

8. Climate Change [162]

Commitment

"We reaffirm our intention to deliver on commitments made in Gleneagles in order to meet our shared ... objectives of reducing greenhouse gas emissions"

*Global Energy Security*³⁰⁴

Background

First introduced in 1997, in recognition of the need for stricter requirements in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) came into force on 16 February 2005. The Protocol established a set of mandatory targets for the reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions for the leading economic powers, which have ratified it. Industrialized countries generate the overwhelming majority of GHG emissions -- combined the G8 countries account for about 65 percent of the world's GDP, and for about 47 percent of the world's CO₂ emissions.³⁰⁵ Accordingly, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russia, and the United Kingdom all signed, and ratified the Kyoto Protocol.³⁰⁶ The United States, however, remains the only G8 member to not ratify the Protocol. Although it initially signed the Protocol, the United States withdrew in 2001, listing fundamental flaws in its "arbitrary" goals.³⁰⁷ Another cited problem with the Protocol is that it exempts emerging industrialized countries, such as China and India -- two of the top five emitters of GHG. Instead of lowering emissions, the United States has concentrated its attention on sustainable energy: it signed onto the Asia-Pacific Partnership on Clean Development and Climate with Japan; a non-legally binding framework, focused on the production and trade of clean energy technologies.³⁰⁸

At the 2005 Gleneagles Summit, G8 leaders acknowledged the problem of global warming, and agreed that those who had ratified the Protocol would work to make it a success. G8 members pledged to advance "the global effort to tackle climate change."³⁰⁹ At St. Petersburg, the G8 reaffirmed its previous commitment to reducing GHG emissions and other pollutants. More generally, the G8 views "improving the global environment, enhancing energy security, and cutting air pollution" as integral to the fight against climate change.

Team Leader: Courtney Hood

³⁰⁴ Global Energy Security, 2006 St. Petersburg Summit, (St. Petersburg), 16 July 2006. Date of Access: 15 November 2006. en.g8russia.ru/docs/11.html.

³⁰⁵ Policy Issues, Background on Climate Change, 2005 Gleneagles Summit, (Gleneagles), June 2005, Date of Access: 25 January 2007. www.g8.gov.uk/servlet/Front?pagename=OpenMarket/Xcelerate/ShowPage&c=Page&cid=1123951048479.

³⁰⁶ United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Kyoto Protocol, 16 February 2005. Date of Access: 15 January 2007. unfccc.int/essential_background/kyoto_protocol/items/2830.php.

³⁰⁷ Fact Sheet: United States Policy on the Kyoto Protocol, United States Embassy, (Vienna) 29 March 2001. Date of Access: 15 January 2007. vienna.usembassy.gov/en/download/pdf/kyoto.pdf.

³⁰⁸ Partner Countries, Asia Pacific Partnership on Clean Development and Climate, (Sydney), October 2006. Date of Access: 15 January 2007. www.asiapacificpartnership.org.

³⁰⁹ Gleneagles Chairman's Summary, 2005 Gleneagles Summit, (Gleneagles), 6-8 July 2005. Date of Access: 5 November 2006. www.number10.gov.uk/output/Page7883.asp.

Assessment

Interim Compliance Score			
	Lack of Compliance	Work in Progress	Full Compliance
Canada	-1		
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy		0	
Japan			+1
Russia		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Overall			+0.56

Canada: -1

Canada registers a score of -1, indicating non-compliance with its St. Petersburg commitment on climate change. While it has announced long-term GHG emissions reduction targets, no plan was implemented by 31 December 2006 to meet those targets and, significantly, Canada has disavowed its commitment to meet Kyoto targets.

Although Canada is a signatory of the Kyoto Protocol, in September 2006 Environment Minister Rona Ambrose announced that Canada would not fulfill its commitment to reduce GHG emissions by 6% from 1990 levels by 2012.³¹⁰ On 10 October 2006 Canada introduced the Clean Air Act as an alternative "Made in Canada" approach based on more "tenable measures" to reduce GHG emissions.³¹¹ The Act pegs Canadian emission targets to economic industrial production, allowing the potential for emissions to increase with outputs.³¹² In defense of its change in policy and perceptions of abandonment of the Kyoto Protocol, Ambrose reaffirmed Canada's commitment to climate change, stating that the new targets "would exceed those proposed by the previous government and will produce real environmental progress here in Canada."³¹³ On 19 October 2006, Canada announced that it would strive to achieve "an absolute reduction" of 45 to 65 percent in GHG emissions by 2050³¹⁴ although it does not intend to implement standards for emissions reduction until 2020.³¹⁵ Critically, by 31 December 2006, Canada had not taken significant steps to curb GHG emissions, nor did it have a plan in place to move forward on meeting its Kyoto-mandated targets nor the ambitious 2050 targets. Following the UN Conference on Climate Change in Nairobi in November 2006, Environment Canada issued a communiqué expressing Canada's interest in discussing new emission-cutting targets after 2012.³¹⁶ Shortly after the interim compliance period, in January 2007, Prime Minister Stephen Harper replaced Rona Ambrose's post as Environment Minister with John Baird, fuelling speculation that the shuffle will signal a shift in Canada's position on climate change in 2007.³¹⁷ With Canadian GHG

³¹⁰ UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and Kyoto Protocol to the Convention, Government of Canada, (Ottawa), 14 April 2006. Date of Access: November 22, 2006. www.ec.gc.ca/international/multilat/unfccc_e.htm.

