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The  
G8 Research Group  
at the Munk School of Global Affairs at Trinity College in the University of Toronto  
presents the

**2013 Lough Erne G8 Summit  
Interim Compliance Report**

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## 12. Climate Change: Climate and Clean Air Coalition [145]

### Commitment:

“[We will pursue ambitious and transparent action] internationally, in the UNFCCC, complemented by actions addressed through other relevant fora, including but not limited to:] the Climate and Clean Air Coalition which we all committed to join at our last Summit, where we will build on the eight global initiatives already begun and further develop the scientific evidence base and private sector involvement.”

*2013 G8 Lough Erne Communiqué*

### Assessment:

Country	Lack of Compliance	Work in Progress	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France		0	
Germany			+1
Italy		0	
Japan	-1		
Russia	-1		
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average Score		+0.33	

### Background:

The G8 has been committed to the reduction of pollutants and other steps necessary to halt climate change since the 2007 Heiligendamm Summit.<sup>744</sup>

In 1992, the UNFCCC was created as an international treaty in order to coordinate the efforts of the international community in limiting the average rise of global temperatures.<sup>745</sup> There are four focus areas the UNFCCC works within as part of its mandate: mitigation (1), adaptation (2), finance technology and capacity building (3), and economic instruments (4).<sup>746</sup>

At the 2012 Camp David Summit, the G8 specifically recognised the impact of short lived climate pollutants on climate change and established the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC) to Reduce Short-lived Climate Pollutants (SLCPs).<sup>747</sup> The focus of the CCAC is the reduction of SLCPs which include gasses such as: “methane, black carbon, tropospheric ozone, and many hydrofluorocarbons, [which] are responsible for a substantial fraction of climate

<sup>744</sup> 2012 Camp David G8 Summit Final Compliance Report, G8 Information Center (Toronto) 20 May 2013. Date of Access: 29 November 2013. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/index.html#2013>

<sup>745</sup> Background on the UNFCCC, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Bonn, Germany). Date of Access: 29 November 2013.

<sup>746</sup> An overview of the mandates, as well as the progress of work under institutions, mechanisms, and arrangement under the Convention. UNFCCC (Warsaw) 30 October 2013. Date of Access: 29 November 2013. <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2013/adp2/eng/inf02.pdf>

<sup>747</sup> Concept Paper, Climate and Clean Air Coalition (Paris) February 2012. Date of Access: 29 November 2013. <http://www.unep.org/ccac/Portals/24183/docs/ConceptPaper.pdf>

change.”<sup>748</sup> On 24 April 2012, the CCAC members met in Stockholm and prepared five initiatives focussing on municipal solid waste, diesel engines, brick production, oil and natural gas production, and alternatives for HFCs.<sup>749</sup>

**Commitment Features:**

The CCAC is “a partnership of governments, intergovernmental organizations, and representatives of the private sector, the environmental community, and other members of civil society.” The CCAC’s goals are the following:

1. Raising awareness of SLCP impacts and mitigation strategies;
2. Enhancing and developing new national and regional actions, including by identifying and overcoming barriers, enhancing capacity, and mobilizing support;
3. Promoting best practices and showcasing successful efforts; and
4. Improving scientific understanding of SLCP impacts and mitigation strategies.<sup>750</sup>

The Coalition also helps “to provide funds to help create the necessary enabling environment for action, and leverage greater private sector investment in SLCP mitigation.”<sup>751</sup>

The commitment specifically mentions the need to “further develop the scientific evidence base and private sector involvement.” Thus, compliance will be assessed on the basis of members’ participation on these two issues. Full compliance will be awarded to members, which take significant actions to further develop CCAC scientific evidence base and promote private sector involvement in CCAC activities.

**Scoring Guidelines:**

-1	Member does not participate in further development of CCAC scientific evidence base AND does not promote private sector involvement in CCAC activities.
0	Member participates in further development of CCAC scientific evidence base OR promotes private sector involvement in CCAC activities.
+1	Member participates in further development of CCAC scientific evidence base AND promotes private sector involvement in CCAC activities.

*Analyst:*

**Canada: +1**

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to contribute to the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC) to reduce Short-lived Climate Pollutants (SLCPs).

Canada is a founding member, leading partner, and the largest financial contributor to the CCAC.<sup>752</sup> Canada participates in several of the CCAC’s initiatives, including as a co-lead on the initiative to reduce SLCPs.<sup>753</sup>

<sup>748</sup> Concept Paper, Climate and Clean Air Coalition (Paris) February 2012. Date of Access: 29 November 2013. [www.unep.org/ccac/About/tabid/101649/Default.aspx](http://www.unep.org/ccac/About/tabid/101649/Default.aspx)

<sup>749</sup> CCAC A Year in the Coalition 2012-2013, Climate and Clean Air Coalition (Paris). Date of Access: 30 November 2013.

