

Intervention by Climate Justice Now! Members to the Opening session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Kyoto protocol

read by Nicola Bullard, Focus on the Global South

Thank you for allowing me to briefly address the meeting on behalf of Focus on the Global South, an active member of Climate Justice Now, a global network of grassroots movements, Indigenous Peoples and NGOs.

In April 2010 more than 35,000 people from 140 countries gathered in Cochabamba, Bolivia and developed the historic Cochabamba People's Agreement, a consensus-based document reflecting substantive solutions to the climate crisis. The Bolivian Government has made an official submission, comprised of the core components of the Cochabamba People's Agreement, to this meeting. Since then, the Peoples' Agreement has gained support and recognition by various nations and regional bodies including the ALBA countries and UNASUR

The Cochabamba Peoples' Agreement calls for setting an aggregate emission reduction target of 50% from 1990 levels by developed countries for the period 2013-2017 under the Kyoto Protocol, and for comparable efforts to be done by non-Kyoto developed country parties. This must be done domestically and without reliance on market mechanisms. A pledge and review approach as promoted in the Copenhagen Accord is unacceptable.

We feel the negotiations about legally binding reduction targets should be an overriding priority the coming months and that work needs to be properly focused to ensure enough time is made available to complete these negotiations.

Climate change does not go away simply because one Government administration is incapable of convincing its national legislators of the need for firm legally binding rules and targets at the national and international level to avoid this planetary disaster.

It is of the utmost importance that the work of the AWG on the Kyoto Protocol is based on scientific realities, rather than political limitations. In this light, we call upon this working group to be realistic and support the call for 50% emission reductions of the Cochabamba Summit.

Thank you. Nicola Bullard