³¹¹ PM announces Canada's Clean Air Act, Office of the Prime Minister, (Ottawa), 10 October 2006. Date of Access: November 22, 2006. www.pm.gc.ca/eng/media.asp?id=1348.

³¹² In Depth, Kyoto and Beyond, CBC News (Toronto), 19 October 2006. Date of Access: November 22, 2006. www.cbc.ca/news/background/kyoto/#s7.

³¹³ Canada's Clean Air Act Delivered to Canadians, Government of Canada Ministry of the Environment (Ottawa), 19 October 2006. Date of Access: November 22, 2006. www.ec.gc.ca/press/2006/061019_n_e.htm.

³¹⁴ Canada's Clean Air Act Delivered to Canadians, Government of Canada Ministry of the Environment (Ottawa), 19 October 2006. Date of Access: November 22, 2006. www.ec.gc.ca/press/2006/061019_n_e.htm.

³¹⁵ Clean Air Act would cut greenhouse gas emissions in half- by 2050, (Ottawa), CBC News, 19 October 2006. Date of Access: November 30, 2006. www.cbc.ca/cp/health/061019/x101914.html.

³¹⁶ Ambrose Drops hints that Canada's position on Kyoto may be changing, 570 News, (Toronto), 19 November 2006. Date of Access: November 22, 2006. www.570news.com/news/national/article.jsp?content=n111943A.

³¹⁷ Yes, things are heating up, new environment minister says, CBC News, (Ottawa), 5 January 2007. Date of Access: January 5, 2006. www.cbc.ca/canada/montreal/story/2007/01/05/baird-interview.html.

emissions up by over 24 percent from their 1990s levels³¹⁸ and no plan in place to begin meeting short- or long-term targets, Canada cannot receive a score of better than -1.

Analyst: Courtney Hood

France: +1

France has demonstrated full compliance with its St. Petersburg climate change commitment, registering a score of +1. At the Nairobi United Nations Climate Change Conference in November 2006, the French delegation reiterated its commitment to address climate change.³¹⁹ In a 15 November 2006 speech at the conference, French President Jacques Chirac stated that France is committed to its responsibilities and will adhere to its obligations under the terms of the Kyoto Protocol.³²⁰ President Chirac announced that France is currently establishing regulatory measures to meet its long-term commitment of reducing 75% of its GHG emissions by the year 2050.³²¹ On 16 November 2006, Nelly Olin, the French Minister of Ecology and Sustainable Development, further reiterated France's pledge to the Kyoto Protocol for the period of 2008-2012, and also encouraged the international community to increase its support for their commitments.³²²

In 2007, France will facilitate a number of international conferences to encourage multilateral discussions on climate change. In January 2007, France will host the first working group of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) which will adopt its fourth evaluation report on climate science.³²³ France will also sponsor a conference on international awareness of climate change to enhance the progress of international environmental governance in February 2007.³²⁴

In addition to France's efforts on the international stage, France has also implemented a number of domestic environmental reforms. On 4 October 2006, Prime Minister Dominique de Villepin announced a new National Pact for the environment,³²⁵ inspired by the August 2006 'Factor 4' report, a French energy policy committee.³²⁶ The French government's new National Pact, announced by Villepin to start in 2007, is to allocate EUR10 billion for energy savings in the housing sector.³²⁷ On 13 November 2006, Villepin also announced the reinforcement of France's national Climate Plan, in an effort to reduce 10% of French CO₂ emissions by 2010.³²⁸ France has also devised plans to implement taxation reforms to encourage environmental protection through this plan.³²⁹ The European Environment Agency's 2006 Annual European Community Greenhouse Gas Inventory Report states that France exhibited a 0.8% reduction in emissions until the year 2004, greater than its 2008-2012 Kyoto Protocol target of 0%.³³⁰

Analyst: Ioana Hancas

³¹⁸ Time to get real on climate change, Times Colonist, (Victoria), 7 January 2007. Date of Access: January 7 2007.

www.canada.com/victoriatimescolonist/news/comment/story.html?id=4f107048-1e44-49b6-ab1f-7b1cfe6515dd.

³¹⁹ Message du President de la République, Jacques Chirac, (Nairobi), 15 November 2006. Date of Access: 25 November 2006.

www.ecologie.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/Message_du_president_Nairobi.pdf.

