

7. Climate Change: Forest and Land Degradation [73]

Commitment

“We will support the development of positive incentives in particular for developing countries to promote emission reductions through actions to reduce deforestation and forest degradation.”

G8 Leaders Declaration: Responsible Leadership for a Sustainable Future

Assessment

Country	Lack of Compliance	Work in Progress	Full Compliance
Canada		0	
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy		0	
Japan			+1
Russia		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average Score			+0.67

Background

Deforestation and forest degradation account to nearly 20 per cent of global greenhouse gas emissions.⁴⁴⁴ The majority of deforestation and forest degradation is taking place in developing countries through conversion of forests into agricultural land and pastureland, through infrastructural development, and through logging for industrial development.⁴⁴⁵ Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries, commonly abbreviated as REDD, is gaining attention in the international community. REDD is an effort to provide incentives for developing countries to decrease deforestation by assigning financial value to the carbon stored in forests.⁴⁴⁶

G8 members have continuously committed to reduce greenhouse gases. At the 1989 Paris Summit the G8 members for the first time committed to limit emissions of greenhouse gases and to adopt sustainable forest management practices.⁴⁴⁷ However, the G8 members discussed the issue of greenhouse gases in connection with deforestation for the first time at the 2005 Gleneagles Summit.⁴⁴⁸

⁴⁴⁴ About REDD, UN-REDD Programme (Geneva). Date of Access: 10 November 2009. www.un-redd.org/AboutREDD/tabid/582/language/en-US/Default.aspx.

⁴⁴⁵ About REDD, UN-REDD Programme (Geneva). Date of Access: 10 November 2009. www.un-redd.org/AboutREDD/tabid/582/language/en-US/Default.aspx.

⁴⁴⁶ About REDD, UN-REDD Programme (Geneva). Date of Access: 10 November 2009. www.un-redd.org/AboutREDD/tabid/582/language/en-US/Default.aspx.

⁴⁴⁷ Economic Declaration 1989 Paris Summit, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 July 1989. Date of Access: 10 November 2009. www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1989paris/communique/environment.html.

⁴⁴⁸ Gleneagles Plan of Action, Climate Change, Clean Energy and Sustainable Development, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2005. Date of Access: 18 December 2009. www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/climatechangeplan.pdf.

The 2005 Gleneagles Summit represents an important mark with the adoption of the Gleneagles Plan of Action. In the Gleneagles Plan of Action the G8 members committed to taking a variety of actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, recognized the importance of forests as carbon sinks, and recognized “the impacts that illegal logging has on the livelihoods of many in the poorest countries in Africa and elsewhere, on environmental degradation, biodiversity loss and deforestation and hence global sustainable development.”⁴⁴⁹

At the St. Petersburg Summit in 2006, the G8 members reiterated the need to take action in addressing deforestation and illegal logging.⁴⁵⁰ The G8 members recognized that deforestation has a significant impact on the global greenhouse gas emissions.⁴⁵¹

Since the Heiligendamm Summit in 2007, the G8 leaders have actively promoted assistance for the developing countries to reduce emissions through actions to reduce deforestation and forest degradation.⁴⁵² At the 2008 Hokkaido-Toyako Summit, the G8 members confirmed their commitment to provide assistance to developing countries to reduce emissions through deforestation.⁴⁵³

G8 members also participated in discussions on reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change taking place from 7-18 December 2009 in Copenhagen.

Commitment Features

To comply with the commitment, the member must take steps to support the development of positive incentives for developing countries to reduce deforestation and forest degradation. “Support” for the development of positive incentives will be defined as positive action to provide technical assistance and funding targeted at combating forest degradation to developing countries. Technical assistance can be in the form of providing technology or science to developing countries. In order to register full compliance, the member must take steps to provide both funding and technical assistance to developing countries.

Positive incentives for developing countries must promote programs aimed at reducing deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries. Examples of such programs

⁴⁴⁹ Gleneagles Plan of Action, Climate Change, Clean Energy and Sustainable Development, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2005. Date of Access: 18 December 2009. www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/climatechangeplan.pdf.

⁴⁵⁰ Global Energy Security, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 July 2006. Date of Access: 18 December 2009. www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2006stpetersburg/energy.html.

⁴⁵¹ Global Energy Security, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 July 2006. Date of Access: 18 December 2009. www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2006stpetersburg/energy.html.

⁴⁵² Growth and Responsibility in the World Economy, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 7 June 2007. Date of Access: 18 December 2009. www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2007heiligendamm/g8-2007-economy.pdf.

⁴⁵³ Environment and Climate Change, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2008. Date of Access: 18 December 2009. www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/2008-climate.html.

include: establishing favourable environmental loans for activities that support reduced deforestation; setting up licensing programs for forest protection; adopting regulations for setting up a mechanism for trading the emission reductions from reduced deforestation; establishing programs that promote agriculture instead of the forest industry; and adopting policies and regulations for forest protection.

Scoring

-1	Member does not provide technical assistance to developing countries AND does not provide funding to promote programs aimed at reducing deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries.
0	Member provides technical assistance to developing countries OR commits funds to promote programs aimed at reducing deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries.
+1	Member provides technical assistance to developing countries AND commits funds to promote programs aimed at reducing deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries.

Lead Analyst: Maša Kovič

Canada: 0

Canada has partially complied with its commitment to promote emissions reduction through actions to reduce deforestation and forest degradation. Canada has provided technical assistance to developing countries, but has not committed any funding during the current compliance cycle.