<sup>750</sup> Concept Paper, Climate and Clean Air Coalition (Paris) February 2012. Date of Access: 25 December 2013. <http://www.unep.org/ccac/Portals/24183/docs/ConceptPaper.pdf>

<sup>751</sup> Concept Paper, Climate and Clean Air Coalition (Paris) February 2012. Date of Access: 25 December 2013. <http://www.unep.org/ccac/Portals/24183/docs/ConceptPaper.pdf>

On October 2013, Environment Canada issued an Emissions Trend report outlining Canada's progress in advancing the UNFCCC's work towards climate change mitigation. According to the report, Canada is investing CAD 1.2 billion in new and additional climate change financing to support global emissions reduction.<sup>754</sup> To support the long-term mitigation of SLCPs in developing countries, the Government of Canada is delivering financial support including CAD 3 million to the Trust Fund and an additional CAD 7 million for other related projects.<sup>755</sup>

Furthermore, Canada has taken action to advance the UNFCCC's mandate in areas of adaptation and capacity building. The Canadian government has provided CAD 12.6 million to the World Meteorological Organization for projects aimed at enhancing weather services for vulnerable countries to adapt to climate change.<sup>756</sup> In a collaborative project with the United Nations Development Program, Canada has provided CAD 20 million of fast-start financing for a broad range of capacity building projects to help local populations reduce the impact of climate change.<sup>757</sup>

Thus, Canada has been awarded a score of +1 for fulfilling its commitment to reduce the use of SLCPs domestically and internationally through legislative and funding initiatives and for its action to contribute to the UNFCCC's mandate.

*Analyst: Duja Muhanna*

#### **France: 0**

France has partially has complied with its commitment to contribute to the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC) to reduce Short-lived Climate Pollutants (SLCPs).

On 20 and 21 September 2013, France held a second environmental conference to discuss the framework of ecological transition for 2014. The roadmap outlined three objectives for 2014: energy transition, biodiversity, and ecological tax.<sup>758</sup> The Parliament planned to review a bill of energy transition for adoption before the end of 2014. Subsequently, the French Government

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<sup>752</sup> Minister Aglukkaq Travels to Norway to Attend the Climate and Clean Air Coalition to Reduce Short-Lived Climate Pollutants, Environment Canada 1 September 2003. Date of Access: 16 December 2013. <http://www.ec.gc.ca/default.asp?lang=En&n=714D9AAE-1&news=A979EAB8-E681-4026-8B8F-ED6A1C50507B>.

<sup>753</sup> United Nations Environment Program, Climate and Clean Air Coalition. Date of Access: 16 December 2013. <http://www.unep.org/ccac/Partners/CountryPartners/Canada.aspx>.

<sup>754</sup> Canada's Emissions Trend, Environment Canada October 2013. Date of Access: 16 December 2013. [http://www.ec.gc.ca/ges-ghg/985F05FB-4744-4269-8C1A-D443F8A86814/1001-Canada's%20Emissions%20Trends%202013\\_e.pdf](http://www.ec.gc.ca/ges-ghg/985F05FB-4744-4269-8C1A-D443F8A86814/1001-Canada's%20Emissions%20Trends%202013_e.pdf)

<sup>755</sup> United Nations Environment Program, Climate and Clean Air Coalition. Date of Access: 16 December 2013. <http://www.unep.org/ccac/Partners/CountryPartners/Canada.aspx>.

<sup>756</sup> Canada's Action on Climate Change, Government of Canada 13 August 2013. Date of Access: 16 December 2013. <http://www.climatechange.gc.ca/default.asp?lang=En&n=0A607A30-1&offset=1&toc=show>.

<sup>757</sup> Canada's Action on Climate Change, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 13 August 2013. Date of Access: 16 December 2013. <http://www.climatechange.gc.ca/default.asp?lang=En&n=0A607A30-1&offset=1&toc=show>.

<sup>758</sup> Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy: Suites de la conférence environnementale 2013, Ministry of Ecology (Paris) 25 September 2013. Date of Access: 10 December 2013. [http://www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/spip.php?page=article&id\\_article=34187](http://www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/spip.php?page=article&id_article=34187)

announced the creations of the Office of Biodiversity and the establishment of a Climate-Energy Contribution in its Finance Act in 2014.<sup>759</sup>

Moreover, on 22 November 2013, the French Government was selected to host the Conference of the Parties on Climate Change in 2015.<sup>760</sup> President François Hollande announced that France would play a decisive role in negotiations among the participating nations. President François Hollande highlighted that “an ambitious target of 40 per cent in greenhouse emission by 2030 and of 60 per cent by 2040” is necessary to curb climate change.<sup>761</sup>

Additionally, through the Agence française du développement (AFD), France has been active player in fighting global warming since 2012. AFD has awarded EUR 2.4 billion to assist various climate projects in developing countries.<sup>762</sup>

France has received a score of 0 for its commitments to undertake significant actions in laying out the groundwork for sustainable development relating to the UNFCCC’s mandate. While France is active in its work, the government has not undertaken measures to specifically regulate the reduction of SLCPs in pertaining to CCAC.

*Analyst: Freda Zhang*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has complied with its commitment to mitigate short-lived climate pollutants (SLCPs), as dictated by the Climate and Clean Air Committee (CCAC). Thus, Germany has been awarded a score of +1.

The Climate and Clear Air Committee states that, “Germany is particularly committed to reducing the pollutants addressed by the CCAC (so-called SLCPs).”<sup>763</sup> This has been observed domestically as Germany domestically reduced pollutants such as: tropospheric ozone precursors, black carbon, nitrogen compounds, fluorinated greenhouse gases, and methane emissions.<sup>764</sup> In addition, Germany partakes in many multilateral activities on the international level.