³²⁰ Message du President de la République, Jacques Chirac, (Nairobi), 15 November 2006. Date of Access: 25 November 2006.

www.ecologie.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/Message_du_president_Nairobi.pdf.

³²¹ Message du President de la République, Jaque Chirac, (Nairobi), 15 November 2006. Date of Access: 25 November 2006.

www.ecologie.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/Message_du_president_Nairobi.pdf.

³²² Discours de Mme Nelly Olin , Ministre de l'Écologie et Développement Durable, (Nairobi), 16 November 2006. Date of Access: 25 November 2006. www.ecologie.gouv.fr/article.php?id_article=6609.

³²³ Discours de Mme Nelly Olin , Ministre de l'Écologie et Développement Durable, (Nairobi), 16 November 2006. Date of Access: 25 November 2006. www.ecologie.gouv.fr/article.php?id_article=6609.

³²⁴ 12^{ème} Conférence des Parties à la Convention Climat et 2^{ème} Réunion des Parties au Protocole de Kyoto à Nairobi, Ministère de l'Écologie et Développement Durable, (Paris), 16 November 2006. Date of Access: 25 November 2006. www.ecologie.gouv.fr/article.php?id_article=6612.

³²⁵ Colloque International Défi Climat pour la France: Le Facteur 4, Ministère de l'Écologie et Développement Durable, (Paris), 9

October 2006. Date of Access: 20 December 2006. www.ecologie.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/invit_Facteur4.pdf.

³²⁶ The Factor 4 Objective: Addressing the Climate Challenge in France, Ministère de l'Économie, des Finance et de l'Industrie, (Paris), August 2006. Date of Access: 20 December 2006.

www.industrie.gouv.fr/energie/prospect/pdf/facteur4-rapport-final-engl.pdf.

³²⁷ Colloque International Défi Climat pour la France: Le Facteur 4, Ministère de l'Écologie et Développement Durable, (Paris), 9

October 2006. Date of Access: 20 December 2006. www.ecologie.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/invit_Facteur4.pdf.

³²⁸ Actualisation 2006 du Plan Climat 2004-2012, Ministère de l'Écologie et Développement Durable, (Paris), 13 November 2006.

Date of Access: 3 January 2007. www.ecologie.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/liste_mesures_actua_PC_PdMV10nov.pdf.

³²⁹ Sustainable Development: Unveiling the Climate Plan and the Charter for Flexible Fuel, Office of the Prime Minister and Government of France, (Paris), 13 November 2006. Date of Access: 3 January 2007. www.premier-ministre.gouv.fr/en/information/latest_news_97/sustainable_development_unveiling_the_57272.html.

³³⁰ Annual European Community greenhouse gas inventory 1990-2004 and inventory report 2006: Submission to the UNFCCC Secretariat, Europa, (Luxembourg) 7 June 2006. Date of Access: January 15, 2006 reports.eea.europa.eu/technical_report_2006_6/en/EC-GHG-Inventory-2006.pdf.

Germany: +1

Germany has recorded a score of +1 indicating full compliance with its St. Petersburg commitment to abide by its Kyoto Protocol emissions reduction target. In a report released in September 2006, the Federal Minister for the Environment, Nature Conservation, and Nuclear Safety Sigmar Gabriel confirmed that Germany is well on its way toward meeting its Kyoto obligations.³³¹ Germany has indicated that it is on pace to exceed requirements of the Kyoto Protocol, promising to cut greenhouse gas emissions by 21 percent of 1990 emissions levels (currently at 18 percent)³³² between 2008 and 2012.³³³ The German government is advocating to further extend the Kyoto Protocol beyond its current 2012 mandate.³³⁴ Prior to the UN Climate Change Conference in Nairobi, Gabriel emphasized the need to establish guidelines for a post-2012 global climate protection agreement,³³⁵ proposing that the EU reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 30% of 1990 levels by 2020, for which Germany is committed to a 40% emissions reduction.³³⁶ Following the Conference, Gabriel reaffirmed Germany's commitment to strengthen the Kyoto Protocol.³³⁷

Germany has also engaged in various bilateral and multilateral efforts to address the issue of GHG emissions. On 9 November 2006 Germany announced its commitment to assist Peru in carrying out the Clean Development Measure which supports climate protection investments in developing countries.³³⁸ Germany also earmarked EUR24 million to the EU's Global Efficiency and Renewable Energy Fund (GEREF) which assists developing countries decouple economic growth from greenhouse gas emissions.³³⁹ In December 2006, Germany and China established an agreement to broaden their partnership on environmental protection by focusing on climate protection projects in the framework of the Kyoto Protocol's Clean Development Mechanism, chemicals safety, waste management and water management.³⁴⁰ In November 2006, Chancellor Angela Merkel announced a new pact between Germany and the United Kingdom to prevent climate change.³⁴¹ In October 2006, Germany also participated in the Asia-Europe Meeting (AESM) Summit establishing a consensus on extending the Kyoto Protocol beyond 2010.³⁴² State Secretary at the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Matthias Machnig, announced that his government will focus on environmental topics during the first six months of its presidency in the European Council in 2007.³⁴³ According to the

³³¹ Climate Protection Pays: Implementing and Upgrading the Kyoto Protocol, 16, Federal Ministry for the Environment Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, (Berlin), September 2006. Date of Access: 20 November 2006. www.bmu.de/english/climate/press_statements_speeches/pm/38240.php.