During the XIII World Forestry Congress in Buenos Aires, Argentina, held on 18-23 October 2009, the Canadian Model Forest Network and the Argentine Model Forest Network presented their program on cooperation in sustainable forest management.⁴⁵⁴ Canada has provided technical assistance to Argentina since 2007 through a set of workshops.⁴⁵⁵ In 2010, Canada plans to offer its workshop program to several developing countries through the Ibero-American Model Forest Network.⁴⁵⁶

While Canada has expressed its support for financial contributions to developing countries, it has yet to commit any new funds during the current compliance cycle. On 18 December 2009, Canada expressed support for the Copenhagen Accord presented at the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).⁴⁵⁷ On 7 January 2010, Member of the Parliament Steven Blaney also confirmed that Canada had notified the UNFCCC Secretariat of its emission reduction

⁴⁵⁴ Model forest local level indicators project to be highlighted at World Forestry Congress 2009, Canadian Model Forest Network (Kemptonville) 17 August 2009. Date of Access: 16 January 2010. www.modelforest.net/cmfn/en/news_events/news_features/news_record.aspx?title_id=5013.

⁴⁵⁵ Model forest local level indicators project to be highlighted at World Forestry Congress 2009, Canadian Model Forest Network (Kemptonville) 17 August 2009. Date of Access: 16 January 2010. www.modelforest.net/cmfn/en/news_events/news_features/news_record.aspx?title_id=5013.

⁴⁵⁶ Model forest local level indicators project to be highlighted at World Forestry Congress 2009, Canadian Model Forest Network (Kemptonville) 17 August 2009. Date of Access: 16 January 2010. www.modelforest.net/cmfn/en/news_events/news_features/news_record.aspx?title_id=5013.

⁴⁵⁷ Canada signs Copenhagen Pact, The Gazette (Montreal) 8 January 2010. Date of Access: 16 January 2010. www.montrealgazette.com/technology/Canada+signs+Copenhagen+pact/2418235/story.html.

targets, which was its obligation under the Copenhagen Accord.⁴⁵⁸ The Copenhagen Accord calls for the “immediate establishment of a mechanism to enable the mobilization of financial resources from developed countries” to developing countries for emission reduction activities aimed at reducing deforestation.⁴⁵⁹ The Copenhagen Accord also calls for USD30 billion in the period of 2010 to 2012 and USD100 billion per year by 2020 to the Copenhagen Green Climate Fund for developing countries’ mitigation and adaptation activities.⁴⁶⁰ However, Canada has not committed any financial resources to the Copenhagen Green Climate Fund.

In September 2008, Canada pledged CAD100 million to the Strategic Climate Fund’s “Pilot Program for Climate Resistance.”⁴⁶¹ While the fund includes also the Forest Investment Program, Canada has not pledged any new financial resources for this program during the current compliance cycle.⁴⁶² Moreover, as of 13 October 2009, Canada has not yet fulfilled its pledge from 2008, as it has only contributed CAD85 million of the CAD100 million total.⁴⁶³

Thus, Canada has a score of 0 for offering technical assistance to developing countries to reduce emissions through actions to reduce deforestation and degradation.

Analyst: Ahad Ahmed

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to help developing countries promote emission reductions through actions to reduce deforestation and forest degradation. France has committed to provide both financial and technical assistance to programs under the auspices of the REDD initiative.

France has taken steps to provide financial support to developing countries in their efforts to reduce deforestation and forest degradation. On 16 December 2009, during the Copenhagen Conference, France together with United States, United Kingdom, Australia, Japan and Norway committed USD3.5 billion over three years as early funding for

⁴⁵⁸ Canada signs Copenhagen Pact, The Gazette (Montreal) 8 January 2010. Date of Access: 16 January 2010. www.montrealgazette.com/technology/Canada+signs+Copenhagen+pact/2418235/story.html.

⁴⁵⁹ Decision -/CP.15, Copenhagen Accord, UNFCCC Secretariat (Bonn) 18 December 2009. Date of Access: 16 January 2010. unfccc.int/files/meetings/cop_15/application/pdf/cop15_cph_auv.pdf.

⁴⁶⁰ Decision -/CP.15, Copenhagen Accord, UNFCCC Secretariat (Bonn) 18 December 2009. Date of Access: 16 January 2010. unfccc.int/files/meetings/cop_15/application/pdf/cop15_cph_auv.pdf.

⁴⁶¹ Funding, Climate Investment Funds (Washington) 31 December 2009. Date of Access: 15 January 2010. www.climateinvestmentfunds.org/cif/funding-basics.

⁴⁶² Funding, Climate Investment Funds (Washington) 31 December 2009. Date of Access: 15 January 2010. www.climateinvestmentfunds.org/cif/funding-basics.

⁴⁶³ Trustee report, Financial Status of the Strategic Climate Fund SCF/TFC.4/4, SCF Trust Fund Committee (Washington) 13 October 2009. Date of Access: 15 January 2010. www.climateinvestmentfunds.org/cif/sites/climateinvestmentfunds.org/files/scf_trustee_report_101309_0.pdf.

reducing emissions through reducing deforestation.⁴⁶⁴ The financial contributions will begin in 2010.⁴⁶⁵

Moreover, on 27 November 2009, French President Nicolas Sarkozy expressed full support for the launch of a USD22 billion Copenhagen Launch Fund.⁴⁶⁶ The establishment of this fund was proposed by the British Prime Minister Gordon Brown at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Trinidad and Tobago.⁴⁶⁷ The fund, which will start in 2010, will focus on emission reductions through reduced deforestation in developing countries.⁴⁶⁸ Under the fund, the pledging countries will also provide technical assistance to ensure its success.⁴⁶⁹