On 3 April 2011, the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, and Nuclear Safety published a report on Germany’s climate change policies. Compared to the Greenhouse

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<sup>759</sup> Discours de clôture de la Conférence environnementale Portail du Gouvernement, 21 September 2013. Date of Access: 10 December 2013. <http://www.gouvernement.fr/premier-ministre/discours-de-cloture-de-la-conference-environnementale>

<sup>760</sup> France confirmed as host of 2015 Climate Conference, France-Diplomatie (Paris) 22 November 2013. Date of Access: 18 December 2013. <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy-1/sustainable-development-1097/21st-conference-of-the-parties-on/article/france-confirmed-as-host-of-2015>

<sup>761</sup> Issues and reasons behind the French offer to host the 21st Conference of the Parties on Climate Change 2015, France-Diplomatie (Paris) 22 May 2013. Date of Access: 18 December 2013. <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy-1/sustainable-development-1097/21st-conference-of-the-parties-on/article/issues-and-reasons-behind-the>

<sup>762</sup> L’AFD présente au Sommet de Varsovie, du 11 au 22 novembre 2013, participe aux négociations internationales sur le climat, French Development Agency 11 November 2013. Date of Access: 12 December 2013. [http://www.afd.fr/home/ctnscroll\\_ActualitesList/6\\_6?engineName=search&requestedCategories=tech\\_news\\_home\\_site\\_afd](http://www.afd.fr/home/ctnscroll_ActualitesList/6_6?engineName=search&requestedCategories=tech_news_home_site_afd)

<sup>763</sup> Germany. Date of Access: 5 January 2014. <http://www.unep.org/ccac/Partners/CountryPartners/Germany.aspx>

<sup>764</sup> Germany. Date of Access: 5 January 2014. <http://www.unep.org/ccac/Partners/CountryPartners/Germany.aspx>

gas (GHG) levels of 1990, Germany in 2011 is 26.5 per cent lower.<sup>765</sup> Furthermore, Germany aims to increase the reduction of the GHG target by 40 per cent as of 2020 — in contrast, the EU's ambitions are to reduce by 30 percent as of 2020.

According to a study published by the Ecologic Institute in June 2013, increased activity regarding energy efficiency and integration of renewable energy will have to be taken, if Germany is expected to achieve its 2020 ambition. Nevertheless, there have been significant measures taken between May 2012 and January 2013. Policy developments, such as the high implicit taxation rates on energy have rendered Germany's economy the sixth least energy intensive in the EU.<sup>766</sup>

Additionally, on 8 November 2013 a draft of the government coalition agreement was released. Section 1.4, proposes decrease the Feed in Tariffs (FITs) program that help support wind energy companies. The agreement also would see the offshore wind capacity goal for 2020 decrease from 10GW to 6.5GW.<sup>767</sup>

Germany's objectives combating climate change are ambitious. Mitigating SLCPs and aiming for lower GHGs, Germany has successfully complied with its commitment and has received a +1 for full compliance.

*Analyst: Michael Humeniuk*

## **Italy: 0**

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to take significant legislative and funding action with regards to to the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC) with its focus on reducing Short-Lived Climate Pollutants (SLCP).

On 10 October 2013, Italian minister of economic development, Flavo Zanon, and Minister of Environment Andrea Orlando, signed a ministerial decree on biorefineries.<sup>768</sup> This decree aims to promote the development, investment, and acceleration in the production of conventional bio-fuels by simplifying the procedures and permits involved in this sector.<sup>769</sup> Bio-fuels are environmentally friendly renewable and they're use will aid Italy's goal of carbon dioxide reductions by 2020 under the EU directive and the UN.

On 28 October 2013, Minister of Environment Andrea Orlando, met 12 European Union ministers and set out a new manifesto outlining: a package of climate and energy policies for 2030, reform of the European emissions market and a target for carbon dioxide reduction under

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<sup>765</sup> Germany's Climate Policies Towards a Low Carbon Society 3 April 2011. Date of Access: 5 January 2014. [http://unfccc.int/files/meetings/ad\\_hoc\\_working\\_groups/lca/application/pdf/2-4-110402\\_german\\_cc\\_bmu\\_\\_bkk.pdf](http://unfccc.int/files/meetings/ad_hoc_working_groups/lca/application/pdf/2-4-110402_german_cc_bmu__bkk.pdf)

<sup>766</sup> Assessment of climate change policies in the context of the European Semester (Berlin) June 2013. Date of Access: 5 January 2013. [http://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/g-gas/progress/docs/de\\_2013\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/g-gas/progress/docs/de_2013_en.pdf)

<sup>767</sup> Angela Merkel agrees to form German coalition with Social democrats, The Guardian (London) 27 November 2013. Date of Access: 19 December 2013.

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2013/nov/27/angela-merkel-german-coalition-social-democrats>

<sup>768</sup> Orlando and sign Zanonato regulation of biorefineries. Ministero dell' Ambiente e della tutela del territorio e del mare. 10 October 2013. Date of Access: 24 December 2013.

<http://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/orlando-e-zanonato-firmano-regolamento-su-bioraffinerie>

<sup>769</sup> Orlando and sign Zanonato regulation of biorefineries. Ministero dell' Ambiente e della tutela del territorio e del mare. 10 October 2013. Date of Access: 24 December 2013.

