



**Federation of Young European  
Greens**

**fyeg**

## **POST COPENHAGEN RESOLUTION**

*Adopted during the General Assembly 2010, Bratislava.*

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We, the Federation of Young European Greens (FYEG), regret the outcome of The United Nations Climate Change Conference held in Copenhagen in December 2009.

The Copenhagen Agreement- the main outcome of the meeting- is one of the poorest political agreements in the history of the climate negotiations. The deal is not legally binding and clearly reflects the lack of ambition and the exclusive process by which it was agreed. The process has been deeply flawed and the allegations regarding lack of transparency and conspiracy to kill off the Kyoto Protocol have proven to be true.

The agreement recognizes the objective to keep the maximum global average temperature rise below 2°C and the need for a review in 2015 to consider a possible goal of a maximum temperature rise of 1.5°C using new scientific insights. Nevertheless, the emissions pledges that are currently on the table clearly fall far short of what is necessary to achieve this goal.

The agreement has a range of base years from which countries can choose and it is far from what The Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) need, far from what the Least Developed Nations require and still leaves many questions to be resolved.

FYEG recognizes that the challenge will now be to turn this political agreement into an effective and legally binding agreement by COP 16 in Mexico ( 29 November-10 December 2010). In that sense the counter-productive attitude of the USA must be pointed out. Meanwhile, all the countries are using the 1990 baseline to target their GHG emissions' reduction, the USA cowardly assumed a 2005 baseline with the same objectives than developed countries and refused to reach a binding agreement. Also, the attitude of some OPEC countries was to stop any kind of negotiations, denying climate change, FYEG denounces strongly this kind of lobbying within UN negotiations.

We call upon industrialized countries to increase their efforts in order to ensure a legally binding UN climate agreement that will limit global atmospheric greenhouse gas concentrations at well below 350 ppm.

The FYEG and its member organizations also believe that industrialized countries should take all the necessary steps to enable Non Annexe I countries to undertake country-level needs assessments and to develop specific capacity-building activities.

The dynamics of technological change will not be limited to one technology for industrialized countries and another for non-industrialized countries. Instead, cutting-edge and traditional technologies will coexist across the globe.



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The EU's current pledged emissions target is clearly inconsistent with the scientific recommendations and its responsibility and capacity to deliver these emissions reductions. The FYEG calls on the EU to increase its emissions pledge to an unconditional 30% reduction target by 2020 below 1990 levels, with a view to increasing this to 40% in the event of a UN climate agreement. In order to ensure this pledge is credible, the EU should also strictly limit the use of offsetting, agree not to bank surplus assigned amount units (AAUs), and agree to rules on how to account for emissions from land use, land use change and forestry (LULUCF) that ensure the environmental integrity of industrialized countries emissions' reduction targets.

The initial amount agreed upon by industrialized countries for non-industrialized countries was one of the positive outcomes of COP15 but also far below of what is needed to meet the climate adaptation and mitigation needs. This would require the provision of €120 bn per year by 2020 of new and additional funding, of which the EU would be expected to contribute €30-35 bn.

Many young people, especially in non-industrialised countries, are not engaged in the climate debate due to lack of sufficient knowledge and understanding about the climate and how it affects them. There is a need to improve climate-related education for young people and engage their intellectual capacity to find workable climate solution for all. It is essential to get young people fully involved in this process as they will be affected, either negatively or positively, by the decisions that are going to be taken now.

On the short term, even though our aim as greens is a tax and dividend fiscal policy to limit the green house gases, the implementation of a truly responsible international carbon market appears really necessary to help our societies to lower the impact of the future fossil energy crisis. Such an internalization of the costs of fossil fuels' impact on climate change will enable mankind to limit the rise of temperatures to 1,5°C. Indeed, a progressive and regulated rise of the energy prices is expected to foster R&D in renewable energies, energy efficiency and energy savings.

Such a carbon market should not enable the distribution of free quotas and should be based on a 100% redistribution of auctions.

Any carbon market in any country or region must have ambitious targets, no offsetting and a linked redistribution system. At the EU level, the European Emission Trading Scheme (EU ETS) must immediately adopt a 100% auction distribution and avoid any kind of offsetting. Industrial lobbies must stay away from any kind of climate regulation. With the revenue obtained from the auctions of allowances, EU should not only invest in renewable energy and green industry, but also it must take into consideration the impact of rise in prices due to the carbon market that adopted may affect low income families, so that a redistribution of a lineal dividend regarding the effect in families budget constrain must be considered.

FYEG stands for democracy and civil participation in international institutions. Therefore, we deeply regret the way the COP15 organization decided to reduce drastically the number of accreditations after giving thousands without taking into account security measures. Such behaviour is not admissible and we ask for a better consideration of civil society in the next COP.

Young people can provide invaluable perspectives on issues that they care about, and their involvement contributes to the broader empowerment of young people. The current generation of decision makers seem to be incapable of achieving a political consensus on the means to stop dangerous global average temperature rise. Especially in this situation the decision making process should be opened up to include the stakeholders who have to deal with the consequences: the youth. We therefore demand that governments include youth in their delegations through cooperation with National Youth Councils and UN agencies and allow youth to take part in the decision making processes as outlined in several UNGA resolutions.