Labour’s climate alliances with communities and environmentalists

What could happen at COP17?

Patrick Bond
University of KwaZulu-Natal
Centre for Civil Society, Durban

Presented at the
ITF conference at the
COP 17 People’s Space
University of KwaZulu-Natal

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durban’s COP17

‘Conference of Polluters’
28 Nov-9 Dec 2011
International Convention Centre

‘going away party - for the beach’!

December 3 march route: Botha statue to beach

last time SA hosted global environment conference: WSSD

World Summit on Sustainable Development
Johannesburg, 31 August 2002: 30,000 protested
UN ‘type-two partnerships’, privatisation of
water, emissions trading, neoliberalism

World’s biggest polluter

Copenhagen Accord, COP 15, December 2009

“A Timetable to Reduce Emissions?!
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A Gift from the Corporate World?

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A Gift from the Corporate World?
lead US climate negotiator Todd Stern, on demand for recognising climate debt

The sense of guilt or culpability or reparations – I just categorically reject that

world’s biggest polluter:
US Consulate next to City Hall is site of regular protests by Durban activists

Green Climate Fund – $100bn/year by 2020 (promised), co-chaired by SA’s Trevor Manuel

• $100 billion isn’t enough!
• direct access? ‘Basic Income Grants’ preferable to corrupt ‘aid’ (Manuel opposed)
• False Solutions to be funded
• Manuel wants carbon trade to provide 50% of GCF revenue
• World Bank is interim GCF trustee despite terrible record of managing climate and development funding

Should the World Bank be lead climate financier?

- fossil fuel loans: 26.3 billion in 2009-10, up from 16.6 billion in 2006-07
- commodity export dogma
- resource curse financing
- carbon trading promotion
- Robert Zoellick qualifications:
  - WB prez after Wolfowitz was fired
  - Goldman Sachs partner (1997-2005)
  - US Trade Rep (2001-5)
  - US Trade Rep (1995-8)

Worrying political appointee, 1999

Ethiopian AU leader Meles Zenawi

UN Advisory Group on Finance chair halved AU’s 2009 demands for climate debt

Maldives cabinet gets $50m in US aid – U-turn, to support Copenhagen

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WikiLeaks revealed (Feb ‘10) Stern/Pershing bribery and bullying: Ethiopia, Maldives

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Robert Zoellick World Bank president

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ideas to culture-jam the Conference of Polluters

Robert Zoellick

Working together. Saving our beloved beaches and the world’s ocean.

Leaves the oil in the sea, the coal in the hole, and tar said in the land.

Then came March 2007 storm

extreme beachfront damage

not just the rich living hedonistically on the beachfront

also poor and working people – especially shackdwellers

Durban climate consciousness-raising #1: our beloved beaches are threatened!

Saving Tomorrow Today

warming together

then came March 2007 storm

also poor and working people – especially shackdwellers

official logo:

COP17/CMP7

united nations

DURBAN, SOUTH AFRICA

revised evidence-based logo:

UN-COP17

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Oops, rogue oil tanker MT Phoenix ran aground north of Durban... 400 tonnes pumped out at huge risk and expense (phew!); unregistered ship towed out to sea for sinking another recent beach threat, from high CO2 ship industry (Africa's biggest port? Durban)

SA offers world's cheapest electricity to metals smelters - phase-out needed!

Eskom brags in 2009 annual report, though reason for R9.7bn 2009-10 losses

BHP Billiton & SA crony capitalism

Derek Keys, last apartheid finance minister & first SA finance minister - allowed Gencor to externalise billions to buy Shell Billiton, then became its CEO

Zanzor Mhlongo, former SA National Electricity Regulator, now BHP Billiton Southern Africa Chief Executive Officer

Derek Cooper, ill-fated Standard Bank chairperson, recommended BHP Billiton smelter switchoff

Xolani Mkhwanazi, former SA National Electricity Regulator, now BHP Billiton Southern Africa Chief Executive Officer

Marius Kloppers, BHP Billiton CEO (Melbourne)

No DIRTY loan to Eskom

Richards Bay reader

Mick Davis, former Eskom Treasurer who offered sweetheart power deals, was Eskom CEO, went to BHP Billiton (now health, Xstrata)

Derek Cooper, ill-fated Standard Bank chairperson, recommended BHP Billiton smelter switchoff

Vincent Magós, former radical political scientist and HSRC researcher who went to SAB breweries, public relations and then became chair of BHP Billiton, attended 29 February 2008 meeting

Zav Rustomjee, former DTI D.G. later a top BHP Billiton consultant

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upsurge of community protest against electricity disconnections, price increases, World Bank loan.

1/3 of Eskom’s four million customers have ‘zero’ consumption – most disconnected. Their defense includes illegal reconnection.

We are being deceived.

vital need for SA’s ‘Million Climate Jobs’ campaign, so that affected workers have a Just Transition: guaranteed, well-paid jobs that help society and save the planet!

http://www.climatejobs.org.za
**what is ‘climate justice’?**

Core principles from Rights of Mother Earth conference, Cochabamba, Bolivia (April 2010)

- 50 percent reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 2017
- Stabilising temperature rises to 1°C and 300 Parts Per Million

- Acknowledging the **climate debt** owed by developed countries (6% of GDP)
- Full respect for human rights and the inherent rights of indigenous peoples
- Universal declaration of Mother Earth rights to ensure harmony with nature
- Establishment of an International Court of Climate Justice

- Rejection of carbon markets, and REDD’s commodified nature and forests
- Promotion of change in consumption patterns of developed countries
- End of intellectual property rights for climate technologies

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**Always this danger:**

**Hopes for the World Summit**

- To save the environment?
- To uplift the poor?
- To keep exploiting the environment AND the poor while they fight it out?

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**University of KwaZulu-Natal (Howard College campus)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TB Davis Building</th>
<th>Shepstone Building</th>
<th>University of KwaZulu-Natal (Howard College campus)</th>
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**International Convention Centre**

- HILTON HOTEL
- ICC Atrium
- ICC
- ICCD
- Beachfront Hotels