³³² Climate Protection Pays: Implementing and Upgrading the Kyoto Protocol, 16, Federal Ministry for the Environment Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, (Berlin), September 2006. Date of Access: 20 November 2006. www.bmu.de/english/climate/press_statements_speeches/pm/38240.php.

³³³ Climate Protection Pays: Implementing and Upgrading the Kyoto Protocol, 16, Federal Ministry for the Environment Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, (Berlin), September 2006. Date of Access: 20 November 2006. www.bmu.de/english/climate/press_statements_speeches/pm/38240.php.

³³⁴ Climate Protection Pays: Implementing and Upgrading the Kyoto Protocol, 5, Federal Ministry for the Environment Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, (Berlin), September 2006. Date of Access: 20 November 2006. www.bmu.de/english/climate/press_statements_speeches/pm/38240.php.

³³⁵ Climate Protection Pays: Implementing and Upgrading the Kyoto Protocol, 5, Federal Ministry for the Environment Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, (Berlin), September 2006. Date of Access: 29 November 2006. www.bmu.de/english/climate/press_statements_speeches/pm/38164.php.

³³⁶ Federal Climate Protection Pays: Implementing and Upgrading the Kyoto Protocol, 5, Federal Ministry for the Environment Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, (Berlin), September 2006. Date of Access: 29 November 2006. www.bmu.de/english/climate/press_statements_speeches/pm/38164.php.

³³⁷ Sigmar Gabriel: In Nairobi the foundation was laid for the further development of the Kyoto Protocol, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, (Berlin), 20 November 2006. Date of Access: 22 November 2006. www.bmu.de/english/climate/press_statements_speeches/pm/38240.php.

³³⁸ Germany and Peru Agree on Cooperation in Climate Protection, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, (Berlin), 9 November 2006. Date of Access: 27 November 2006. www.bmu.de/english/international_environmental_policy/press_statements_speeches/pm/38158.php.

³³⁹ Climate change conference approves aid for developing countries, Regierung Online, (Berlin), 20 November 2006. Date of Access: 12 December 2006. www.bundesregierung.de/nn_6562/Content/EN/Artikel/2006/11/2006-11-20-klimakonferenz-beschliesst-hilfen-fuer-entwicklungslaender_en.html.

³⁴⁰ Germany and China to strengthen cooperation on climate protection and energy, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, (Berlin), 8 December 2006. Date of Access: December 15 2006. www.bmu.de/english/international_environmental_policy/press_statements_speeches/pm/38373.php.

³⁴¹ Further Development of Global Agreement on Climate Change, German Federal Government, (Berlin), 3 November 2006. Date of Access: 27 November 2006. www.bundesregierung.de/nn_6538/Content/EN/Artikel/2006/11/2006-11-03-weltweites-klimaschutzabkommen-weiter-entwickeln_en.html.

³⁴² Working Together to Help Prevent Climate Change, German Federal Government, (Berlin), 9 November 2006. Date of Access: 27 November 2006. www.bundesregierung.de/nn_6562/Content/EN/Artikel/2006/09/2006-09-11-asem-gipfel-tag-2_en.html.

³⁴³ Environmental Policy Emphasis During the German EU Presidency, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, (Berlin), 27 November 2006. Date of Access: 30 December 2006. www.bmu.de/english/europe_and_environment/press_statements_speeches/pm/38355.php.

European Environment Agency in their Annual 2006 European Community Greenhouse Gas Inventory Report, Germany has cut greenhouse gas emissions levels by 17.5% as of 2004.³⁴⁴

Analyst: Zeeshawn Ali and Yuriy Zaitsev

Italy: 0

Italy has demonstrated partial compliance with its St. Petersburg climate change commitment, warranting a score of 0. Although Italy established domestic policies concerning climate change and complied with several obligations of the Kyoto Protocol, its GHG emission volumes continued to increase in 2006.³⁴⁵ In October 2006, the Environmental Protection Agency (APAT) reported a 12.2 percent increase in GHG emissions from 1990 levels, a level that far exceeds Italy's projected Kyoto target of 6.5 percent in reductions.³⁴⁶ However, in 2006 Italy achieved some progress with the approval the National Allocation Plan (NAP) Phase 2 for the 2008-2012 term.³⁴⁷ The NAP Phase 2 aims to reduce CO₂ emissions from smokestack industries to 209 million tonnes per year, a decrease from NAP Phase 1 emissions which permitted 224 million tonnes per year.³⁴⁸ At present, Italy requires reductions of 97 million tonnes per year to achieve its Kyoto target.^{349,350} The new NAP Phase 2 will garner funds from industry emission overruns to finance CO₂ reduction programs.³⁵¹ Italy managed to escape disciplinary action from the European Court of Justice for delaying its NAP Phase 2, which was due 30 June 2006 but not issued until December of 2006.³⁵² In November 2006, Italy also sent a delegation to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Nairobi in support of multilateral talks on climate change.³⁵³

