## CONFIDENTIAL: DEVELOPING A COUNTRIES

**TO:** Negotiators of **Developing A Nations** at United Nations World Climate Summit

**SUBJECT:** Briefing on negotiating goals

You lead the rapidly developing economies of the world at the upcoming negotiations on climate change (China, India, South Africa, Mexico, Brazil, Indonesia).



**Goals:** The Developing A 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. Whether to make a commitment to reduce deforestation or to increase reforestation or afforestation.
- 3. How much funding to demand from the developed nations, who have pledged to create a fund totaling \$100 billion/year by 2020 to support emissions reductions and climate change adaptation in developing countries.

**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. We understand the importance of addressing climate change, but our top priority is to raise the average standard of living, which is far less than that in the developed nations. Our economies are growing fast and we're becoming more powerful.

**Public Opinion**: Public opinion about climate change in our countries is mixed, with climate change ranking very low as a concern in China, but much higher in India, Brazil, and elsewhere. Generally, however, the public in our countries generally believes climate change is real and that human activity contributes significantly to it.

**National Action:** We are finding ways to make some contributions to addressing climate change. China is exploring carbon markets and recently announced a goal of peaking emissions by around 2030. Meanwhile, Mexico has also made a commitment to reduce emissions by 25% below their baseline emissions in 2030. Other countries are developing plans, but there are many competing priorities and we don't always see eye to eye.

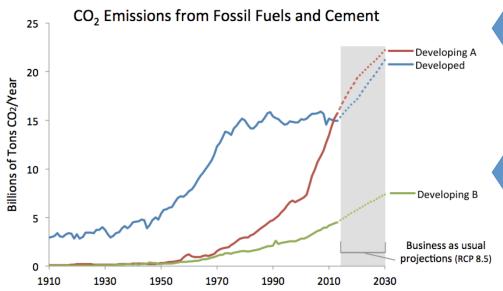
**Opportunities**: A shift away from fossil fuels and towards clean energy would improve air quality, which in some regions, is affecting the public health and even creating political unrest. Our rapid economic growth may enable us to build clean energy infrastructure and leverage clean energy business opportunities.

## **Global Landscape:**

- The developed nations fear that our economic development and growth will make climate and environmental problems worse and threaten their prosperity. Expect them to use a climate agreement to slow our growth, limit markets for our products, and constrain our growing economic, diplomatic, and military influence around the world.
- The developed nations created the climate crisis and must take responsibility for their past actions. They used cheap fossil fuel energy to build their economies and enrich their populations, often by exploiting our people and natural resources. They will demand that we cut our emissions before we have had the chance to reach the level of economic development they now enjoy. We will do our share, but the rich nations must agree to stronger action, commensurate with their past contribution to the problem, and they must provide the financing and technology we need to develop our economies with cleaner energy.. We cannot, and will not, pay the price for their past emissions.
- Point out that climate change will hurt developed nations, so they should see it in their self-interest to do
  more. For example, the US National Climate Assessment shows that climate change is harming all 50 states
  today and, without large emissions reductions, the damage will become far more severe.

**Forests and land use:** We have an opportunity to make reductions in emissions from deforestation and land degradation (REDD). Most of the world's remaining tropical forests are in developing countries, where, unfortunately, there is substantial deforestation occurring. Programs to protect forests can reduce global emissions.

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



Carbon dioxide  $(CO_2)$  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).

CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per capita in the US, EU, and other developed countries are far higher than emissions in the developing countries.

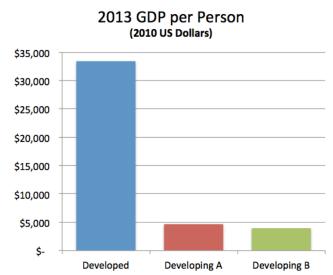
Approximately threequarters of the total CO<sub>2</sub> released by burning fossil fuels since the start of the industrial revolution came from the developed nations.

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 a UNEP report, a 3.5% annual reduction rate is extremely ambitious.



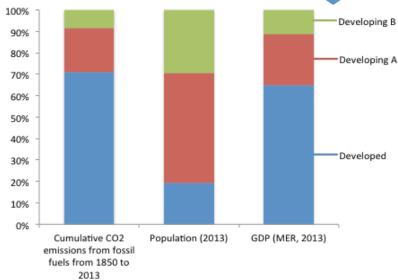
Emissions per Person in 2013 (Tons CO<sub>2</sub> per Year)

GDP per person in the developed countries is more than seven times higher than in developing countries.



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

China, India, and other developing countries are home to 81% of the world's population, but only 35% of the world's wealth and 29% of the world's cumulative emissions.



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