



Intervention of Climate Action Network International in the closing plenary of the LCA

Wednesday, April 8, 2009

Thank you Mr Chair,

Distinguished delegates,

Over the weekend we learnt that the Wilkins ice shelf has started to break away from the Antarctic Peninsula. This is an extremely alarming reminder of the fact that we might be **less than one degree from further warming** that could launch irreversible melting and disintegration in the West-Antarctic Ice Sheet and Greenland, condemning the world to several meters of sea-level rise.

On another front outside of this conference center, G20 has taken big measures to tackle global financial crisis. By the end of 2010 these countries will have spent five trillion dollars fighting the crisis. Here in Bonn we are talking about a crisis far more serious, but yet rich countries are failing to put money on the table to tackle it.

Distinguished delegates, we urge you to get serious. Time is getting short. In Bonn 2, we expect to see real progress on all the building blocks of the Bali Action Plan and, most importantly,

- the **shared vision** must encompass the global pathway that gives a high probability of keeping warming as far below the dangerous level of 2°C as possible. This requires global emissions to peak within the next five-year commitment period and be reduced on the order of 80% below 1990 levels by 2050. This pathway must be pursued in the spirit of equity, common but differentiated responsibility and precautionary principle.

Delegates, let me remind you that you are negotiating the most important international treaty ever, on a moment where we still have a chance to save ourselves from catastrophic and irreversible impacts. This requires agreeing on a legally binding deal in Copenhagen, that turns global emissions into a declining pathway within the next commitment period.

We cannot change the science, but we can change the politics.

The world is watching.

Thank you.