Analyst: Christian Cianfrone

Japan: +1

Japan registers a full compliance score of +1 for fulfilling its St. Petersburg commitment to reduce GHG emissions. On 29 September 2006, Japan's newly elected Prime Minister, Shinzo Abe, reaffirmed Japan's commitment to the Kyoto Protocol outlining his government's plans to meet its objectives: "In order to honor Japan's commitments under the Kyoto Protocol beginning in 2008, I will steadily advance the Kyoto Protocol Target Attainment Plan...The government is also working on a global warming prevention...by promoting the introduction of solar power generation...I will also accelerate the use of biomass, including the use of bio-ethanol as a vehicle fuel."³⁵⁴ In another statement on November 1 2006, Prime Minister Abe announced the government's plans to replace all gasoline in the country with E10, a 10% ethanol blend, by 2030.³⁵⁵ Prime Minister Abe's pro-active approach in tackling climate change has been echoed by Japan's Environment Minister Masatoshi Wakabayashi: "We must mobilize everyone and employ all policy instruments to speed up the policies and measures spelled out in the Kyoto Protocol Target Achievement Plan, beginning with the adoption and promotion

³⁴⁴ Annual European Community greenhouse gas inventory 1990-2004 and inventory report 2006: Submission to the UNFCCC Secretariat, Europa, (Luxembourg), 7 June 2006. Date of Access: January 15 2007. reports.eea.europa.eu/technical_report_2006_6/en/EC-GHG-Inventory-2006.pdf

³⁴⁵ Italy reports 12.2% increase in greenhouse gas emissions, Agence France Press, (Rome), 24 October 2006. Date of Access: 14 November 2006. global.factiva.com.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/ha/default.aspx.

³⁴⁶ Italy reports 12.2% increase in greenhouse gas emissions, Agence France Press, (Rome), 24 October 2006. Date of Access: 14 November 2006. global.factiva.com.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/ha/default.aspx.

³⁴⁷ Italy Seen Posting 209 Mln Tons/Yr EU CO₂ NAP Plan Wed, Dow Jones International News, (Rome), 12 December 2006. Date of Access: 2 January 2007. global.factiva.com.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/ha/default.aspx.

³⁴⁸ Italy Seen Posting 209 Mln Tons/Yr EU CO₂ NAP Plan Wed, Dow Jones International News, (Rome), 12 December 2006. Date of Access: 2 January 2007. global.factiva.com.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/ha/default.aspx.

³⁴⁹ Italy Set To Approve CO₂ 2008-2012 Scheme - Industry Min, Dow Jones International News, (Rome), 13 November 2006. Date of Access: 14 November 2006. global.factiva.com.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/ha/default.aspx.

³⁵⁰ Italy aims to file CO₂ plan to EU by end Sept, Reuters News, (Milan), 6 September 2006. Date of Access: 14 November 2006. global.factiva.com.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/ha/default.aspx.

³⁵¹ Italy Seen Posting 209 Mln Tons/Yr EU CO₂ NAP Plan Wed, Dow Jones International News, (Rome), 12 December 2006. Date of Access: 2 January 2007. global.factiva.com.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/ha/default.aspx.

³⁵² Italy bids to shake off 'dirty man' of EU image, Reuters News, (Rome), 7 June 2006. Date of Access: 20 December 2006. global.factiva.com.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/ha/default.aspx.

³⁵³ Climate; Italy to pledge dedication to UN, Greenwire, 8 November 2006. Date of Access: 26 November 2006. global.factiva.com.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/ha/default.aspx.

³⁵⁴ Text of Japanese Prime Minister Abe's Policy Speech, BBC Monitoring Asia Pacific, (Hong Kong), 30 September 2006. Date of Access: 22 November 2006. global.factiva.com.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/ha/default.aspx.

