

22 November 2007

The Danish preparations for the COP 15 in 2009 in brief

This is a brief abstract of the 92-group plans in English – not having time for adoption in the 92-group before the Ljubljana meeting. Søren Dyck-Madsen

The 92 group

The Danish 92 group is the forum for the Danish ngo work up to and during the COP15. The Danish 92 Group is a coalition of 20 Danish NGO's working on issues related to environment and development. The Danish 92 Group was established in 1991 with the mandate of co-ordinating the Danish NGOs' preparations of United Nation's Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in Rio de Janeiro, 1992.

The cooperation has continued since then and today the Danish 92 Group is working on the follow-up of the World Summit on Sustainable Development that took place in Johannesburg August/September 2002 and is the core of the COP15 preparations in Denmark. The member organisations also co-operate on related issues at the domestic as well as the international level. Activities cover, among others, the co-ordination of activities, joint actions on advocacy, lobbying and information activities, etc.

The 92-group has formed a Task Force on COP15 to be able to focus on the issue from now until the end of 2009, and to make it possible for other Danish ngo's not being members of the 92-group to participate. The Task Force has outlined four tracks of activity:

Four tracks of activities for the COP15:

- The Policy and Negotiation track
- The Public Involvement track
- The Capacity and involvement of developing countries track
- The secretariat track

The three first tracks have to be coordinated and will influence each other. E.g. will the capacity building and involvement of developing countries influence the policy making in track 1. The fourth track will be broader and of course be working with all first three tracks.

Planned activities

The 92-group has since its start been involved in climate negotiations. And has had quite a big influence in the participating Danish organisations as well as the Danish domestic and the international politics on climate issues.



This involvement is heavily increased since the Danish presidency for the COP 15 has been decided. The 92-group participated in Bonn in SB26 with 4 representatives and was in Vienna with one person.

For the Bali COP13 we will be present with 7 representatives. Both for involving in the negotiations, the different CAN-WG and for just the personal training in the "COP-language" just to be more fit for the COP15.

The 92-group activities incl. one full time staff and one "helper" and money for participation in international events has until now been financed by one third from the ngo-members, form the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The budget for the 92-group has until now been limited, and do not allow us to participate as much as we believe is needed for the preparation of COP15.

Therefore we have asked for more funding to extend the staff in the secretariat and for financing more actively involvement in the climate process and the increased participation in the coming numerous events.

Activities to prepare the COP and to increase public participation

Without information to and active participation of the civil society the world will not be able to target the threatening climate crisis. The 92-group is therefore at the moment working with the following ideas:

- A conference (domestic and/or international) in the beginning of 2008 to discuss the outcome of the Bali summit and the resulting effect for the Danish and International climate policy up till 2009.
- A domestic Danish conference in the early 2009 to discuss and evaluate the outcome of the Poznan/Polish COP14, and to discuss what impact this has for the Danish policy and for the preparation of the COP15.
- An international conference spring 2009 with participation of the international ngo's to coordinate the ngo-preparation of COP15. The previous experience has shown the importance of having the international ngo's to meet to develop and coordinate positions and strategy for the COP.
- An international civil society conference in connection with the COP15, where an unknown amount of people would announce their arrival in Copenhagen. If a major event is going to take place this will take a lot of manpower.

Thematic meetings

The idea is to organise several meetings in Denmark which could discuss different topics of interest, such as:

- The connection between climate change and poverty.
- Which financial or other mechanism can be used for technological transfer?
- How to evolve some kind of mechanism to decrease deforestation I developing countries?
- And many other ideas which is only at the brainstorm level at the moment



By offering to host such conferences the 92-group could play a "bridging the gap" role to bring together stakeholder to discuss the complicated issues.

To be able to carry through such an intensive number of activities the 92-group finds it fundamentally important that the Danish government will increase funding to the 92-group before and under the COP15.

Strengthening of the capacity in developing countries to involve in the international climate debate

The 92-group seeks to be able to strengthen the capacity of the developing countries so that they will be more able to participate in the climate debate. They feel the results of climate change worst, and their voices have to be heard louder and clearer.

The 92 group is therefore outlining a project that would focus on strategic important developing countries in order to make it possible for these stakeholders to play a louder and more climate progressive role in the negotiations.

This could be done by:

- Capacity building in the South amongst ngo's and ngo-networks.
- To support the ngo's in analysing and positioning in the climate debate
- The establishment of an international ngo-network that works especially with the climate agenda.
- Lobby in cooperation the governments in developing countries
- Making it possible for ngo representatives from these countries to participate in relevant COP meeting and conferences and thematic meeting in Track 2.

Strengthening the cooperation within the ngo's of the COP's

For the first time ever it is possible to establish a real cooperation between the ngo's from the different COP hosting countries. Therefore the ngo group intends to strengthen the cooperation especially with the Polish ngo's in order to be able to keep close contact in the two years coming both on policy and logistic issues.

And the 92-group intends to "be on the spot" as much as possible to network, cooperate and develop policy etc, in order to create the best possible possibilities for the COP15 negotiations and to facilitate cooperation between the international ngo's, the Danish COP presidency and the Swedish EU presidency.

And the 92-group intends to network more with the European ngo's – especially with the ECE ngo's in order to have their voices more progressive inside the EU.

Coordination with Danish Ministries, Politicians and other Authorities

The 92-group already meets regularly with people from the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to discuss and plan, as well with the organisation of Danish Industries etc.



The 92-group intends to establish some kind of coordination group or contact group to broaden and formalise this regular contact with all Danish stakeholders – especially the relevant ministries and the core negotiators in the Danish delegation.

Of course a special homepage for the COP15 issues will be established.

Danish ngo's in Bali:

Troels Dam Christensen – 92 group coordinator – tdc@dn.dk

Special tasks: Follows the Danish delegation incl. parlamentarians, works with ngo coordination in the scope of 2009, works with the post 2012 group, and taking care of the Danish Press

John Nordbo, WWF, j.nordbo@wwf.dk

Works in the WWF group, leads the CAN Technology Transfer and Finance group, takes care of the Press

Søren Dyck-Madsen, The Danish Ecological Council – soeren@ecocouncil.dk

Follows the Danish delegation and all the other Danish representatives incl. BINGO's and Press, participates in the Tech trans – Finance CAN WG, and works with ngo-coordination for the 2009 meeting

Rebecca Ettlinger, Nepenthes (forests) - beccylines@gmail.com

REDD and forests are main priorities within the Danish delegation and CAN and especially South ngo's. Works with the Danish newsletter and the Danish Press about REDD.

Morten Fauerby Thomsen, CARE Denmark - mthomsen@care.dk

Works with adaptation, and with forests REDD. Works with the Danish delegation and the CARE-delegation. Works with the newsletter

Bjarke Kronborg, Nature and Youth organisation - palinbak@yahoo.dk

Works with Youth ngo's especially in connection with Sustain-US. Works with ngo-coordination for 2009 especially the youth side, and plans for the youth summit December 1.st

Christian Friis Bach, DanChurchAid - cfb@dca.dk

Works with other Christian aid groups – and more to be decided