



**GLOBAL
ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**
ENVIRONMENTÁLNA
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Forum for 21st century **on Green Solutions**

Notes

The basic needs of human beings are water, health, food and shelter which are threatened by climate changes like higher temperature, sea level rise, or many natural disasters. Climate change has a direct effect on water and food security, key natural resources, migration, ecosystems, human health... The key greenhouse gases emitted by human activities are: Carbon dioxide (CO₂), Methane (CH₄), Nitrous oxide (N₂O), Fluorinated gases (F-gases).

There are many theories and studies that explain the various aspects of global warming. But most of them agree that the global warming of the Earth should be kept below 2°C in comparison to the temperature in the pre-industrial times. The studies, however, differ in whether and how the world will be able to sustain the temperature below this level.

Under the Kyoto Protocol adopted on the 11th of December 1997 the signing countries committed themselves to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to an average of five per cent against 1990 levels over the five-year period 2008-2012. But some of the world's major players in international relations did not ratify this Treaty and therefore the contribution to the reduction of emissions of the agreement is questionable. One of those countries is the United States which is the second biggest emitter of carbon dioxide emissions in an absolute way and the biggest emitter of CO₂ emissions per capita. This implies that the Kyoto Protocol has become dysfunctional, ineffective and unenforceable mechanism and is necessary to solve this problem as soon as possible because the Kyoto Protocol lapses at the end of this year.

For 2020 the 27 Member States of the EU have committed to reduce their emissions to 20% below 1990 levels but they are disposed for rising up this number up to 30% if the other major economies would also reduce significantly their emissions. Another objective of the EU is to decrease the amount of emissions by 80-95% compared to 1990 levels.

ASEAN member states created Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation 2010 – 2015 whose goal is to achieve a collective target of 15% for regional renewable energy in the total power installed capacity by 2015.

One of the most important factors that contribute to the emissions is the change in land use, especially deforestation which can account for 5 billion metric tons of CO₂ emissions which is the same as 16 % emissions from fossil fuel sources. The land-use changes, the deforestation in South America, Asia and Africa seem to be the largest contributors to emissions.



Proposals

The Forum for 21st Century therefore submits these proposes.

The Forum suggests adopting an international agreement which would be a successor of the Kyoto Protocol. The key issues will be reducing emissions and increasing the usage of green energies. The Environmental section brings into the attention of participants that the Kyoto Protocol will expire at the end of this year and is aware of the necessity to agree on substitution of this Treaty. The Forum proposes agreeing on this initiative as soon as possible, in order not to wait too long for the implementation of another Kyoto Protocol.

Negotiations will begin on a new, legally binding accord, the Green Act, that will be signed by 2013 and come into force by 2020. Under this accord will be created a fund – the Green Act Fund (GAF) and a Committee. The fund will be governed and supervised by a Board that will have full responsibility for funding decisions. GAF would be a donors' fund, where the participant's voice is directly proportional to its contribution. All donors would be treated equally with the only limit being that a single donors' voice could not exceed 33% of the total, no single donor could have more than 1/3 of the votes in deciding bodies of the fund so as to avoid the domination by a single participant. The recipient countries could feel controlled, so they will be the ones that will create a number of projects and the contributing countries will decide which of the project will be implemented. Thus each of the recipients will have its own team of experts to develop such projects. The recipients would only have an observer status in the deciding bodies of the fund.

The Green Act Fund will finance:

- ✗ Large-scale mitigation projects in the developing world.
- ✗ Projects those help adapting to climate change and fighting against the impacts of climate change.
- ✗ Projects of capacity-building, technology development and transfer.
- ✗ Programmes, policies or other activities to support afforestation.

The Board will elaborate annual reports on its activities, and take appropriate action in response to the guidance received. The Green Act commit developed countries to provide developing countries finance of USD 30 billion for the 2013-2020 considering the size of the economy and the amount of the commitments of each member. The fund will be governed and supervised by the Committee.

The goal will be decreasing greenhouse gas emissions by 20% compared to 1990 level, for 2020 and the ratio of usage of alternative sources of energy over total sources of energy will be 15%. It is essential to focus on the potential of every country to take the advantage of the natural fortune and to try to utilize the green energies as much as possible and gradually to increase the ratio on energy exploitation.

The Green Act provides three options for countries in reducing emissions.

A.1 Countries commit themselves to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 20%, they will contribute to the GAF only considering the size of the economy.



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A.2 Countries set their own lower target, in terms of emission reduction. Consequently, they will have to contribute 15% more than would have been the contribution based on the size of the economy.

A.3 Countries do not commit themselves to reduce emissions. Those countries will have to contribute 30% more than would have been the contribution based on the size of the economy.

According to the previous stand-points, the Forum suggests to create a system of sanctions for the countries which do not follow the structured plan (the Kyoto Protocol did not have a system of sanctions) and therefore to ensure the completion of the goals defined in the plan and increase the efficiency of the new agreement in comparison with the previous one.

The Committee will have a control function. It will evaluate how the countries comply with the set targets based on annual reports. The committee will supervise the mechanism of sanctions. All the finances from the mechanism will form part of the Green Act Fund.

Mechanism of sanctions:

Each country has emission quotas.

If the quota is exceeded in 10%:

1. If the country belongs to the group A.1, it will pay 6\$ per metric ton.
2. If the country belongs to the group A.2, it will pay 7\$ per metric ton.
3. If the country belongs to the group A.3, it will pay 8\$ per metric ton.

If the quota is exceeded by more than 10%:

1. If the country belongs to the group A.1, it will pay 7\$ per metric ton.
2. If the country belongs to the group A.2, it will pay 8\$ per metric ton.
3. If the country belongs to the group A.3, it will pay 9\$ per metric ton.

Except the control function, the Committee will:

- ✗ Establish subcommittees and panels and define their terms of reference, as appropriate.
- ✗ Establish additional thematic windows and/or substructures to address specific activities, as appropriate.
- ✗ Establish a framework for the monitoring and evaluation of performance and the financial accountability of activities supported by the fund and any necessary external audits.
- ✗ Review and approve the administrative budget of the Fund and arrange for performance reviews and audits.
- ✗ Exercise such other functions as may be appropriate to fulfil the objectives.