On 22 December 2009, President Sarkozy also expressed his support for the Copenhagen Accord presented at the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.⁴⁷⁰ The Copenhagen Accord calls for the “immediate establishment of a mechanism to enable the mobilization of financial resources from developed countries” to developing countries for emission reduction activities aimed at reducing deforestation.⁴⁷¹ The Copenhagen Accord also calls for an investment of USD30 billion in the period of 2010 to 2012 and USD100 billion per year by 2020 to the Copenhagen Green Climate Fund for developing countries’ mitigation and adaptation activities.⁴⁷²

France has also provided technical assistance to developing countries. On 4 December 2009, France established the “Comité de place France Carbone”, an instrument to combat

⁴⁶⁴ UK Government Press Release, Agreement on \$3.5bn initial funding for deforestation, Department of Energy and Climate Change (London) 16 December 2009. Date of Access: 18 December 2009.

www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/news/pndeforest/pndeforest.aspx.

⁴⁶⁵ UK Government Press Release, Agreement on \$3.5bn initial funding for deforestation, Department of Energy and Climate Change (London) 16 December 2009. Date of Access: 18 December 2009.

www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/news/pndeforest/pndeforest.aspx.

⁴⁶⁶ Gordon Brown unveils fund to tackle ‘climate emergency,’ The Guardian (London) 27 November 2009. Date of access: 18 December 2009. www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2009/nov/27/gordon-brown-unveils-climate-fund.

⁴⁶⁷ Gordon Brown unveils fund to tackle ‘climate emergency,’ The Guardian (London) 27 November 2009. Date of access: 18 December 2009. www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2009/nov/27/gordon-brown-unveils-climate-fund.

⁴⁶⁸ Gordon Brown unveils fund to tackle ‘climate emergency,’ The Guardian (London) 27 November 2009. Date of access: 18 December 2009. www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2009/nov/27/gordon-brown-unveils-climate-fund.

⁴⁶⁹ Gordon Brown unveils fund to tackle ‘climate emergency,’ The Guardian (London) 27 November 2009. Date of access: 18 December 2009. www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2009/nov/27/gordon-brown-unveils-climate-fund.

⁴⁷⁰ Sarkozy wants global carbon talks in Paris, Reuters (Paris) 22 December 2009. Date of Access: 16 January 2010. www.reuters.com/article/idUSLDE5BL1HB.

⁴⁷¹ Decision -/CP.15, Copenhagen Accord, UNFCCC Secretariat (Bonn) 18 December 2009. Date of Access: 16 January 2010. unfccc.int/files/meetings/cop_15/application/pdf/cop15_cph_auv.pdf.

⁴⁷² Decision -/CP.15, Copenhagen Accord, UNFCCC Secretariat (Bonn) 18 December 2009. Date of Access: 16 January 2010. unfccc.int/files/meetings/cop_15/application/pdf/cop15_cph_auv.pdf.

climate change issues.⁴⁷³ Minister of State Jean-Louis Borloo said that the committee represented a “challenge in terms of emission regulation.”⁴⁷⁴ The committee will provide technical assistance to developing countries through a forum for the public and private sector to discuss carbon markets.⁴⁷⁵ Minister of State Jean-Louis Borloo also called upon investors to allocate “direct funds towards developing countries.”⁴⁷⁶

Thus, France has been awarded the score of +1. It has committed financial and technical assistance to developing countries in order to promote emission reductions through reducing deforestation.

Analyst: Roshan Muralidhar

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to support emission reductions in developing countries through reducing deforestation. It has provided both funding and technical assistance to developing countries.

Germany has taken steps to provide funds to developing countries aimed at reducing deforestation. On 15 October 2009, the Federal Environment Ministry announced a donation of EUR1.6 million to aid Rwanda with the protection of one of its national parks.⁴⁷⁷ The German government aims to protect forests from logging and reduce emissions in Rwanda through the International Climate Initiative.⁴⁷⁸ Germany identified Rwanda as a partner in this initiative due to its high population density and its use of wood to sustain its economy.⁴⁷⁹

Furthermore, on 21 December 2009, German Chancellor Angela Merkel expressed her support for the Copenhagen Accord presented at the Conference of the Parties to the

⁴⁷³ Jean-Louis BORLOO et Christine LARGARDE annoncent la création du « Comité de place France Carbone » à la veille de la Conférence de Copenhague 4 December 2009. Date of access: 18 December 2009. www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/article.php3?id_article=6432.

⁴⁷⁴ Jean-Louis BORLOO et Christine LARGARDE annoncent la création du « Comité de place France Carbone » à la veille de la Conférence de Copenhague 4 December 2009. Date of access: 18 December 2009. www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/article.php3?id_article=6432.

⁴⁷⁵ Jean-Louis BORLOO et Christine LARGARDE annoncent la création du « Comité de place France Carbone » à la veille de la Conférence de Copenhague 4 December 2009. Date of access: 18 December 2009. www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/article.php3?id_article=6432.

⁴⁷⁶ Jean-Louis BORLOO et Christine LARGARDE annoncent la création du « Comité de place France Carbone » à la veille de la Conférence de Copenhague 4 December 2009. Date of access: 18 December 2009. www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/article.php3?id_article=6432.

⁴⁷⁷ Federal Environment Ministry supports national park in Rwanda, Federal Environment Ministry (Berlin) 15 October 2009. Date of Access: 12 December 2009. www.bmu.de/english/press_releases/archive/16th_legislative_period/pm/45096.php.

⁴⁷⁸ Federal Environment Ministry supports national park in Rwanda, Federal Environment Ministry (Berlin) 15 October 2009. Date of Access: 18 December 2009. www.bmu.de/english/press_releases/archive/16th_legislative_period/pm/45096.php.