<http://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/orlando-e-zanonato-firmano-regolamento-su-bioraffinerie>

the UN climate negotiations.<sup>770</sup> The main intent of this legislative agreement was to promote immediate action with respect to carbon dioxide reduction.

In addition, on 7 November 2013, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) stated that, among other nations, Italy has contributed in 2013 EUR 781,168 to the Trust Fund for the Core Budget of the UNFCCC for the Convention and EUR 455,530 to the UNFCCC Trust Fund for the Kyoto protocol.<sup>771</sup> However, Italy still has contributions outstanding of EUR 629,747 for the Convention and EUR 411,894 for the Kyoto Protocol; thus, not meeting their proposed amount for 2013.<sup>772</sup>

On 15 November 2013, the Italian Council of Ministers approved the “Green Agenda” bill containing 31 articles that set out new policy and directive on environmental protection, regulatory frameworks and sustainable economic development.<sup>773</sup> All new policies have a focus on cost reduction, simplification and administrative transparency. Articles in particular that demonstrate legislative action in regards to the UNFCCC and CCAC focuses are article 12: incentive for Green economy recycling and re-use and article 15: measures to increase collection and recycling, and 20; planning incineration plants.<sup>774</sup>

Furthermore, on 27 November 2013, the Italian Ministry of Environment announced that it will be allocating EUR 5 million for the environmental rehabilitation of the Port of Piombino to ensure it is environmentally sustainable and competitive in today’s market,<sup>775</sup> Specific reference to the mechanisms by which the rehabilitation will be environmentally sustainable or how it will reduce SCLPs was not mentioned.

On 18 December 2013, Minister of Environment Andrea Orlando announced that a working group has been created to develop a national plan for the prevention of food waste as part of the National plan of waste prevention.<sup>776</sup> This could impact Italy’s SCLP emissions, especially

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<sup>770</sup> Europe immediately reduce CO2 emissions, the appeal of Orlando and 12 European Ministers. *Ministero dell’Ambiente e della tutela del territorio e del mare*. 28 October 2013. Date of Access: 24 December 2013. <http://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/europa-riduca-subito-emissioni-co2-lappello-di-orlando-e-12-ministri-europei>

<sup>771</sup> Administrative, financial and institutional matters budget performance for the biennium 2012-2013. UNFCCC (Warsaw) 07 November 2013. Date of Access: 21 December 2013. <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2013/sbi/eng/inf15.pdf>

<sup>772</sup> Administrative, financial and institutional matters budget performance for the biennium 2012-2013. UNFCCC (Warsaw) 07 November 2013. Date of Access: 21 December 2013. <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2013/sbi/eng/inf15.pdf>

<sup>773</sup> CDM approves related environmental “Green Agenda of the government”. *Ministero dell’Ambiente e della tutela del territorio e del mare*. 15 November 2013. Date of Access: 23 December 2013. <http://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/cdm-approva-collegato-ambientale-lagenda-verde-del-governo>

<sup>774</sup> CDM approves related environmental “Green Agenda of the government”. *Ministero dell’Ambiente e della tutela del territorio e del mare*. 15 November 2013. Date of Access: 23 December 2013. <http://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/cdm-approva-collegato-ambientale-lagenda-verde-del-governo>

<sup>775</sup> Piombino, Minambiente 5 million Euros. Orlando: Respected promise. *Ministero dell’Ambiente e della tutela del territorio e del mare (Livorno)*. 27 November 2013. Date of Access: 21 December 2013. <http://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/piombino-da-minambiente-5-milioni-di-euro-orlando-rispettato-impegno-preso>

<sup>776</sup> Italy has a national plan for the prevention of food waste. *Ministero dell’Ambiente e della tutela del territorio e del mare*. 18 Decemeber 2013. Date of Access: 21 December 2013. <http://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/litalia-avra-un-piano-nazionale-di-prevenzione-dello-spreco-alimentare>

landfill emissions; however, this announcement did not make specific reference to such emission reductions. On 19 December 2013, Minister of Environment Andrea Orlando also signed a program agreement to coordinate anti-pollution initiatives in Po basin; a location with frequent smog advisory days.<sup>777</sup> However, no operation proposals or funding has been provided.

Moreover, on 21 December 2013, an agreement was reached on the cooperation in the areas of energy and climate change between the Italian Foreign Minister, Emma Bonino, and Head of Iran's Department of Environment, Masoumeh Ebtekar, in Tehran, Iran.<sup>778</sup> No further action and no direct implications to SCLP reductions or UNFCCC focuses were mentioned.

Italy was awarded a score of 0 for its significant steps in invoking legislation to promote the reduction of SCLPs and many of the UNFCCC focuses. However, Italy has not provided significant funding as promised to both the UNFCCC and CCAC during the compliance period.

*Analyst: Daniel Szulc*

### **Japan: -1**

Japan has not complied with its commitments regarding climate change. So far it has not taken legislative action or allocated funding to the United Nations Framework Convention of Climate Change (UNFCCC), nor has it taken significance action towards assisting the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CACC).

Japan is still experiencing repercussions of the Fukushima nuclear meltdown. On 16 September 2013, Japan has shut down its last nuclear reactor with no schedule for when the reactors will be operational again. This lack of nuclear energy which once supplied 30 per cent of Japan's power has caused difficulties in Japan's abilities to meet its climate change commitments.<sup>779</sup>

On 15 November 2013, the Japanese government lowered 2020 emission targets from a 25 per cent reduction from 2005 to 3.8 per cent.<sup>780</sup> The target cut is a reversal in mitigation commitments made by Japan to the UNFCCC.