³⁵⁵ Japan's New PM Backs 10% Biofuels Target, Platts Commodity News, (United States), 3 November 2006. Date of Access: 21 November 2006. global.factiva.com.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/ha/default.aspx.

of renewable energies such as biomass energy, solar energy, wind power...³⁵⁶ The Ministry of Environment is also seeking new budget allocations for the fiscal year to fund studies on biofuels.³⁵⁷ The Japanese government has also recently initiated a comprehensive study about the feasibility of an environmental tax following the FY 2007 Tax Reform Proposal, with the goal of making the system "more environment-oriented...to support policy measures designed to arrest global warming."³⁵⁸

Japan announced its intentions to play a larger role in facilitating global environmental leadership. In October 2006 Japan issued a statement outlining plans to host the 10th Conference of the Parties on the Convention of Biological Diversity in 2010, although no date has been specified.³⁵⁹ In addition, at the Eight Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting held on 2-3 December 2006, Japan, with China and South Korea, expressed a willingness to support the Asia-Pacific Partnership on Clean Development and Climate (APP) to complement the Kyoto Protocol.³⁶⁰ As of March 2006, Japan's emissions had risen 0.6%, displaying a 14.1% gap between actual emission reductions and the country's Kyoto goal of a 6% overall emissions reduction based on 1990 emissions levels.³⁶¹

Analyst: Zeeshawn Ali

Russia: 0

The Russian Federation registers a score of 0 indicating partial compliance with its St. Petersburg commitment. Although Russia established some domestic policies concerning climate change and met some international obligations, it has not taken concrete steps to mitigate GHG emissions since the G8 summit.

A Russian delegation attended the 2006 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Nairobi, Kenya, from 6-7 November 2006.³⁶² At the conference, Russia submitted a proposal that would allow for less strict adherence to Kyoto targets, so that developing states may implement individual initiatives to cut down on green house gas emissions.³⁶³

A key Kyoto Protocol mechanism is Joint Implementation, under which countries with emissions reductions targets can invest in Russia and other former Soviet countries and count emissions reductions against their own targets. On 29 December 2006 an intergovernmental meeting involving five Russian ministries agreed on procedures around joint implementation (JI) and on the details of a governmental decree, boosting the development of JI projects in Russia.³⁶⁴ JI projects, once implemented, will go some way towards reducing Russia's GHG emissions. In October 2006 Russia sent its Fourth National Report to the UNFCCC, as required under the Kyoto Protocol. Data on GHG emissions from 2000-2004 and other information on climate change in Russia are represented in the report.³⁶⁵

Russia has taken some new measures to meet some of its obligations under the Kyoto Protocol, but it has not taken any new concrete steps to actually mitigate its GHG emissions. Until it does, Russia's climate change efforts must be considered a work in progress and merit a score of 0.

Analyst: Vera Serdiuk and Natalia Churkina

³⁵⁶ In Focus: 2007 New Years Greetings, Ministry of the Environment, (Tokyo), 1 January 2007. Date of Access: 3 January 2007. www.env.go.jp/en/focus/070101.html.

³⁵⁷ Japan's New PM Backs 10% Biofuels Target, Takeo Kumagi, Platts Commodity News, (United States), 3 November 2006. Date of Access: 21 November 2006. global.factiva.com.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/ha/default.aspx.

³⁵⁸ In Focus: 2007 New Years Greetings, Ministry of the Environment, (Tokyo), 1 January 2007. Date of Access: 3 January 2007. www.env.go.jp/en/focus/070101.html.

³⁵⁹ Japan Expected to Host 2010 Biodiversity Forum, Daily Yomiuri, (Tokyo), 15 October 2006. Date of Access: 21 November 2006. global.factiva.com.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/ha/default.aspx.

³⁶⁰ In Focus: The Eight Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting among China, Japan and Korea, Ministry of the Environment, (Tokyo), 21 December 2006. Date of Access: 30 January 2007. www.env.go.jp/en/focus/061221.html.

³⁶¹ Al Gore says Japanese business can lead climate campaign (Tokyo), 16 January 2007. Date of Access: 16 January 2007. www.alaskareport.com/reu77326.htm.

³⁶² itsgettinghotinhere.org/category/nairobi-2006/, Closing session... the count down, 17 November 2006, Date of access: 25 December 2006

³⁶³ Developing Countries Fail to Gain from Climate Conference, The Tide News, 23 November 2006. Date of Access: 24 November 2006. www.thetidenews.com/article.aspx?qrDate=11/23/2006&qrTitle=Developing%20countries%20fail%20to%20gain%20from%20climate%20conference&qrColumn=ENVIRONMENT.

³⁶⁴ 05.01.07 Russia overcomes JI barriers, Point Carbon, (Moscow), 5 January 2006, Date of access: 25 January 2007 www.pointcarbon.ru/

³⁶⁵ <http://www.wwf.ru/resources/news/article/2667>, Russia knows hazardous emissions, WWF in Russia, 25 October 2006, Date of access: 25 December 2006

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom registers a score of +1 indicating full compliance with its St. Petersburg commitment on climate change. According to the European Environment Agency in its Annual 2006 European Community Greenhouse Gas Inventory Report, the United Kingdom is on pace to meet its Kyoto Protocol emissions reduction target. The report cites 14.1% in GHG emissions reductions until 2004, an achievement exceeding the target of 12.5% in reductions initially committed to by the United Kingdom. A climate change bill was also proposed on 15 November 2006 defining a long-term plan to reduce emissions by 60% from 1990 levels by 2050.³⁶⁶ Since no annual targets were specified in the plan however, it will not be possible to cross-reference annual emission volumes with Kyoto compliance standards from 2008 to 2012.

