

CONFIDENTIAL: DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

TO: Negotiators of **Developed Nations** at United Nations World Climate Summit

SUBJECT: Briefing on negotiating goals



You lead the developed economies of the world at the upcoming negotiations on climate change (the US, Canada, European Union, Japan, Russia and other former Soviet Republics, South Korea, Australia, New Zealand).

Goals: The developed nations seek to negotiate a global agreement to reduce greenhouse gas emissions that achieves the best outcome for our economies and national interests, as well as for the world. You must decide:

1. Actions to reduce carbon emissions, if any. Without action, our emissions are expected to grow over time. You can decide when your emissions will stop growing, when they will begin declining, and at what annual rate emissions decline, if at all.
2. How much, if any, of the potential for afforestation in our nations we will seek to implement on a scale of 0 to 1..
3. The United Nations has pledged to create a fund to provide, by 2020, \$100 billion/year to support emissions reductions and climate change adaptation in developing countries. Decide how much to contribute to the fund.

Context: The scientific consensus is clear: over 97% of climate scientists agree that climate change is happening, that it is caused primarily by use of fossil fuels, and that its impacts could be devastating. Many developed countries are already experiencing the effects of climate change, from rising sea levels along coasts to heat waves and prolonged droughts in agricultural regions.

Public Opinion: The public in our countries generally believes climate change is real, and that human activity contributes significantly to it. Most support policies to address climate change. However, there are powerful fossil fuel interests that are actively working to stall action and climate change ranks near the bottom of most people's priorities, far below the economy and jobs. The public is opposed to any agreement that does not require commitments by developing nations, particularly China and other rapidly developing countries.

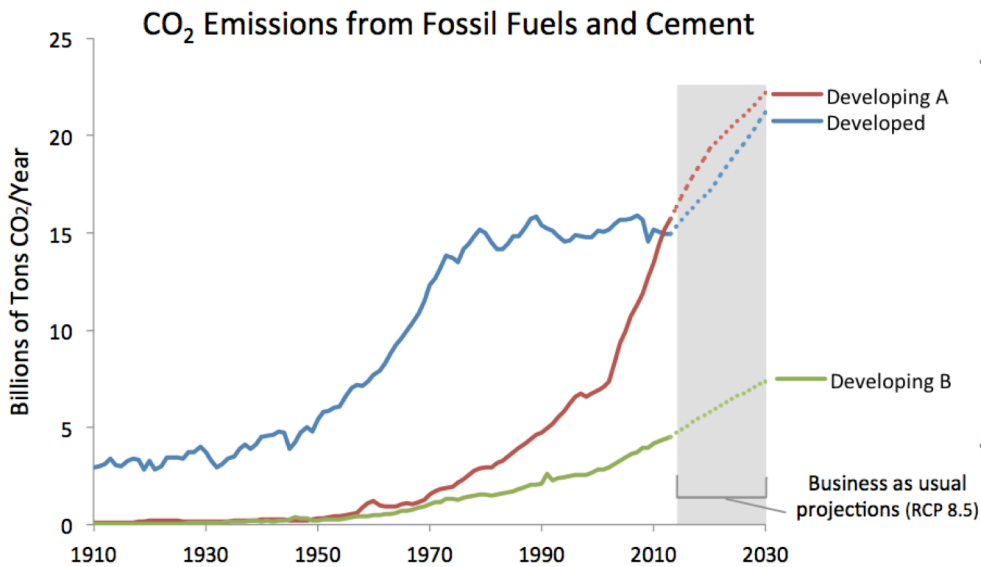
National action: The EU and many other developed nations have made significant commitments to reduce their emissions, but they have often done this while continuing to expand fossil fuel use. Canada is developing its tar sands, one of the most carbon-intensive fossil fuels, and it withdrew from the last major climate agreement, the Kyoto Protocol. Meanwhile, Australia, with large coal reserves, recently repealed its former carbon emissions tax. Russia and other former Soviet Republics are heavily dependent on fossil fuels as a source of revenue for their governments.

Opportunities: Fortunately, reducing emissions from fossil fuels has many health benefits for our populations and, with renewable energy becoming more affordable, it could be a tool for job creation.

Global Landscape:

- China is now emitting over 25% of global CO₂ emissions, more than the US, Mexico, and Canada combined, and has become the second largest economy. Emissions in India and other developing nations are also growing rapidly. Worse, the economies and emissions of the developing nations have recently been growing far faster than the rates assumed in the recent scenarios that climate scientists and other experts have developed.
- The developing nations may argue that they only need to limit their carbon emissions through reductions in emissions from deforestation and land degradation (REDD). While deforestation is a serious problem, we believe this is a ploy to allow them to keep burning fossil fuels while arguing that we must carry the burden of cutting fossil fuel consumption. It is difficult to monitor compliance with programs to cut deforestation, and afforestation programs are only temporary as the wood products grown are eventually cut or decay.

