



Dear Minister,

In advance of the October 21st Environment Council meeting, Climate Action Network (CAN)-Europe would like to stress the critical nature of this occasion and urge Environment Ministers 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 make in reducing their green house gas emissions, as well as bringing on board developing countries to make nationally appropriate contributions. Without ambitious and upfront commitments from industrialised countries, the negotiations will continue in stalemate, and our chances of preventing dangerous global climate change will be seriously compromised, if not lost altogether.

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.

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 the EU could reap health savings of up to 25 billion euros every year. Several CAN-E member organisations demand that 40% cuts be achieved entirely domestically without offsetting. All mitigation efforts, especially those that involve forests, must also promote the broader goals of sustainable development and meet the highest standards of environmental integrity.

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 funding will be needed to support mitigation, adaptation, capacity building and technology co-operation in developing countries. This financing must be new and additional to existing commitments to reach 0.7% of Gross National Income as Official Development Assistance. The predictable and timely delivery of these resources must also be ensured through appropriate legally binding mechanisms agreed under the UNFCCC.

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.

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.

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, Climate Action Network