The UK and the US state of California, signed a mission statement establishing a working partnership on 31 July 2006 to tackle climate change which would: "commit [California and the United Kingdom] to urgent action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and promote low carbon technologies."³⁶⁷ The United Kingdom-California pact demonstrates compliance with Article 10 of the Kyoto Protocol. The United Kingdom further complied with Article 12 of the Kyoto Protocol when Climate Change Minister Ian Person announced that the United Kingdom "would approve non-UK entities' participation in Clean Development Mechanism projects."³⁶⁸ One non-UK project recently approved was with China which aimed to reduce an average of 109,922 tonnes of equivalent CO₂ emissions each year between 2006 and 2012. The approval by the United Kingdom of non-UK entities has made the global carbon market more inclusive of additional parties focused on reducing GHG emissions. In addition, Environment Secretary David Miliband and Transport Secretary Douglas Alexander approved of the European Commission's proposal to include aviation into the EU Emissions Trading Scheme.³⁶⁹

Analyst: Christian Cianfrone

United States: +1

The United States has registered a score of +1 for full compliance with its St. Petersburg commitments on climate change. On 19 September 2006, Under Secretary of State for Democracy and Global Affairs Paula Dobriansky hosted a meeting with members of the Asia-Pacific Partnership on Clean Development and Climate at the United Nations General Assembly in New York. The meeting reviewed current initiatives of the Partnership.³⁷⁰ On 20 September 2006, the U.S. released a 244-page strategic plan entitled "Climate Change Technology Program Strategic Plan," to reduce global warming, greenhouse gas emissions and climate change through new technologies, including a 10-year plan to curb climate change, as well as short-term initiatives.³⁷¹ At the Monterrey meeting of the Climate Change Talks on 11-13 October 2006, Dobriansky stated that the United States is working hard to reduce its GHG emissions, noting that the United States has successfully collaborated with the Asia-Pacific Partnership (APP) to endorse action plans for all 8 task forces, including power generation and renewable energy transmission, and have approved 100 collaborative projects.³⁷²

In November 2006, the United States released the report "Our Changing Planet" outlining activities and the future plans of the Climate Change Science Program (CCSP) which coordinates research on climate change in conjunction with 13 government departments and agencies.³⁷³ Further, at the Nairobi Climate Change Conference in November 2006, the United States pledged USD 3.9 billion to be invested in the development of climate change technologies.³⁷⁴ In the 2007 United States Budget,

³⁶⁶ Queen's speech: Climate change: Independent body will monitor cuts but annual targets ruled out, *The Guardian*, (London), 16 November 2006. Date of Access: 13 December 2006. global.factiva.com.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/ha/default.aspx.

³⁶⁷ California and UK in climate pact, *BBC News Online*, (London), 31 July 2006. Date of Access: 15 November 2006. global.factiva.com.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/ha/default.aspx.

³⁶⁸ UK paves way for non-Kyoto Countries to join international carbon market, *Government News Network*, (Beijing), 27 October 2006. Date of Access: 15 November 2006. global.factiva.com.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/ha/default.aspx.

³⁶⁹ Government welcomes EU move to address aviation and climate change, *Government News Network*, (London), 20 December 2006. Date of Access: 2 January 2007. global.factiva.com.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/ha/default.aspx.

³⁷⁰ Asia-Pacific Partnership on Clean Development and Climate, U.S. Department of State, (Washington), 19 September 2006, Date of Access: 25 November 2006. www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/2006/72848.htm.

³⁷¹ White House Outlines Global Warming Fight, *The Washington Post*, (Washington), 21 September 2006. Date of Access: 20 November 2006. global.factiva.com.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/ha/default.aspx.

³⁷² U.S. Announces Implementation Phase for the Asia-Pacific Partnership on Clean Development and Climate, U.S. Department of State, (Washington), 31 October 2006. Date of Access: 25 November 2006. www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2006/75404.htm.

³⁷³ Our Changing Planet: The U.S. Climate Change Science Program for Fiscal Year 2007 Report, *Government of the United States*, (Washington), November 2006. Date of Access: 30 November 2006. www.usgcrp.gov/usgcrp/Library/ocp2007/ocp2007.pdf.