⁴⁷⁹ Federal Environment Ministry supports national park in Rwanda, Federal Environment Ministry (Berlin) 15 October 2009. Date of Access: 18 December 2009. www.bmu.de/english/press_releases/archive/16th_legislative_period/pm/45096.php.

UNFCCC.⁴⁸⁰ The Copenhagen Accord calls for the “immediate establishment of a mechanism to enable the mobilization of financial resources from developed countries” to developing countries for emission reduction activities aimed at reducing deforestation.⁴⁸¹ The Copenhagen Accord also calls on developed countries to contribute USD30 billion in the period of 2010 to 2012 and USD100 billion per year by 2020 to the Copenhagen Green Climate Fund for developing countries’ mitigation and adaptation activities.⁴⁸²

Germany has also provided technical assistance to developing countries. On 3 December 2009, German Minister for Economic Co-operation and Development Dirk Niebel and Brazilian President Lula da Silva launched several “joint projects for the protection of tropical forests.”⁴⁸³ As part of these initiatives, Germany will provide technical assistance to Brazil for forest conservation, deforestation controls, and “sustainable forest management.”⁴⁸⁴

Thus, Germany has been awarded the score of +1. It has both increased funds to other states for protection of their forests and provided technical assistance.

Analyst: James Monteith

Italy: 0

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to provide support to developing countries to reduce emissions through reducing deforestation. It has committed to provide funding for developing countries to reduce deforestation.

On 12 December 2009, Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi participated in a European initiative to provide financial resources to developing countries to deal with climate change, including efforts to reduce deforestation.⁴⁸⁵ Italy pledged to allocate EUR600 million over a period of three years to the Copenhagen Launch Fund, which will come into effect in 2010.⁴⁸⁶

⁴⁸⁰ World leaders welcome the Copenhagen Accord, Government of Denmark (Copenhagen) 21 December 2009. Date of Access: 16 January 2010. www.denmark.dk/en/menu/Climate-Energy/COP15-Copenhagen-2009/Selected-COP15-news/World-leaders-welcome-the-Copenhagen-Accord.htm.

⁴⁸¹ Decision -/CP.15, Copenhagen Accord, UNFCCC Secretariat (Bonn) 18 December 2009. Date of Access: 16 January 2010. unfccc.int/files/meetings/cop_15/application/pdf/cop15_cph_auv.pdf.

⁴⁸² Decision -/CP.15, Copenhagen Accord, UNFCCC Secretariat (Bonn) 18 December 2009. Date of Access: 16 January 2010. unfccc.int/files/meetings/cop_15/application/pdf/cop15_cph_auv.pdf.

⁴⁸³ Germany supports Brazil’s program on climate change, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 3 December 2009. Date of Access: 16 January 2010. www.bmz.de/en/press/pm/2009/december/pm_20091203_106.html.

⁴⁸⁴ Germany supports Brazil’s program on climate change, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 3 December 2009. Date of Access: 16 January 2010. www.bmz.de/en/press/pm/2009/december/pm_20091203_106.html.

⁴⁸⁵ EU Agrees to 7.2-billion Euro Climate Fund, Earth Times (New York) 11 December 2009. Date of Access: 18 January 2010. www.earthtimes.org/articles/show/298890_eu-agrees-to-72-billion-euro-climate-fund--summary.html.

⁴⁸⁶ Prestigiaco: Contributo di 600 milioni per i PSV conferma, Ministry of the Environment (Rome) 11 December 2009. Date of Access: 18 December 2009. www.minambiente.it/opencms/opencms/home_it/showitem.html?lang=it&item=/documenti/notizie/notizia_0124.xml.

Moreover, Italy participated at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen, held from 7-18 December 2009. On 18 December 2009, Italian Minister for Environment Stefania Prestigiacomo stressed the importance of rain forest and providing technical assistance to developing countries.⁴⁸⁷ However, Minister Prestigiacomo did not make any concrete pledges with regard to assistance for developing countries and reducing deforestation.⁴⁸⁸

Thus, Italy has been awarded the score of 0 for pledging financial resources to developing countries to reduce deforestation.

Analyst: Maša Kovič

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to support developing countries in their efforts to reduce deforestation and forest degradation. Japan has provided both technical assistance and funding to programs aimed at reducing deforestation.

On 7 November 2009, Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced the creation of the Mekong-Japan Action Plan 63, a comprehensive technical development assistance initiative in the Mekong region (which includes Laos, Cambodia, Myanmar, and Vietnam).⁴⁸⁹ A substantial portion of pertains to the provision of technical assistance aimed at reducing deforestation and forest degradation in accordance with the United Nation's Strengthening Monitoring, Assessment and Reporting on Sustainable Forest Management.⁴⁹⁰ This action plans builds upon previous initiatives taken by Japan in this region, such as the "Cool Earth Partnership," launched in 2008.⁴⁹¹ On 2 September 2009, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs issued its annual budget for these ongoing initiatives in Vietnam, which included a "Project for Sustainable Forest Management," scheduled to last until 2015.⁴⁹²

Japan has also pledged funds for developing countries. At the Copenhagen Conference, on 16 December 2009, Japan joined with the United States, United Kingdom, France, Australia and Norway to commit USD3.5 billion over three years towards financing

⁴⁸⁷ Copenhagen: Prestigiacomo "Basta tattiche: serve un accordo", Ministry of the Environment (Rome) 18 December 2009. Date of Access: 21 December 2010. www.minambiente.it/opencms/opencms/home_it/showitem.html?lang=it&item=/documenti/notizie/notizia_0144.xml.

