EU Centre in Singapore

A partnership of

GO TO...

GO TO...

RESEARCH & PUBLICATIONS

- Conference Reports
- Working Papers
- Policy Briefs
- Background Briefs
- Books
- Research Projects
- Calls
- Resource packages
- Analysis
- Articles in Journals / Books
- Research Grants / Awards
- Conference Reports
- Working Papers
- Policy Briefs
- Background Briefs
- Books
- Research Projects
- Calls
- Resource packages
- Analysis
  - Can the EU be a serious security actor in Asia?
  - Power, Interest and Norms: Competing Visions of EU-Asia Partnership
  - Euro zone out of recession
  - EU Leaders push for successful outcome in Copenhagen
  - EU-China Summit
  - New European Commission designates chosen
  - EU leaders disappointed with Copenhagen Accord
  - Difficult Challenges Ahead as Baroness Ashton Passes Parliament Hearing

Greek Debt Crisis – A Test for the Eurozone and EU's Economic Recovery
EU's Climate Policy after Copenhagen
EU's fragile recovery and the euro zone crisis
Interview with Mr Alain Ruche, Deputy Head of Unit, Asia Directorate, External Relations DG, Europea
Help on Horizon for Greece as Europe's Leaders Approve Massive Aid Package
The Eurozone Crisis: the fire is out, what next?
The European External Action Service: Getting it right?
Where does the EU-ASEAN relationship stand, as the Foreign Ministers meet in Madrid?
An era of austerity looming over the EU
The EU on track with its climate change pledges, as the UNFCCC talks end in Bonn
The EU to push for a global bank levy, to consider financial transaction tax
It Is Time for Fiscal Consolidation, Says the G20
Belgium takes over the Presidency of the Council of the EU
The External Action Service Gets the Green Light
EU Economy: Not Out of the Woods Yet?
Immigration and Integration Blues in the EU
Crisis and Change – The EU Set to Revise the Lisbon Treaty
The Global Rebalancing Game
The EU and the IMF to Help Ireland
EU Leaders Agree to Create a Permanent Crisis Mechanism
Japanese disaster forces EU countries to rethink nuclear plans
New Trade Commissioner – Priorities & Challenges
Articles in Journals / Books
Research Grants / Awards

TAGS

Europe | Events | Interns

ANALYSIS

EU leaders disappointed with Copenhagen Accord

23 December 2009

The European Union (EU) leaders have expressed their disappointment with the Copenhagen Accord, a five-page-long document which, after an extremely bitter debate, was not adopted, but merely "noted" by the delegates. "It will not solve the climate threat," said Fredrik Reinfeldt, Sweden's prime minister representing the Presidency of the EU. José Manuel Barroso, President of the European Commission, said that the outcome is "clearly below our ambitions."

The text states that "deep cuts in global emissions are required" and that countries will take action to limit the increase in global temperature below 2°Celsius from pre-industrial levels. However, it lacks any mid-term greenhouse emissions reduction targets for 2020, and even a previous long-term target of cutting the emissions by 80% by 2050 was abandoned. The EU, on its part, has committed to cut its emissions by 20% from 1990 levels by 2020, but it did not raise the target from 20% to 30% as previously offered, saying that the reduction targets of other countries were not sufficiently ambitious. Nevertheless, Mr Barroso insisted that "this is not the final say" and such a move was not ruled out at some point in the future.

The accord states that developed countries will provide new and additional funding for the Copenhagen Green Climate Fund, "approaching" US$30bn from 2010 to 2012. For long-term finance, developed countries agreed to support a commitment of jointly mobilizing $100 billion a year by 2020 to address the needs of developing

countries.

Reporting on the Copenhagen summit, the European press laments the modest role of the EU in the final negotiations, despite its leadership ambitions. The Copenhagen Agreement in fact was negotiated and drafted by the United States, China, Brazil, India and South Africa, without the participation of most of the world's countries. The EU was practically ignored in this process. As it was described by Mr Reinfeldt: "We had very tough negotiations two and a half hours after I read on my mobile telephone that we were already done."

Countries are supposed to submit their emission reduction plans for 2020 to the United Nations and the next UN Climate Conference set to be held Mexico City next November/December. However, the implementation of the Copenhagen Accord will be reviewed only by 2015.

Sources and links to further information:

Official documents

- **Copenhagen Accord, UNFCCC, 18 Dec 2009**
- **Statement Of President Barroso To The Plenary Of The Copenhagen Conference, 18 Dec 2009**

News

- **"Copenhagen Failure "Disappointing", "Shameful"," EUobserver, 20 Dec 2009**
- **"EU Looks Beyond 'Weak' Copenhagen Climate Deal," EurActiv, 19 Dec 2009**

Research papers, policy briefs

- **"Road To Copenhagen 2009," EU Centre Background Brief**

SHARE THIS ARTICLE

Comments are closed.

JEAN MONNET NETWORK

Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

GET IN TOUCH

European Union Centre in Singapore
11 Slim Barracks Rise
(off North Buona Vista Road),
#06-01 Executive Centre (NTU@one-north), Singapore 138664

Contact: +65 6513 2006

Admin Login

© Copyright 2015 EU Centre. All Rights Reserved. | Sitemap

To Top ↑