COP 17 update

Will we have climate justice?

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presented to

Palmesalen, ABF Stockholm
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cartoons by Zapiro & others

Durban’s COP 17
‘Conference of Polluters’
28 Nov-9 Dec 2011
International Convention Centre

Durban’s Conference of Polluters (COP17)
what will happen from 28 Nov until 9 Dec?

UNFCCC negotiations
potential Green Pavilion with Africa Pavilion and ‘civilised society’ space
C17 civil society unity for Durban Univ of Technology
‘People’s Space’

‘going away party - for the beach’!

December 3 march route: Curries Fountain to beach
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

• Jacob Zuma (SA)
• Lula da Silva (Brazil)
• Barack Obama (USA)
• Wen Jiabao (China)
• Manmohan Singh (India)

“they broke the UN!”
(Bill McKibbon, 350.org)

non-binding!
4 degree increase!

we remember Durban,
September 2011

Looks like the debate is really heated in there...!

Here then is the revised agenda for the U.N. conference on racism...

and we can't!
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

is Stern welcome in Durban?

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

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

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

we reject Washington’s filthy climate & oil politics

at the USA’s Durban Consulate – 303 Pixley Kaseme St (West St) – join a peaceful sidewalk picket: Friday, 9 September, 4-5pm

• The Obama Administration is waging oil/gas wars in the Middle East, Central Asia and North Africa;
• Washington promotes deep-sea oil drilling in spite of BP’s Gulf spill, dangerous gas fracking and nuclear energy;
• Washington refuses to make serious emissions cuts – offering just 3% below 1990 levels – leaving Africa to fry;
• In multilateral climate talks, at the Copenhagen 2009 COP15 Washington “blew up the UN” (says Bill McKibben, 350.org), and at Cancun’s COP16 promoted carbon trading and pushed the World Bank to run climate finance;
• WikiLeaks disclosures of cables prove the US State Department resorts to bribery and bullying to get its way;
• For Durban’s December 2011 COP17, lead State Dep’s negotiator Todd Stern refuses to endorse Kyoto Protocol binding emissions cuts and allow a new post-2012 commitment round;
• Durban will be known as the place Kyoto – and prospects for a stable climate – died, thanks to these yanks;
• Stern has already sworn there will be no overall climate deal in Durban, he also ranged on Hillary Clinton’s Copenhagen promise of a $100 billion Green Climate Fund, he rejects the very idea of paying the US climate debt to Africa, and so he is passing the buck to for-profit financial markets; and
• 1250 US citizens and Canadians were arrested at the White House in August opposing import of Tar Sands oil.

This launches a new stage of our struggle: Satyagraha civil disobedience... Join us!

issued by Climate Justice activists at SDCEA, CCS and groundWork, and individuals/groups associated with Climate Justice Now! (082 982 6590, 081 425 1499)
Africa’s biggest polluter: can SA be trusted to chair the COP?

- September 2011 - refuses to put handbag through Oslo airport x-ray, and instead flies to Bulgaria on $30,000 private executive jet
- October 2011 - denies visa to Dalai Lama for Archbishop Desmond Tutu’s 80th birthday

SA ‘mitigation’? No, carbon-intensive ‘development’
- Medupi and Kusile R240bn coal-fired power plants
- Coega’s PetroSA R80bn refinery and new smelter
SA Climate Green Paper passes the buck:
“Most of our climate adaptation and much of the mitigation efforts will take place at provincial and municipal levels.”

CASE OF DURBAN:
- port widening and new dug-out harbour at old airport site;
- competing Dube trade port next to new King Shaka Airport;
- new long-distance air routes and reliance on sports tourism;
- hope to host 2024 Olympics in White Elephant stadium;
- expansion of South Durban’s hated petrochemical complex;
- massive expansion of Joburg oil pipeline, with doubling of refinery capacity - and of risk of explosions - as cost of pipeline soared from R8 to R21b

CASE OF DURBAN:
Are we on track for a ‘Low Carbon City’? … or is this just a case of extreme greenwashing?
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

What we fear from World Bank-run Green Climate Fund

- Revenue from carbon markets
- False solution financing

What we need!