⁴⁸⁸ Copenhagen: Prestigiacomo "Basta tattiche: serve un accordo", Ministry of the Environment (Rome) 18 December 2009. Date of Access: 21 December 2010. www.minambiente.it/opencms/opencms/home_it/showitem.html?lang=it&item=/documenti/notizie/notizia_0144.xml.

⁴⁸⁹ Mekong-Japan Action Plan 63, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 7 November 2009. Date of Access: 18 December 2009. www.mofa.go.jp/region/asia-paci/mekong/summit0911/action.html.

⁴⁹⁰ Mekong-Japan Action Plan 63, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 7 November 2009. Date of Access: 18 December 2009. www.mofa.go.jp/region/asia-paci/mekong/summit0911/action.html.

⁴⁹¹ Japan's Official Development Assistance: Rolling Plan for Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 16 October 2009. Date of Access: 18 December 2009. www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/rolling_plans/region/vietnam.pdf.

⁴⁹² Rolling Plan for Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 2 September 2009. Date of Access: 18 January 2010. www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/rolling_plans/region/vietnam.pdf.

“actions to reduce emissions from forests [that] can help stabilize [the global climate].”⁴⁹³
These financial contributions will begin in 2010.⁴⁹⁴

Furthermore, on 18 December 2009, a spokesperson for Japanese Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama expressed Japan’s support for the Copenhagen Accord, stating that a failure to reach a binding agreement would be a “disgrace to the world.”⁴⁹⁵ The Copenhagen Accord calls for the “immediate establishment of a mechanism to enable the mobilization of financial resources from developed countries” to developing countries for emission reduction activities aimed at reducing deforestation.⁴⁹⁶

Thus, Japan has been awarded a score of +1 for providing both technical assistance and funding aimed at reducing deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries.

Analyst: Andrew Do

Russia: 0

Russia has partially complied with its commitment to develop positive incentives for developing countries to reduce emissions through reducing deforestation and forest degradation. It has taken steps to provide technical assistance to developing countries to reduce deforestation, but has not provided any direct funding during the current compliance cycle.

On 29 October 2009, Russian Head of the Federal Forestry Agency A.I. Savinov met with the Chinese Head of the State Forestry Administration Jia Zhibang at the Sixth Meeting of the Permanent Russia-China Working Group on Forestry.⁴⁹⁷ At this meeting, Russia and China discussed bilateral support and assistance in forest policy development in the fields of forest fire protection, protection against pests and diseases, and cooperation in fighting against illegal logging and trade of illegally procured wood.⁴⁹⁸

Moreover, at the XIII World Forest Congress, held on 18-23 October 2009 in Buenos-Aires, Argentina, Russia approved the Declaration of the Congress that calls for strategic actions in developing “climate change related mechanisms ... with particular attention to

⁴⁹³ UK Government Press Release, Agreement on \$3.5bn initial funding for deforestation, Department of Energy and Climate Change (London) 16 December 2009. Date of Access: 18 December 2009.

www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/news/pndeforest/pndeforest.aspx.

⁴⁹⁴ UK Government Press Release, Agreement on \$3.5bn initial funding for deforestation, Department of Energy and Climate Change (London) 16 December 2009. Date of Access: 18 December 2009.

www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/news/pndeforest/pndeforest.aspx.

⁴⁹⁵ Japan’s PM to Leave Copenhagen on Friday, Reuters (Copenhagen) 18 December 2009. Date of Access: 18 January 2010. www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE5BH41S20091218.

⁴⁹⁶ Decision -/CP.15, Copenhagen Accord, UNFCCC Secretariat (Bonn) 18 December 2009. Date of Access: 16 January 2010. unfccc.int/files/meetings/cop_15/application/pdf/cop15_cph_auv.pdf.

⁴⁹⁷ 6th Meeting of Permanent Russia-China Working Group on Forestry, Federal Forestry Agency of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Russian Federation (Moscow) 29 October 2009. Date of Access: 18 December 2009. www.rosleshoz.gov.ru/english/media/news/55.

⁴⁹⁸ 6th Meeting of Permanent Russia-China Working Group on Forestry, Federal Forestry Agency of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Russian Federation (Moscow) 29 October 2009. Date of Access: 18 December 2009. www.rosleshoz.gov.ru/english/media/news/55.

REDD.”⁴⁹⁹ During the congress, the Russian Deputy Head of Federal Forestry Agency V.N. Maslyakov also met with representatives of Argentina, Brazil and India to discuss bilateral cooperation on technical issues related to sustainable forest management.⁵⁰⁰ However, Russia made no concrete commitments to help developing countries in terms of funding.

On 18 December 2009, Russian President Dmitry Medvedev expressed his support for the Copenhagen Accord, suggesting that “a global agreement must take into account the role played by forests – the main absorbers of greenhouse gases.”⁵⁰¹ The Copenhagen Accord calls for the “immediate establishment of a mechanism to enable the mobilization of financial resources from developed countries” to developing countries for emission reduction activities aimed at reducing deforestation.⁵⁰²

Russia has also launched several programs on deforestation at the national level.⁵⁰³ During September and October 2009, the Federal Forestry Agency organized workshops on forest reproduction in several federal districts.⁵⁰⁴

Thus, Russia has been awarded a score of 0 for providing technical assistance to developing countries in their fight against deforestation.