Thus, Japan has received a score of -1 for taking minimal measures to meet its commitments.

*Analyst: Xi Xi (Edward) Xiao*

### **Russia: -1**

Russia has failed to comply with its commitment on climate change.

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<sup>777</sup> Smog, Po basin regions sign agreement to fight pollution. *Ministreo dell'Ambiente e della tutela del territorio e del mare* (Milan). 19 December 2013. Date of Access: 21 December 2013.

<http://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/smog-regioni-bacino-padano-firmano-accordo-lotta-inquinamento>

<sup>778</sup> Italian FM meets director of Iran's Department of the Environment. *Tehran Times* (Tehran). 21 December 2013. Date of Access: 21 December 2013. <http://www.tehrantimes.com/politics/112977-italian-fm-meets-director-of-irans-department-of-the-environment>

<sup>779</sup> Japan halts last nuclear reactor at Ohi, *BBC News UK Edition* 15 September 2013. Date of Access: 20 December 2013. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-24099022>

<sup>780</sup> Japan's new CO2 goal dismays U.N. climate conference, *Reuters US Edition* 15 November 2013. Date of Access: 20 December 2013. <http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/11/15/us-climate-japan-idUSBRE9AE00P20131115>

No significant legislative or funding actions to contribute to the UNFCCC and no significant actions towards assisting the CCAC with its ongoing initiatives during the monitoring period have been registered.

Russia has failed to comply with its commitment on climate change. Thus it gets a score of -1.

*Analyst: Andrei Sakharov*

### **United Kingdom: +1**

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to support the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Climate and Clean Air Coalition, passing measures that directly tackle all four categories of this commitment: mitigation (1) adaptation, (2) finance technology, (3) capacity building, and (4) economic instruments.

On 7 November 2013 Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg gave a speech on the environment at an event hosted by the Green Alliance. Clegg observed that although some claim focusing on economic recovery should be the main priority, he argued this is in fact the time “to sharpen” the UK’s “green commitments,” adding that the UK must “make low carbon industry a cornerstone of the new economy.” He also summarized some of the key initiatives being undertaken by the current administration including the Energy Bill, the Green Investment Bank and the Local Sustainable Transport Fund. Clegg further highlighted that the government is working towards passing a “5p charge on throw-away plastic bags;” planting over one million trees “by the end of parliament;” and launching a “National Pollinator strategy next spring to protect the country’s bees and many other pollinating insects.”<sup>781</sup>

Regarding the UN climate change negotiations in Warsaw he emphasized that the UK would be pushing for an agreement to reduce the EU’s greenhouse gases by 50 per cent by 2030 — “the most ambitious target proposed by any member state.” He also noted that Britain is meeting its target of obtaining 15 per cent of its energy from renewable sources by 2020. The UK is currently the number one generator of offshore wind.<sup>782</sup>

In addition, Clegg welcomed the efforts of the Green Investment Bank which is now operating and which seeks to “to accelerate the UK’s transition to a green economy and to create an enduring Institution, operating independently of Government.”<sup>783</sup> According to Clegg, 80 per cent of the 85,000 homes which have had a Green Deal assessment confirmed that they have or intend to install an energy saving measures. Clegg also asserted that he wants to give the Green Investment Bank “the power to borrow on the markets as early as possible in the next parliament — in order to support greater levels of investment.”<sup>784</sup>

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<sup>781</sup> Staying the course on the environment: Nick Clegg speech, Cabinet Office (London) 7 November 2013. Date of Access: 20 January 2013. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/staying-the-course-on-the-environment-nick-clegg-speech>.

<sup>782</sup> Staying the course on the environment: Nick Clegg speech, Cabinet Office (London) 7 November 2013. Date of Access: 20 January 2013. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/staying-the-course-on-the-environment-nick-clegg-speech>.

<sup>783</sup> About Us, Green Investment Bank. Date of Access: 20 January 2013. <http://www.greeninvestmentbank.com/who-we-are/default.html>

<sup>784</sup> Staying the course on the environment: Nick Clegg speech, Cabinet Office (London) 7 November 2013. Date of Access: 20 January 2013. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/staying-the-course-on-the-environment-nick-clegg-speech>.

The UK government has also introduced the Local Sustainable Transport Fund which seeks to support “low carbon transport schemes.” Over GBP 1 billion will be invested to promote alternative forms of transportation such as walking, biking or public transportation.<sup>785</sup> It is also pushing for “ultra low emission vehicles” by 2040. The UK committed GBP 400 million from 2010 to 2015 to make vehicle affordable for consumers. An additional sum of GBP 500 million will be invested by 2020.<sup>786</sup>

Moreover, in a response from the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change to the Breathe Clean Air Group about the Barton Renewable Energy Plant, member of Parliament Edward Davey assured that “a biomass plant using primarily waste wood would need to go through an extremely rigorous process for pollution control.” The permit given to the plant would set limits to “on emissions to air, water, sewer, land and groundwater; disposal of ash; operating conditions such as temperature, oxygen and polluting gas concentrations; conditions on the fuel that can be burned; monitoring and reporting requirements; and conditions to achieve control of noise emissions and energy efficiency.”<sup>787</sup>