- Transformative spending
- Basic Income Grant

Robert Zoellick qualifications:
- WB prez after Wolfowitz was fired
- Goldman Sachs int’l banker, 2006-7
- US State Dept #2, 2005-6
- US Trade Rep to WTO, 2001-5
- Bush Jr’s Florida vote-counter, 2000
- Enron ‘senior political advisor’, 1999
- neocon Project for a New American Century founder, 1998 (‘invade Iraq’)
- Fannie Mae #2, 1993-98
- Presidential deputy chief of staff to George Bush Sr, 1992
- US Treasury: Deputy Assistant Secretary during S&L crash, 1980s
we desperately need climate consciousness

Is climate change a “serious problem”? Global Scan polls citizenries: percentage answering ‘Yes’ (2003, 2006)

then came March 2007 storm

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

extreme beachfront damage

not just the rich living hedonistically on the beachfront

also poor and working people – especially shackdwellers

big challenge: a society kept ignorant of a profound threat
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

The survey is based on prices as at 1 June 2009 for the supply of 1,000kWh for a site with a monthly usage of 300,000 kWh. All prices are in U.S. cents per kilowatt hour and exclude VAT, where there is more than one tariff supplier, an unweighted average of available prices was used. Where available in each country and widely used by the consuming public, deregulated or liberalised contract pricing was used in this survey.

Pretoria-Washington attack on climate: $3.75 bn loan from the World Bank to mainly finance Eskom’s coal-fired Medupi power plant... why is it so wrong?

Source: groundWork & Earthlife Africa

Ten reasons to reject Medupi
- climate destruction
- local ecologies, health
- procedural problems in World Bank process
- poor people pay excessive prices
- multinational corps. get ultra-cheap power
- profit outflow to multinationals
- increased foreign debt
- privatisation
- ANC corruption

World Bank’s apartheid history

Eskom’s Medupi: world’s fourth-largest coal-fired plant, to emit 25-35 mn CO2-equiv. tonnes/year (more than 115 countries)

25%/year price rise; 127% real increase for 2008-12; electricity disconnections, ubiquitous ‘service delivery protests’ and threatened national labour strike
upsurge of community protest against electricity disconnections, price increases, World Bank loan

- If South Africa increases Free Basic Electricity from 50 kWh to 200 kWh per month for the 4 million Eskom customers we would only need 17.5% of Medupi’s capacity

- If large energy users pay a levy of 1.5 cents the FBE provision will be funded. We do not need a World Bank loan to undertake this.

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
South Durban’s emissions hot spots

freight traffic (often illegal)

container terminals

hazardous petro-chemical plants

Mondi paper mill

Engen: 80% Petronas (Malaysia)

Sapref: BP/Shell

Africa’s largest oil refining complex

new port: $30 billion plan!

single buoy mooring: 80% of SA’s intake

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fires, explosions in South Durban

SDCEA demands refinery closure

21 September 2007, Island View Storage (IVS) facility, tank explosion

18 September 2007, explosion at the IVS facility.

18 January 2005, explosion at Engen Refinery

25 October 2008, flaring, regular occurrence at SAPREF and Engen

Source: South Durban Community Environmental Alliance

Now KZN faces threat of fracking

The gas赶大和能源联盟的钾盐区,位于KwaZulu-Natal,正在采取行动阻止计划在该地区进行的水力压裂作业,以保护当地的环境和公共健康。该组织的发言人表示,水力压裂可能导致污染、水供不足和对原住民社区的潜在健康风险。该联盟呼吁地方政府和监管机构采取行动,以确保任何水力压裂作业都符合最高标准,并保护该地区的环境。
KZN-Mpumalanga fossil fuels complex

Durban, South Africa: $15 million CDM pilot convertion of methane-to-electricity at environmentally-racist toxic dump

Africa's largest landfill placed in black residential suburb (Clare Estate) by apartheid; municipality refused to close it thanks to World Bank 2002 investment hype: WB Prototype Carbon Fund emissions reductions credits

Burmese firm gets SA exploration right

CRAIG MCKUNE - Oct 07 2011

South Africa has handed an offshore petroleum exploration right to a company reportedly tied to the military junta that has ruled Burma brutally for nearly half a century.

The company, Silver Wave Energy, is pursuing other mineral concessions in South Africa, including access to petroleum deposits off the south coast and diamond and gold reserves.

An opposing bid for the same concession was rejected during the same month that President Jacob Zuma received gifts, perks and a visit from Burma's ambassador to South Africa, at the time, Tin Oo Lwin.

Mail & Guardian

Bisasar Road conversion of methane-to-electricity at environmentally-racist toxic dump

Durban consciousness-raising #4: carbon trading comes to Durban

Sajida Khan's family home

project went ahead in 2008-09 and currently CDM is paid just €14/tonne

introducing:
Durban Group for Climate Justice

- October 2004 initiative hosted by Khan, Timberwatch, SDCEA
- supported by Dag Hammarskjold Foundation
- driven by grassroots activists in India, Brazil, Thailand, South Africa, etc
- largest signatory: Friends of the Earth International
- key sites: The Cornerhouse, FERN, SEEN, CarbonTrade Watch, CDM Watch, Dartmouth Univ Environmental Studies, UKZN Centre for Civil Society

major protests in Durban, 2011

join us: C17 ‘People’s Space’ alternative civil society summit at the Durban University of Technology