Analyst: Darya Frolova

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment on climate change. It has provided both technical assistance and funding to developing countries aimed at reducing deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries

On 20 October 2009, Secretary of State for the Department for International Development Douglas Alexander pledged approximately GBP100 million to the World

⁴⁹⁹ XIII World Forestry Congress 2009, Forest Development: A Vital Balance, Findings and Strategic Actions (Buenos Aires) 18-23 October 2009. Date of Access: 18 December 2009. foris.fao.org/meetings/download/2009/xiii_th_world_forestry_congress/misc_documents/wfc_declaration.pdf.

⁵⁰⁰ XIII World Forest Congress, Federal Forestry Agency of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Russian Federation (Moscow) 10 November 2009. Date of Access: 18 December 2009. www.rosleshoz.gov.ru/english/media/news/56.

⁵⁰¹ Speech at Climate Change Conference Plenary Session, President of Russia (Moscow) 18 December 2009. Date of Access: 16 February 2010. eng.kremlin.ru/speeches/2009/12/18/1840_type82912type82914_223431.shtml.

⁵⁰² Decision -/CP.15, Copenhagen Accord, UNFCCC Secretariat (Bonn) 18 December 2009. Date of Access: 16 January 2010. unfccc.int/files/meetings/cop_15/application/pdf/cop15_cph_auv.pdf.

⁵⁰³ Rosleskhoz Will Take Part in Workshops on Usage and Reproduction of Forests, Federal Forestry Agency of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Russian Federation (Moscow) 18 August 2009. Date of Access: 18 December 2009. www.rosleshoz.gov.ru/media/actions/7.

⁵⁰⁴ Rosleskhoz Will Take Part in Workshops on Usage and Reproduction of Forests, Federal Forestry Agency of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Russian Federation (Moscow) 18 August 2009. Date of Access: 18 December 2009. www.rosleshoz.gov.ru/media/actions/7.

Bank's Forest Investment Program.⁵⁰⁵ The Forest Investment Program includes measures aimed at reducing deforestation and forest degradation “ranging from training forest rangers to large-scale forest governance reforms.”⁵⁰⁶ The United Kingdom has provided half of this amount up front, with the remainder to be allocated “based on the progress of both the Forest Investment Program itself and wider negotiations on forest finance.”⁵⁰⁷

Furthermore, on 27 November 2009, UK Prime Minister Gordon Brown proposed a Copenhagen Launch Fund at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Trinidad and Tobago.⁵⁰⁸ The UK pledged over GBP800 million to this fund, beginning in 2010.⁵⁰⁹ According to Prime Minister Brown, “a lot of this money would go to deforestation and stopping it.”⁵¹⁰ In order to provide additional incentives to developing countries, the allocation of these financial resources to developing countries is based on their co-financing and on the amount of emissions reduced.⁵¹¹

At the Copenhagen Conference, on 16 December 2009, the UK joined with the United States, France, Australia, Japan, and Norway committed to USD3.5 billion over three years towards as early funding towards the reduction of emissions through reduced deforestation.⁵¹² The UK will provide USD480 million of the total.⁵¹³ These financial contributions will begin in 2010.⁵¹⁴

⁵⁰⁵ Developed and Developing Countries Join Forces to Fight Climate Change with \$350 Million in New Forest Financing, World Bank (Washington) 20 October 2009. Date of Access: 18 December 2009. go.worldbank.org/PPQU5PPPT0.

⁵⁰⁶ UK Announces £100m to Tackle Poverty and Deforestation, Department for International Development (London) 20 October 2009. Date of Access: 18 December 2009. www.dfid.gov.uk/Media-Room/Press-releases/2009/UK-announces-100m-to-tackle-poverty-and-deforestation/.

⁵⁰⁷ UK Announces £100m to Tackle Poverty and Deforestation, Department for International Development (London) 20 October 2009. Date of Access: 18 December 2009. www.dfid.gov.uk/Media-Room/Press-releases/2009/UK-announces-100m-to-tackle-poverty-and-deforestation/.

⁵⁰⁸ Address by Prime Minister Gordon Brown at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting, Office of the Prime Minister (London) 27 November 2009. Date of Access: 18 December 2009. www.number10.gov.uk/Page21503.

⁵⁰⁹ Address by Prime Minister Gordon Brown at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting, Office of the Prime Minister (London) 27 November 2009. Date of Access: 18 December 2009. www.number10.gov.uk/Page21503.

⁵¹⁰ Address by Prime Minister Gordon Brown at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting, Office of the Prime Minister (London) 27 November 2009. Date of Access: 18 December 2009. www.number10.gov.uk/Page21503.

⁵¹¹ Address by Prime Minister Gordon Brown at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting, Office of the Prime Minister (London) 27 November 2009. Date of Access: 18 December 2009. www.number10.gov.uk/Page21503.

⁵¹² UK Government Press Release, Agreement on \$3.5bn initial funding for deforestation, Department of Energy and Climate Change (London) 16 December 2009. Date of Access: 18 December 2009. www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/news/pndeforest/pndeforest.aspx.

⁵¹³ UK Government Press Release, Agreement on \$3.5bn initial funding for deforestation, Department of Energy and Climate Change (London) 16 December 2009. Date of Access: 18 December 2009. www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/news/pndeforest/pndeforest.aspx.

⁵¹⁴ UK Government Press Release, Agreement on \$3.5bn initial funding for deforestation, Department of Energy and Climate Change (London) 16 December 2009. Date of Access: 18 December 2009. www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/news/pndeforest/pndeforest.aspx.

