

What They're Saying: Key Quotes

Major Economies Process on Energy Security and Climate Change: *"The Biggest Boost to the Power and Strength of the United Nations"*

UNFCCC Secretariat Yvo de Boer: "This process could make a major contribution to the ambitious goals of the negotiations. If the countries represented at this meeting manage to take the Bali decisions to a next stage, progress can be accelerated and the ambitious deadline of 2009 can actually be met." (Second Major Economies Meeting on Energy Security and Climate Change Opening Remarks, 1/30/08)

Minister of State, Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Phil Woolas (United Kingdom): "This is an attempt by the major economies in the world to plan, organize and implement the second industrial revolution. ...In our view and in my view this process is the biggest boost to the power and the strength of the United Nations that we have had since it was formed after the Second World War. This is the process to organize the second industrial revolution and I thank the United States for providing the platform to do that." (Second Major Economies Meeting on Energy Security and Climate Change Closing Press Conference, 1/31/08)

State Secretary, Ministry for the Environment Matthias Machnig (Germany): "First of all, I'd like to thank the American government, the U.S. Government for hosting this conference, and I think it was an effective conference because, indeed, we touched all main issues and I'd say from the German point of view, I think one thing is very, very important that we made a clear statement here that we want to assist the UN process by this meeting here and by the MEM process or by the MEM meetings to come to an agreement in 2009. That's very important." (Second Major Economies Meeting on Energy Security and Climate Change Closing Press Conference, 1/31/08)

Vice Chairman, National Development and Reform Commission Xie Zhenhua (China): "I should say that this meeting in terms of promoting the Bali action process it has played a very constructive role in terms of we have conducted a lot of discussions about the very candid exchange of ideas in terms of how to implement the Bali Action Plan." (Second Major Economies Meeting on Energy Security and Climate Change Closing Press Conference, 1/31/08)

Special Advisor to Minister van Schalkwyk Dr. Shaun Vorster (South Africa): "It's been a very constructive, a very frank and a very fruitful meeting." (Second Major Economies Meeting on Energy Security and Climate Change Closing Press Conference, 1/31/08)

Special Ambassador for Climate Change Brice Lalonde (France): "We aim to feed the United Nations process which has its own schedule and we have agreed in Bali that the decision of a final comprehensive climate change international agreement should be achieved in Copenhagen in 2009. We have intermediate sessions. So these are the forums where the final decisions engaging all of us should be taken, and we hope the

different steps of this Major Economies Meeting will help us to get to there...Last year in Washington we had the Major Economies Meeting. We had the speech of the President and we are having this initiative, which is a useful initiative and, of course, we welcome this move. It's a real move.” (Second Major Economies Meeting on Energy Security and Climate Change Closing Press Conference, 1/31/08)

UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon: “On climate change, which is a very important issue for all humankind, I appreciate President’ Bush’s initiative, during the Heiligendamm G-8 Summit meeting.” (Remarks after meeting with President Bush, The White House, 7/17/07)

G8 Summit Declaration: “To address the urgent challenge of climate change, it is vital that major economies that use the most energy and generate the majority of greenhouse gas emissions agree on a detailed contribution for a new global framework by the end of 2008 which would contribute to a global agreement under the UNFCCC by 2009. We therefore reiterate the need to engage major emitting economies on how best to address the challenge of climate change....We welcome the offer of the United States to host such a meeting later this year.” (G8 Summit Declaration on Climate Change, Energy Efficiency,” Press Release, 6/7/07)

APEC Leaders’ Declaration: “The world needs to slow, stop, and then reverse the growth of global greenhouse gas emissions. We, therefore, call for a post-2012 international climate change arrangement, building on the above, that strengthens, broadens and depends the current arrangements and leads to reduced global emissions of greenhouse gases. ... We welcome the initiative by the United States to convene a group of major economies to seek agreement on a detailed contribution to a post-2012 global agreement under the UNFCCC.” (APEC, “Sydney APEC Leaders’ Declaration on Climate Change, Energy Security and Clean Development,” Press Release, 9/9/07)