Additionally, at the Conference of Parties (COP19) in Warsaw, Poland, the UK made a significant financial pledge towards emission reduction projects as part of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). In conjunction with the United States, Norway and the World Bank, the UK launched the US280 million “BioCarbon Fund Initiative for Sustainable Forest Landscapes,” which aims to curbe deforestation levels by partnering with developing countries. After Norway, the UK was the second largest contributor, pledging a total of US120 million.<sup>788</sup> According to Edward Davey, Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change “The UK’s key objective for the Warsaw climate change talks has been met. All nations have now agreed to start their homework to prepare for a global climate change deal in 2015.”<sup>789</sup>

Furthermore, on 18 December 2013, the Energy Act received Royal Assent. According to Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg, it aims “to create the world’s first low carbon electricity market.” The Act creates provisions for decarbonization, puts in place measures to attract the UK110 billion of investment to replace current generating capacity and upgrade the grid by 2020, and to cope with a rising demand for electricity.<sup>790</sup>

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<sup>785</sup> Local Sustainable Transport Fund, Department of Transport (London) 2 July 2013. Date of Access: 20 July 2013. <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/local-sustainable-transport-fund>

<sup>786</sup> Staying the course on the environment: Nick Clegg speech, Cabinet Office (London) 7 November 2013. Date of Access: 20 January 2013. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/staying-the-course-on-the-environment-nick-clegg-speech>.

<sup>787</sup> Response to Breathe Clean Air Group campaign about burning wood and biomass, Department of Energy and Climate Change (London) 29 July 2013. Date of Access: 20 January 2013. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/response-to-breathe-clean-air-group-campaign-about-burning-wood-and-biomass>

<sup>788</sup> Climate Change Negotiations in Warsaw Result in a Timeline for Agreement in 2015, Brookings (Washington) 27 November 2013. Date of Access: 20 January 2013. <http://www.brookings.edu/blogs/up-front/posts/2013/11/27-climate-change-warsaw-cop19-timeline-hultman#>

<sup>789</sup> Outcomes of the COP19 international talks on climate change, Department of Energy and Climate Change (London) 24 November 2013. Date of access: 20 January 2013. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/outcomes-of-the-cop19-international-climate-change-talks>

<sup>790</sup> Staying the course on the environment: Nick Clegg speech, Cabinet Office (London) 7 November 2013. Date of access: 20 January 2013. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/staying-the-course-on-the-environment-nick-clegg-speech>

In addition, the UK is undertaking multilateral efforts to reduce greenhouse emissions. Under the Clean Technology Fund (CTF) the UK is providing GBP 75 million to develop a wide range of projects such as renewable energy production, energy efficiency improvements and low carbon transport development in Chile, India, Nigeria and Turkey. Combined these initiatives are projected to save 7.3 metric notes of carbon dioxide.<sup>791</sup> Furthermore, the UK Secretary of State Edward Davey met with the Romanian Environment Minister, Rovana Plumb on 4 December 2013. The two countries are working “on deepening their bilateral working relations on national and EU energy, climate and low carbon policies in order to tackle climate change effectively while boosting jobs and growth.”<sup>792</sup> In particular, they reaffirmed both countries commitment to reduce EU greenhouse emissions by 80 to 95 per cent on 1990 levels by 2050. They also acknowledged that promoting a “transition to a low carbon, green future” will contribute significantly to job creation and economic recovery.<sup>793</sup>

Moreover, the UK is working to developing advanced low-carbon fuels technologies, like converting yoghurt containers into diesel or turning household waste into jet fuel. According to Baroness Kramer Britain needs to cut its transport related emissions. “The government is looking at whether such innovative processes can help reduce carbon emissions and support the growth of a high-tech, highly-skilled industry.” Earlier in the year the UK government announced a GBP 25 million competition to develop a demonstration plant to produce advanced transport fuels.<sup>794</sup>

Therefore, the United Kingdom has been awarded a full score of +1 for taking concrete steps to support the Climate and the Clean Air Coalition.

*Analyst: Laura Correa Ochoa*

### **United States: +1**

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to reduce short-lived climate pollutants through action with the United Nations Framework Convention on the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC).

On 25 June 2013 United States President Barrack Obama introduced the ‘Climate Action Plan’ to reduce emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gasses, as well as encourage adaptation to climate change. The president announced that the United States Environmental Protection

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<sup>791</sup> Low carbon transition in Chile, India, Nigeria and Turkey, Department of Energy and Climate Change (London) 20 May 2013. Date of access: 20 January 2013. <https://www.gov.uk/government/case-studies/how-the-international-climate-fund-icf-is-supporting-a-low-carbon-transition-in-chile-india-nigeria-and-turkey>

<sup>792</sup> UK and Romania joint statement on Green Growth, Department of Energy and Climate Change (London) 4 December 2013. Date of access: 20 January 2013. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-romania-joint-statement-on-green-growth>.