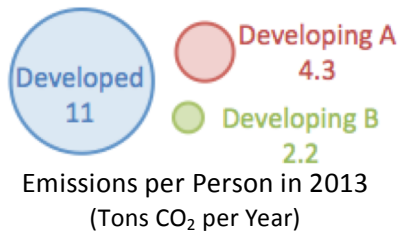
On the reverse of this page you will find some data that may be helpful in your negotiations. Good luck!



Developing A, including China, is now the world's largest emitter of CO₂. Without action, total CO₂ emissions from fossil fuels are projected to more than triple among the developing countries by 2100.

The share of global emissions from the developed nations is projected to fall from 43% in 2013 to 37% by 2100.

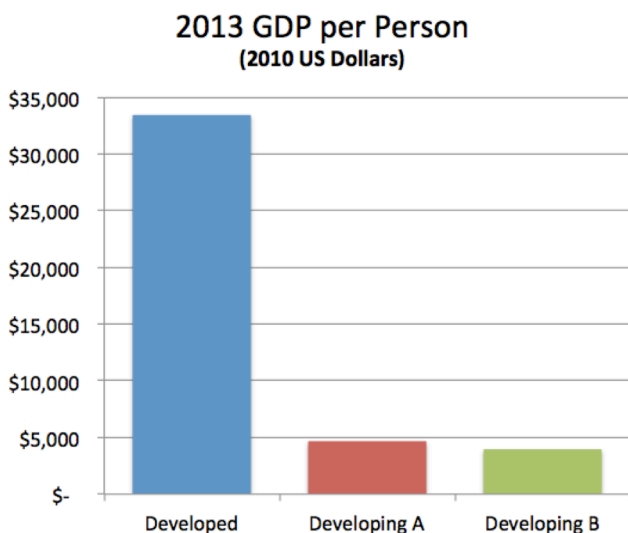
Carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions, primarily from fossil fuels, for each region from 1910 to 2013 (solid lines), as well as projected emissions through 2030 under a business as usual scenario (dotted lines).



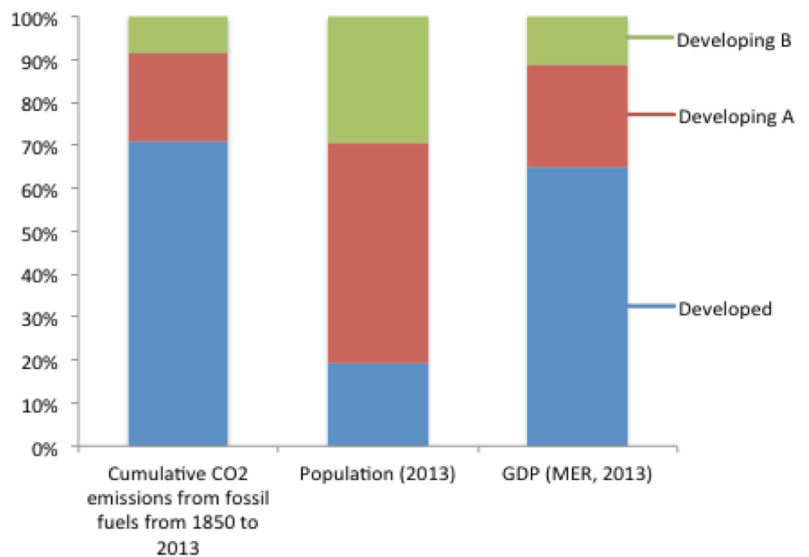
Sweden sustained annual emissions reductions of 4.5% to reduce their dependence on oil (1976-1986). France and Belgium saw similar reductions around this time. Otherwise, most significant historical emission reductions have come from financial or political crises. According to UNEP, a 3.5% annual reduction rate is extremely ambitious.

Since 1980, emissions per person have risen dramatically in China and India (by 391% and 285%, respectively) but have fallen in the US and Europe (by 20% and 26%, respectively).

While cumulative emissions so far have been higher in the developed countries (i.e., the US, EU, and other developed countries), the growth of population, GDP, and emissions in the developing nations far outpaces growth in developed countries.



Wealth (GDP per person in 2013) distributed across the regions.



The distribution of global population, GDP (both in 2013) and total cumulative emissions from 1850 to 2013 across the regions.