³⁷⁴ U.S. Climate Change Policy, U.S. Department of State, (Washington), 15 November 2006. Date of Access: 25 November 2006. www.state.gov.g.rls.rm/76056.htm.

an additional USD 6.5 billion has been earmarked to address the issue of climate change.³⁷⁵ There are currently 100 United States sponsored initiatives through the Asia-Pacific Partnership, and a large range of climate change projects working in sub-Saharan Africa.³⁷⁶ On 16 November 2006, Australia's Environment Minister and Heritage Ian Campbell and Under Secretary of State for Democracy and Global Affairs Dobriansky met in Nairobi to review the 27 current and accomplished projects already agreed upon and discussed five new projects under the Australia-United States Climate Action Plan (CAP).³⁷⁷ In addition, in November 2006 the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) along with other federal actors developed The Methane to Markets Partnership's Information Centre, an international program to cut global methane emissions.³⁷⁸

Analyst: Vera Serdiuk

European Union: +1

The EU registered a score of +1 for full compliance with its St. Petersburg climate change commitment. On 30 November 2006 at the European Voice Comment Forum in Brussels, the European Commissioner for Environment Stavros Dimas stated that "the European Union is committed to achieving [its] Kyoto Protocol emission targets, and by leading the way [it is] determined to ensure that the international community takes decisive further action to cut global emissions after 2012, when the Kyoto targets expire."³⁷⁹ During the Nairobi Climate Change Conference in November 2006, the EU succeeded in achieving its objective of advancing negotiations on developing the climate convention system after 2012.³⁸⁰ On 6 October 2006, the European Commission proposed the formation of a new Global Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Fund (GEEREF), a global risk capital fund to subsidize energy efficiency projects in developing countries, and in reducing climate change and air pollution, pledging EUR80 million in funding over the next four years.³⁸¹ In addition, on 19 October 2006 the European Commission approved to increase funding for new Life-Environmental 2006 projects, allocating nearly EUR66 million for 50 new environmental innovation projects in 14 countries³⁸², EUR6.5 million for 16 new environment projects in the Mediterranean and Baltic regions³⁸³, and EUR70.1 million for 61 nature conservation projects situated in 20 Member States.³⁸⁴ On 20 December 2006 the European Commission also proposed legislation to reduce GHG emissions deriving from civil air transport into the EU Emissions Trading Scheme.³⁸⁵ The European Commission has also started infringement procedures against Austria, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Hungary, Italy, and Spain for their failure to submit their national allocation plans for CO2 emissions.³⁸⁶

Analyst: Ioana Hancas

³⁷⁵ U.S. Climate Change Policy, U.S. Department of State, (Washington), 15 November 2006. Date of Access: 25 November 2006. www.state.gov.g.rls.rm/76056.htm.

³⁷⁶ U.S. Climate Change Policy, U.S. Department of State, (Washington), 15 November 2006. Date of Access: 25 November 2006. www.state.gov.g.rls.rm/76056.htm.

³⁷⁷ Joint Statement Australian Minister for the Environment and Heritage Senator the Hon. Ian Campbell & Under Secretary for Democracy and Global Affairs United States Paula Dobriansky, Department of the Environment and Heritage (Canberra), 16 November 2006. Date of Access: 21 December 2006. www.deh.gov.au/minister/env/2006/mr16nov306.html.

³⁷⁸ U.S., India to Form Coal Methane Information Center, U.S. Embassy in Brussels, (Brussels), 16 November 2006. Date of Access: 21 December 2006. www.uspolicy.be/Article.asp?ID=EDFBD2C4-AE75-4E-A108-5F6F2D89BF2A.

³⁷⁹ Address by European Commissioner for Environment Stavros Dimas at the European Voice Comment Forum Debate on Climate Change, (Brussels), 30 November 2006. Date of Access: 2 January 2007. europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=SPEECH/06/769&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en.

³⁸⁰ The Goals of Finland's EU Presidency Achieved in the Environmental Sector, Finland's EU Presidency, (Helsinki), 21 December 2006. Date of Access: 3 January 2007. www.eu2006.fi/news_and_documents/press_releases/vko51/en_GB/179067/.

³⁸¹ Commission Proposes €100 Million Global Risk Capital Fund for Developing Countries to Boost Energy Efficiency and Renewables, European Commission, (Brussels), 6 October 2006. Date of Access: 4 January 2007. europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/06/1329&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en.

³⁸² LIFE-Environment 2006: Commission Funds 50 Innovation Projects in 14 Countries with €66 Million, European Commission, (Brussels), 19 October 2006. Date of Access: 4 January 2007. europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/06/1430&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en.

³⁸³ LIFE-Third Countries 2006: Commission Grants €6.5 Million to 16 Environment Projects in Neighbouring Countries, European Commission, (Brussels), 19 October 2006. Date of Access: 4 January 2007. europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/06/1429&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en.

³⁸⁴ LIFE-Nature 2006: Commission Funds 61 Nature Conservation Projects in 20 Countries with over €70 Million, European Commission, (Brussels), 19 October, 2006. Date of Access: 4 January 2007. europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/06/1428&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en.

³⁸⁵ Climate change: Commission Proposes Bringing Air Transport into EU Emissions Trading Scheme, European Commission, (Brussels), 20 December 2006. Date of Access: 2 January 2007. europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/06/1862&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en.

³⁸⁶ Emissions Trading: Commission Decides on First Set of National Allocation Plans for the 2008-2012 Trading Period, European Commission, (Brussels), 29 November 2006. Date of Access: 4 January 2007. europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/06/1650&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en.