



Dear Minister,

In advance of the October 29-30 European Council meeting, Climate Action Network (CAN)-Europe would like to stress the critical nature of this occasion and urge European Heads of State to strengthen the EU's position in the negotiations towards a global climate agreement in Copenhagen.

The Copenhagen agreement must solidify a new round of commitments for industrialised countries to reduce their green house gas emissions, as well as bringing on board developing countries to make nationally appropriate contributions conditional on the provision of adequate, sustainable and predictable finance from developed countries. Without ambitious and upfront commitments from industrialised countries, the negotiations will continue in stalemate and our chances to prevent dangerous global climate change will be seriously compromised, if not lost altogether. In this sensitive negotiating context, European NGOs are asking the EU to publicly endorse its dual obligation to an ambitious emissions reductions target and a substantial financial commitment to support mitigation and adaptation in developing countries.

The latest science suggests that a reduction in greenhouse gases by at least 40% below 1990 levels by 2020 is the *minimum* required to keep global warming well below the dangerous 2°C level. In light of recent evidence showing that the earth is warming at an even faster pace than previously predicted, we find the current EU emissions reduction targets to be inadequate and not in keeping with the EU's own 2°C target.

European NGOs are asking that the EU commit to an emissions reduction target of more than 40% below 1990 levels by 2020, in line with the most recent science. Moreover, well in excess of 30% of these emissions reductions need to be achieved domestically and several CAN-E member organisations demand that 40% cuts are achieved entirely domestically without offsetting.

European NGOs also ask that the EU commit to at least 35 billion euro per year in new and additional public financing by 2020 as Europe's fair share of total international financing. This financing must be additional to the commitments already made by European Heads of State and Government at the June 2005 European Council. This figure represents is about one third of the 110 billion euro per year by 2020 in total international funding we estimate, based on the European Commission's modelling, is needed to support such activities globally, and is calculated based on Europe's quantified share of historic emissions and financial capacity. The EU's current financing proposal falls far too short of this obligation.

Climate Action Network Europe (CAN-E) is recognised as Europe's leading network working on climate and energy issues. With over 140 members in 25 European countries, CAN-E unites to work to prevent dangerous climate change and promote fair and sustainable energy and environment policy in Europe. The Climate Action Network (CAN) is a worldwide network of over 365 Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) working to promote government, private sector and individual action to limit human-induced climate change to sustainable levels.

This dual commitment by industrialised countries is the only path available to establishing the necessary trust between developing and industrialised countries, which will be needed to conclude a deal in Copenhagen.

Dear Minister, this all is in your hands. Because the EU has positioned itself in a role of leadership in the climate negotiations, the level of ambition displayed by the EU in the coming weeks will have a massive impact on the outcome in Copenhagen and the survival of humankind over the long term. With your help, the EU can break the current negotiations deadlock and by doing so establish the foundations for an environmentally sustainable, equitable and economically sound future.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matthias Duwe', written in a cursive style.

Matthias Duwe

Director, CAN-Europe