<sup>793</sup> Joint Statement on Green Growth, Department of Energy and Climate Change (London) 4 December 2013. Date of access: 20 January 2013. [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/263187/JOINT\\_STATEMENT\\_ON\\_GREEN\\_GROWTH.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/263187/JOINT_STATEMENT_ON_GREEN_GROWTH.pdf)

<sup>794</sup> New green fuels in the spotlight, Department of Transport (London) 12 December 2013. Date of access: 20 January 2013. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-green-fuels-in-the-spotlight>

Agency will work to curtail carbon dioxide emissions under the Clean Air Act and will also provide guidelines for carbon dioxide emissions to reduce power plant emissions.<sup>795</sup>

Additionally on 4 September 2013 the Kingdom of Denmark, Republic of Finland, Republic of Iceland, Kingdom of Norway, Kingdom of Sweden, and the United States of America released a joint statement on their commitment to accelerating the transition to low-carbon energy systems. The Nordic countries will join the U.S. to end public funding for coal-fired power plants. The U.S. agreed to join the Nordic members of the Friends of Fossil Fuel Subsidy Reform to undertake peer reviews of domestic fossil fuel subsidies.<sup>796</sup>

On 19 August 2013, President Obama attempted to mitigate and adapt to climate change in the form of the Hurricane Sandy Rebuilding Strategy. The federal government is cooperating with state and local governments to create locally driven solution to decide how funds can be spent.<sup>797</sup>

Moreover, in 20 September 2013 the EPA proposed carbon pollution standards for new power plants to reduce carbon pollution. New large natural gas-fired turbines would need to meet a limit of 1,000 pounds of carbon dioxide per megawatt-hour. New small natural gas-fired turbines would need to meet a limit of 1,100 pounds of carbon dioxide per megawatt-hour. New coal-fired units would need to meet a limit of 1,100 pounds of carbon dioxide per megawatt-hour.<sup>798</sup>

On 1 November 2013 President Obama signed an order to establish a Task Force on Climate Preparedness and Resilience to advise the Administration on how the Federal Government can respond to the needs of communities as they are dealing with the impacts of extreme weather and other impacts of climate change.<sup>799</sup>

Furthermore, on 12 December 2013 the Department of Energy released USD 8 billion solicitations for advanced fossil energy projects as part of the president's Climate Action Plan. This will support innovative advanced fossil energy that do not release greenhouse gasses like carbon dioxide and methane.<sup>800</sup>

On 19 December 2013 President Obama's also pledged to end public funds for new coal plants that do not rely on carbon capture and sequestration technology (CCS), or as the world's poorest

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<sup>795</sup> The President's Climate Action Plan, Executive Office of the President (Washington DC) 25 June 2013. Date of Access: 18 December 2013.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/image/president27sclimateactionplan.pdf>

<sup>796</sup> Joint Statement by Kingdom of Denmark, Republic of Finland, Republic of Iceland, Kingdom of Norway, Kingdom of Sweden, and the United States of America, Office of the Press Secretary (Washington) 4 September 2013. Date of Access: 18 December 2013. <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2013/09/04/joint-statement-kingdom-denmark-republic-finland-republic-iceland-kingdo>

<sup>797</sup> Hurricane Sandy Rebuilding Task Force Releases Rebuilding Strategy, US Department of Housing and Urban Development (Washington DC) 19 August 2013. Date of Access: 18 December 2013. [http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/press/press\\_releases\\_media\\_advisories/2013/HUDNo.13-125](http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/press/press_releases_media_advisories/2013/HUDNo.13-125)

<sup>798</sup> EPA Proposes Carbon Pollution Standards for New Power Plants, The US Environmental Protection Agency (Washington DC) 20 September 2013. Date of Access: 18 December 2013.

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/advpress.nsf/0/da9640577ceacd9f85257beb006cb2b6!OpenDocument>

<sup>799</sup> Fact Sheet: Executive Order on Climate Preparedness, Office of the Press Secretary (Washington DC) 1 November 2013. Date of Access: 18 December 2013. <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2013/11/01/fact-sheet-executive-order-climate-preparedness>

<sup>800</sup> Department of Energy Releases \$8 Billion Solicitation for Advanced Fossil Energy Projects, US Department of Loan Programs Office (Washington DC) 12 December 2013. Date of Access: 18 December 2013. <https://lpo.energy.gov/department-of-energy-releases-8-billion-solicitation-for-advanced-fossil-energy-projects/>

countries when there are no other options was put to the test with the Kosovo coal plant that has been supported by the U.S. government as well as the possibility of funding from the World Bank. The Environmental Protection Agency indicated that it did not pass the test.<sup>801</sup> The EPA regulations have contributed to the closure of more than 300 coal units in 33 states.<sup>802</sup>

Thus, the United States has been awarded a score of +1 for its promotion of the UNFCCC and its four focuses and taking significant action with the CCAC to reduce SLCP's.

*Analyst: Farina Mendelson*

## **European Union +1**

The EU has fulfilled its climate change commitment. The EU has taken significant legislative and funding action towards addressing the mandate of the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC).

