Nguyen Huu Dung of the Vietnam Association of Seafood Exporters and Producers last year. “I can see high possibility of Vietnam winning the case.”

In a case that was decided in July 2008, Thailand brought a similar challenge against the US, claiming that Washington’s anti-dumping duties on its warm water shrimp were unfairly high because the US had used the ‘zeroing’ methodology in calculating the dumping margin. The Dispute Settlement Body ruled in Thailand’s favour.

But the case brought by Vietnam may be different.

When Vietnam acceded to the WTO in 2007, it agreed to be temporarily recognised as a non-market economy, a status that US law defines as not operating “on market principles of cost or pricing structures, so that the sales of merchandise...do not reflect the fair value of the merchandise.”

Article VI of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) appears to support special practices for non-market economies as it allows different treatment of states that have “a complete or substantially complete monopoly of its trade and where all domestic prices are fixed by the state.”

With reference to this provision, the US had considered Chinese (which equally agreed to the status of a non-market economy, or NME) and Vietnamese shrimp exports separately from other shrimp exporters when it conducted its dumping investigation in 2004.

To calculate the dumping margin, Washington used Hanoi’s NME status to ‘construct’ a normal value of shrimp based on a ‘surrogate’ market economy, rather than using Vietnam’s market prices, according to the US-Vietnam WTO Coalition.

Although there has been much protest against the US method, Washington has yet to revoke Hanoi’s NME status. Moreover, the US has abandoned the particular zeroing practice that Thailand challenged in its case - known as weighted-to-weighted averaging.

This dispute marks the first time that Vietnam has been a complainant in WTO proceedings. Hanoi had previously been a third party in three disputes.

Should consultations between the parties fail to resolve the issue after 60 days, Vietnam may request the WTO to establish a panel to hear the case.

ICTSD Reporting; “UPDATE 3-Vietnam tackles US at WTO over shrimp imports,” Reuters, 3 February 2010.

EVENTS AND RESOURCES

Events

For a more comprehensive list of events for the trade and environment community visit the BioRes online calendar, <http://ictsd.net/news/biores/events/>.

Coming up in the next two weeks (5 February-19 February)

5-7 February, New Delhi, India. DELHI SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SUMMIT (DSDS 2010): BEYOND COPENHAGEN: NEW PATHWAYS TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. This global forum will be one of the first major gatherings of leaders from various regions of the world after the Copenhagen Conference of the Parties in December 2009. DSDS 2010 will focus on the formulation and delineation of strategies to move the sustainable development agenda forward. Major themes include: accelerating socio-economic development as a key to adaptation, role of technology, building institutions for effective climate governance, and financing opportunities post Copenhagen. For more information, contact the Summit Secretariat: tel: +91-11-2468-2100; fax: +91-11-2468-2144; email: dsds@teri.res.in; internet: <http://dsds.teriin.org/2010/index.php>

11-13 February, New Haven, US. TROPICAL FORESTS UNDER A CHANGING CLIMATE: LINKING IMPACTS, MITIGATION, AND ADAPTATION. The Yale Chapter of the International Society of Tropical Foresters will gather practitioners and researchers from government, communities, academia, and environment and development organisations to explore the relationship between tropical forests and climate change. Participants will be given a chance to discuss how climate change impacts tropical forest biodiversity, ecology, ecosystems services, and the communities and economies that rely on them. Other themes include strategies and management practices that could be employed by governments, communities, and organisations in order to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change. For more information, contact the organisers: email: yaleist@gmail.com; internet:

<http://www.goforwood.info/it/news.php?id=28046> or <http://www.yale.edu/istf>

15-17 February, San Francisco, US. GEOPOWER AMERICA 2010. By bringing together governments, developers, and investors from North, Central, and South America, participants will have the chance to discover new business opportunities, learn the challenges faced by developers, and the prospects of the growing geothermal industry. This conference will explore the expansion of geothermal energy production in not only the US, but in other emerging markets of Canada, Central, and Southern America. For more information, contact the organisers: tel: +44-020-7099-0600; email: info@greenpowerconferences.com; internet: <http://www.geopowerseries.com/index.html>

17-19 February, New Delhi and Uttar Pradesh, India. FOURTH INTERNATIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY CONFERENCE. This event will be the fourth global ministerial level conference on renewable energy, following Bonn Renewables 2004, Beijing 2005, and WIREC 2008. The International Renewable Energy Conference (IREC) will consist of a ministerial meeting, business-to-business and business-to-government meetings, side events (symposiums, sectoral seminars and workshops), and a trade show/exhibition. Those encouraged to attend include government representatives, members of civil society, private industries, NGOs, and advocacy groups to discuss public policies and showcase programmes related to the renewable energy sector. For more information contact the organisers: email: ss.madan@nic.in; internet: <http://mnes.nic.in/pdf/irec-mnre.pdf>

Other Upcoming Events:

23 Marc., New York, US. CSD-18 THEMATIC SEMINAR SERIES: SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION. The CSD Secretariat is launching a Thematic Seminar Series that will present scientific and technical information on the issues under review by the Commission on Sustainable Development at its 18th and 19th sessions. For more information, contact Tonya Vaturi, Division for Sustainable Development; tel: +1-212-963-4704; e-mail: vaturi@un.org; internet:

http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/csd/csd_csd18_seminar_series.shtml

6-11 April, Geneva, Switzerland. 30TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR IMPACT ASSESSMENT. This conference will explore the role of impact assessments in transitioning to a green economy. The conference will focus on five sectors: agriculture, industry, tourism, transportation, and cities. The conference will look into both the role of the public and the private sector. For more information contact the organisers: e-mail: info@iaia.org; internet: <http://www.iaia.org/iaia10/>

24-25 March, Langat Basin, Malaysia. INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM: HARMONISING ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS WITH SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL OF RIVER BASINS. This international symposium aims to identify business opportunities for the water sector to integrate into an expanding environmental services industry and in so doing support the expansion of a truly sustainable and diversified water business environment. This concept is based on improving water based businesses by establishing enduring business partnerships that connect water managers with environmental services, as well as boost the multifunctional productivity of water. For more information, contact the organisers: Shahbaz Khan; e-mail: s.khan@unesco.org; internet: <http://helpforum.ning.com/events/harmonising-environmental>

21-23 April, Seoul, Republic of Korea. BUSINESS FOR ENVIRONMENT GLOBAL SUMMIT (B4E). This meeting will address resource efficiency, renewable energies, new business models and climate policy strategies. At the meeting, CEOs and senior executives will join leaders from government, international agencies, NGOs and media to discuss environmental issues, forge partnerships and explore innovative solutions for a greener future. For more information please contact: Michelle Ko; tel: +65 6534 8683; fax: +65 6534 8690; e-mail: michelle.ko@globalinitiatives.com; internet: http://www.b4esummit.com/?page_id=106

26 July – 6 August, The Hague, Netherlands. ICAP SUMMER SCHOOL ON EMISSIONS TRADING FOR EMERGING AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. The summer school will convey an in-depth understanding of emissions trading as an instrument to mitigate greenhouse gases, and build capacity on the technical design and implementation of carbon trading systems. Over the span of 2 weeks, participants will have ample networking opportunities with each other and with the teaching faculty, composed of representatives from ICAP members and other recognised experts in the field. For more information please contact the organisers: e-mail: summerschool@icapcarbonaction.com; internet: www.icapcarbonaction.com

Resources

If you have a relevant resource (books, papers, bulletins, etc.) you would like to see announced in this section, please forward a copy for review by the BioRes staff to Andrew Aziz at aaziz@ictsd.ch.

ARE TRADE AND CLIMATE CHANGE DIRECTLY RELATED? By L. Tamietti, R. Teh and V. Kulaçoğlu (UNEP and the WTO). 2009. Greenhouse gas emissions, which are the major contributors to climate change, are on the increase in both industrialised and developing countries. This paper indicates key linkages between trade and climate change and reviews how their respective policies interact. Questions are posed as to how trade and climate change can be mutually supportive. The paper notes that most sectors of the global economy are expected to be affected by climate change and this, in effect, will also have an impact on trade. The authors note that the challenge now facing climate change negotiators is to agree on a multilateral response to climate change after the Kyoto Protocol's first commitment period expires in 2012. To access the publication, visit: http://www.wto.org/english/res_e/booksp_e/trade_climate_change_e.pdf

COMPARABILITY OF ANNEX I EMISSION REDUCTION PLEDGES. By Kelly Levin and

Rob Bradley (World Resources Institute). February 2010. On 31 January, Annex 1 (industrialised) countries wishing to associate themselves with the Copenhagen Accord were required to register their emission reduction pledges to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). This analysis analysed the Annex I pledges received so far, as well as pledges by countries that have yet to associate themselves with the Accord. This paper shows a preliminary picture of where the world stands post-Copenhagen. The authors conclude that these pledges will not be enough to meet even the lower range of emission reductions required to stabilise concentrations of CO₂e at 450 ppm and certainly fall short of goals to reduce concentrations below that level. To access this paper, visit <http://www.wri.org/publication/comparability-of-annexi-emission-reduction-pledges>

THE COPENHAGEN ACCORD: A STEPPING STONE? World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF). January 2010. This paper asserts

that after the Copenhagen Climate Summit the world is still in need of a fair, ambitious, and binding treaty to protect people and nature from runaway climate change. The article recommends important next steps governments should take on a path towards agreeing such a treaty. First, it assesses the outcome of the Copenhagen Climate Summit and details the strengths and weaknesses of the Copenhagen Accord. Then it outlines how the Accord could become an instrument to accelerate progress in the ongoing UN climate negotiations. Finally, the paper identifies some parameters to judge the adequacy of what countries put forward when taking the suggested steps. To access this paper, please visit: http://assets.panda.org/downloads/the_stepping_stone_final_280110.pdf