The UK has also provided technical assistance to developing countries. On 4 December 2009, Minister of State for the Department of International Development Gareth Thomas announced that the UK had allocated GBP40 million towards a new “Ecosystem Services for Poverty Alleviation Programme.”⁵¹⁵ According to Minister Thomas, this program will provide “accurate, detailed information that governments in the developing world can use to make decisions that safeguard the ecosystems that sustain their countries.”⁵¹⁶ A substantial portion of this initiative tackles the issue of deforestation in developing countries.⁵¹⁷

On 21 December 2009, Prime Minister Brown also expressed his commitment to the process that resulted in the Copenhagen Accord, vowing that the UK would do its part in finding “a way of moving this process forward.”⁵¹⁸ The Copenhagen Accord calls for the “immediate establishment of a mechanism to enable the mobilization of financial resources from developed countries” to developing countries for emission reduction activities aimed at reducing deforestation.⁵¹⁹

Thus, the United Kingdom has been awarded the score of +1 for providing technical assistance and funding to promote programs aimed at reducing deforestation and forest degradation to developing countries.

Analyst: Andrew Do

United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with its commitment on climate change. It has provided both technical assistance and funding to help developing countries reduce emissions through actions that reduce deforestation and forest degradation.

On 16 December 2009, the United States – along with the United Kingdom, France, Australia, Japan and Norway – committed to create a three-year, USD3.5 fund that will

⁵¹⁵ Multi-million Boost in Ecosystem Research, Department for International Development (London) 4 December 2009. Date of Access: 18 December 2009. www.dfid.gov.uk/Media-Room/News-Stories/2009/New-40-million-research-investment-to-make-ecosystem-services-work-for-the-poor-in-the-face-of-climate-change/.

⁵¹⁶ Multi-million Boost in Ecosystem Research, Department for International Development (London) 4 December 2009. Date of Access: 18 December 2009. www.dfid.gov.uk/Media-Room/News-Stories/2009/New-40-million-research-investment-to-make-ecosystem-services-work-for-the-poor-in-the-face-of-climate-change/.

⁵¹⁷ Multi-million Boost in Ecosystem Research, Department for International Development (London) 4 December 2009. Date of Access: 18 December 2009. www.dfid.gov.uk/Media-Room/News-Stories/2009/New-40-million-research-investment-to-make-ecosystem-services-work-for-the-poor-in-the-face-of-climate-change/.

⁵¹⁸ UK says “handful” of states wrecked climate talks, Reuters (London) 21 December 2009. Date of Access: 16 January 2010. www.reuters.com/article/idUSLDE5BK1A2.

⁵¹⁹ Decision -/CP.15, Copenhagen Accord, UNFCCC Secretariat (Bonn) 18 December 2009. Date of Access: 16 January 2010. unfccc.int/files/meetings/cop_15/application/pdf/cop15_cph_auv.pdf.

help developing countries reduce emissions through reducing deforestation.⁵²⁰ These financial contributions will begin in 2010.⁵²¹

Moreover, on 27 November 2009, US President Barack Obama expressed his support for the creation of a USD22 billion Copenhagen Launch Fund, which was proposed by the British Prime Minister Gordon Brown at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Trinidad and Tobago.⁵²² The fund, which will start in 2010, will focus on emission reductions through reduced deforestation in developing countries.⁵²³ The terms of the fund also call on the pledging countries will also provide technical assistance to developing countries in order to ensure its success.⁵²⁴

The United States has also provided technical support to developing countries. On 23 July 2009, United States Secretary of State Hillary Clinton – along with the foreign ministers of Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam – announced the launch of the “Lower Mekong Initiative.”⁵²⁵ Under the auspices of this initiative, the United States initiated several projects to assist in the management of the natural resources, including forests, of the Mekong River system.⁵²⁶ The United States have also developed a program designed to educate forest rangers in “land management, stewardship, and law enforcement.”⁵²⁷

Moreover, the United States has initiated domestic legislation aimed at supporting developing countries in their fight against forest degradation. On 26 June 2009 the US House of the Representatives passed the American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009.⁵²⁸ A similar bill, The Clean Energy Jobs and American Power Act of 2009, is

⁵²⁰ UK Government Press Release, Agreement on \$3.5bn initial funding for deforestation, Department of Energy and Climate Change (London) 16 December 2009. Date of Access: 18 December 2009.

www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/news/pndeforest/pndeforest.aspx.

⁵²¹ UK Government Press Release, Agreement on \$3.5bn initial funding for deforestation, Department of Energy and Climate Change (London) 16 December 2009. Date of Access: 18 December 2009.

www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/news/pndeforest/pndeforest.aspx.

⁵²² Gordon Brown unveils fund to tackle ‘climate emergency,’ The Guardian (London) 27 November 2009. Date of access: 18 December 2009. www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2009/nov/27/gordon-brown-unveils-climate-fund.

www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2009/nov/27/gordon-brown-unveils-climate-fund.

⁵²³ Gordon Brown unveils fund to tackle ‘climate emergency,’ The Guardian (London) 27 November 2009. Date of access: 18 December 2009. www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2009/nov/27/gordon-brown-unveils-climate-fund.

www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2009/nov/27/gordon-brown-unveils-climate-fund.

⁵²⁴ Gordon Brown unveils fund to tackle ‘climate emergency,’ The Guardian (London) 27 November 2009. Date of access: 18 December 2009. www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2009/nov/27/gordon-brown-unveils-climate-fund.

www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2009/nov/27/gordon-brown-unveils-climate-fund.

⁵²⁵ Joint press statement of the US-Lower Mekong Ministerial Meeting, US Bureau of Public Affairs (Washington) 23 July 2009. Date of Access: 15 January 2010.

www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2009/july/126377.htm.