On 23 November 2013, the EU attended and helped to successfully meet their climate change objectives at the UN climate conference in Warsaw. The resulting agreement sets out a timeplan for nations to “accelerate efforts to deepen emissions cuts over the rest of this decade.”<sup>803</sup> Ending on 25 October 2013, the annual Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol saw the EU voice its belief that the Montreal Protocol is the best solution to ending the emissions of HCFCs. The parties present also discussed the cost and benefits of adapting technologies away from HCFCs.<sup>804</sup> On 19 November 2013, the EU further announced that one fifth of its budget — EUR 180 billion — will be directed towards climate change.<sup>805</sup>

The EU has also taken significant action by assisting other nations in building their capacity to respond to climate change, and has taken important steps towards refining their emissions trading system. On 1 December 2013, and 5 December 2013 respectively, the EU commits USD10 million to Tanzania,<sup>806</sup> and EUR 4 million to aid Maldives for the purpose of helping these two recipient nations build a capacity to adapt to and mitigate against climate change.<sup>807</sup> Moreover, the European Commission and the European External Action Service hosted a roundtable discussion about building international capacity to deal with climate change with Latin American

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<sup>801</sup> Kosovo Coal Plant Fails President Obama's Climate Plan Test, Huffington Post (Washington DC) 25 November 2013. Date of Access: 18 December 2013. [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/justin-guay/kosovo-coal-plant-fails-p\\_b\\_4339052.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/justin-guay/kosovo-coal-plant-fails-p_b_4339052.html)

<sup>802</sup> EPA Preparing to Unleash a Deluge of New Regulations, Daily Caller (Washington DC) 27 November 2013. Date of Access: 18 December 2013. <http://dailycaller.com/2013/11/27/epa-preparing-to-unleash-a-deluge-of-new-regulations/>

<sup>803</sup> Warsaw climate change conference, European Commission on Climate Action (Brussels) 23 November 2013. Date of Access: 27 December 2013. [http://ec.europa.eu/clima/events/articles/0086\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/clima/events/articles/0086_en.htm)

<sup>804</sup> 25th Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol, European Commission (Bangkok) 25 October 2013. Date of Access: 27 December 2013.

<sup>805</sup> One-fifth of total EU budget to be spent on climate action, European Commissions (Brussels) 19 November 2013 Date of Access: 27 December 2013.

[http://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/articles/news\\_2013111901\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/articles/news_2013111901_en.htm)

<sup>806</sup> Tanzania:EU Gives Tanzania U.S. \$10 Million, AllAfrica.com (Kampala) 1 December 2013. Date of Access: 27 December 2013. <http://allafrica.com/stories/201312021083.html>

<sup>807</sup> EU approves 4 million euro in climate change aid to Maldives, Global Post (Xinhua) 5 December 2013. Date of Access: 27 December 2013. <http://www.globalpost.com/dispatch/news/xinhua-news-agency/131205/eu-approves-4-million-euro-climate-change-aid-maldives>

and Caribbean countries.<sup>808</sup> In terms of economic instruments, the EU has further refined its emissions trading systems by continuing to monitor and act on ongoing emissions concerns from aircraft,<sup>809</sup> by adding the flexibility to select member states free carbon allocations for industries of their choosing,<sup>810</sup> and by continuing to work on the trading of carbon emissions credits via auction.<sup>811</sup>

Moreover, as concerns the CCAC and its mandate to address the emissions of Short-lived Climate Pollutants (SLCPs), the EU is planning strict air quality laws, is investing in emerging low carbon technologies, and is legally pursuing noncompliant nations with regards to its emissions laws. The EU has outlined a new set of air quality laws. The stated target of these laws is to reduce the level of pollutants by 20 per cent by 2030.<sup>812</sup> Methods through which the EU is attempting to reach its goal of cleaner air include the 22 October 2013 workshop report on technologies that emit little to no carbon.<sup>813</sup> On 22 November 2013, the EU also took legal action against Austria, Cyprus, Hungary, Ireland, Sweden, and Slovenia so as to ensure that all EU members follow carbon dioxide emissions and storage protocols set out as EU guidelines.<sup>814</sup>

Therefore, the EU has received a score of + 1 for taking significant steps to meet its CCAC climate change commitments.

*Analyst: Akbar Khurshid*

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<sup>808</sup> Engaging with Latin American and the Caribbean on Climate Change, European Commission (Brussels) 17 October 2013. Date of Access: 27 December 2013.

[http://ec.europa.eu/clima/events/articles/0085\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/clima/events/articles/0085_en.htm)

<sup>809</sup> Stakeholder meeting on Aviation ETS Small Emitters, European Commission (Brussels) 30 July 2013. Date of Access: 27 December 2013. [http://ec.europa.eu/clima/events/articles/0082\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/clima/events/articles/0082_en.htm)

<sup>810</sup> Commission gives green light for first set of Member States to allocate allowances for calendar year 2013, European Commission (Brussels) 18 December 2013. Date of Access: 27 December 2013.

<sup>811</sup> EU Climate Change Committee meets on 8 January to decide on back-loading details, European Commission (Brussels) 19 December 2013. Date of Access: 27 December 2013.

[http://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/articles/news\\_2013121901\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/articles/news_2013121901_en.htm)

<sup>812</sup> EU plans air quality laws to tackle 'invisible killer', BBC News (London) 18 December 2013. Date of Access 27 December 2013. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-25431608>

<sup>813</sup> Workshop to report on emerging low carbon technology, European Commission (Brussels) 22 October 2013. Date of Access: 27 December 2013. [http://ec.europa.eu/clima/events/articles/0083\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/clima/events/articles/0083_en.htm)

<sup>814</sup> Commission asks six Member States to transpose CCS Directive, closes cases against 10 others, European Commission (Brussels) 21 November 2013. Date of Access: 27 December 2013. [http://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/articles/news\\_2013112102\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/articles/news_2013112102_en.htm)