⁵²⁶ The US and the Lower Mekong: Building Capacity to Manage Natural Resources, US Bureau of Public Affairs (Washington) 6 January 2010. Date of Access: 15 January 2010.

www.state.gov/documents/organization/135020.pdf.

⁵²⁷ The U.S. and the Lower Mekong: Building Capacity to Manage Natural Resources, Bureau of Public Affairs (Washington) 6 January 2010. Date of Access: 15 January 2010.

www.state.gov/documents/organization/135020.pdf.

⁵²⁸ US Government Funding for Forests in Developing Countries and the new REDD+ Landscape, Nicholas Institute for Environmental Policy Solutions, Duke University (Durham) 1 October 2009. Date of Access: 16 January 2010. nicholas.duke.edu/institute/REDD+landscape.memo.pdf.

currently being debated in the US Senate.⁵²⁹ If this legislation becomes law, it will establish REDD programs in developing countries and allocate approximately USD18-25 billion per year to developing countries for these programs.⁵³⁰

On 14 January 2009, the United States expressed its continued support for the Copenhagen Accord, signed at the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in December 2009.⁵³¹ The Copenhagen Accord calls for the “immediate establishment of a mechanism to enable the mobilization of financial resources from developed countries” to developing countries for emission reduction activities aimed at reducing deforestation.⁵³²

Thus, the United States have been awarded the score of +1 for providing both financial and technical assistance to developing countries in their efforts to reduce emissions through measures to curb deforestation.

Analyst: Roshan Muralidhar

European Union: +1

The European Union (EU) has fully complied with its commitment on climate change. It has provided financial investment and technical assistance to developing countries for reducing emission through reducing deforestation.

On 11 December 2009, the European Union committed EUR2.4 billion annually to a “fast-start” fund for climate change adaptation and mitigation, which will start in 2010.⁵³³ This funding, which specifically targets “vulnerable and least developed countries,” will be available for projects that reduce deforestation.⁵³⁴

The EU has also concluded agreements that provide incentives for developing countries to control deforestation. On 19 November 2009, EU signed a voluntary partnership agreement with Ghana to import only legally harvested timber to the EU market.⁵³⁵

⁵²⁹ US Government Funding for Forests in Developing Countries and the new REDD+ Landscape, Nicholas Institute for Environmental Policy Solutions, Duke University (Durham) 1 October 2009. Date of Access: 16 January 2010. nicholas.duke.edu/institute/REDD+landscape.memo.pdf .

⁵³⁰ US Government Funding for Forests in Developing Countries and the new REDD+ Landscape, Nicholas Institute for Environmental Policy Solutions, Duke University (Durham) 1 October 2009. Date of Access: 16 January 2010. nicholas.duke.edu/institute/REDD+landscape.memo.pdf .

⁵³¹ US climate envoy urges nations pledge carbon cuts, Reuters (United Nations) 14 January 2010. Date of Access: 16 January 2010. www.reuters.com/article/idUSN14537668.

⁵³² Decision -/CP.15, Copenhagen Accord, UNFCCC Secretariat (Bonn) 18 December 2009. Date of Access: 16 January 2010. unfccc.int/files/meetings/cop_15/application/pdf/cop15_cph_auv.pdf.

⁵³³ European Council 10/11 December Conclusions EUCO6/09, General Secretariat of the Council (Brussels) 11 December 2009. Date of Access: 16 January 2010. www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/en/ec/111877.pdf.

⁵³⁴ European Council 10/11 December Conclusions EUCO6/09, General Secretariat of the Council (Brussels) 11 December 2009. Date of Access: 16 January 2010. www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/en/ec/111877.pdf.

⁵³⁵ Ghana to Sign First Voluntary Partnership Agreement With EU on Legal Timber Exports, European Union (Brussels) 19 November 2009. Date of Access: 16 January 2010. europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/09/1744&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en

Environment Commissioner Stavros Dimas noted that “this will improve forest governance in Ghana and ensure that timber imports from Ghana are not linked to illegal logging.”⁵³⁶ In order to assist Ghana in the implementation of this agreement, the European Commission has set up a “multi-donor programme” that will provide both technical assistance and funding to Ghana.⁵³⁷

Furthermore, on 21 December 2009, President of the European Commission Jose Manuel Durao Barroso expressed the EU’s support for the Copenhagen Accord, noting in particular the EU’s “commitment regarding the support to developing countries.”⁵³⁸ The Copenhagen Accord calls for the “immediate establishment of a mechanism to enable the mobilization of financial resources from developed countries” to developing countries for emission reduction activities aimed at reducing deforestation.⁵³⁹

Thus, EU has been rewarded the score of +1 for providing both funding and technical assistance to developing countries to support their efforts to reduce emissions through reducing deforestation.

Analyst: Ahad Ahmed

⁵³⁶ Ghana to Sign First Voluntary Partnership Agreement With EU on Legal Timber Exports, European Union (Brussels) 19 November 2009. Date of Access: 16 January 2010. europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/09/1744&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en.

⁵³⁷ Ghana to Sign First Voluntary Partnership Agreement With EU on Legal Timber Exports, European Union (Brussels) 19 November 2009. Date of Access: 16 January 2010. europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/09/1744&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en.

⁵³⁸ Statement of President Barroso on the Copenhagen Climate Accord, COP15, EU Press Release (Copenhagen) 19 December 2009. Date of Access: 16 January 2010. europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=SPEECH/09/588&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en.

⁵³⁹ Decision -/CP.15, Copenhagen Accord, UNFCCC Secretariat (Bonn) 18 December 2009. Date of Access: 16 January 2010. unfccc.int/files/meetings/cop_15/application/pdf/cop15_cph_auv.pdf.