

Press Conference

● 12-00pm, 7 December 2011 ● Kosi Palm, Level 2, International Conference Centre (ICC) ● Durban ● South Africa

Rather Break the 'G77 & China'

China and India as the key players of BASIC group, in collaboration with Annex-1 lead USA, using the camouflage of G77&China, have kept the current negotiations at the False Bay of South Africa and traded off the well-being of millions of people throughout the developing world. While in one hand the USA held humanity hostage by not committing to almost anything in the current round of negotiations, despite being the largest contributor to the atmospheric GHG load, on the other hand China and India masterminded an impasse by using the 'G77&China' that combines SIDS and LDCs and Africa, as shield for engaging in a blame game and allowing the Annex-1 Parties to postpone any significant progress. We denounce the act of this Axis of Evil that has already committed increasing number of deaths and destructions to the most vulnerable countries.

In the negotiations so far, neither any sign of '... differentiated responsibility' has been observed from these Parties, nor they exhibited any willingness to act based on '... respective capabilities'. Their only capability has been displayed in the unnecessary postponement of timeline towards a settlement, that too by ensuring an apparent delayed 'peaking' and much increased adaptation gap.

By disregarding the 'common but differentiated responsibility and respective capabilities' principle of the UNFCCC and without committing to achieving the 2⁰C target and pursuing the coveted goal of 1.5⁰C, as the science dictates, the trio has resorted to all forms of ugly negotiation tactics and orchestrated a much weaker continuation of the Kyoto Protocol, that too without being functional Parties to the KP. Despite recognition that without the USA and the Parties belonging to the BASIC group, the KP is destined to its death bed for not meeting the criteria of collective responsibility of at least 55% emissions globally, the trio traded KP for not moving for a wider, deeper, and stronger emission reduction regime under the shared vision – the latter being agreed to be committed by 2009 in the Bali Process. The highjack of the negotiation process by the USA and the backstabbing of China and India to the developing party alliance under the G77&China in Copenhagen allowed all the past and current 'climate terrors' to start delaying the process, which has now taken the shape of agreed non-action till 2020 – a completely unacceptable outcome of the Bali Process.

There is no point that the SIDS, the LDCs and the African countries should ever trust the BASIC led 'G77&China' to negotiate with Annex-1 Parties.

Now that the much coveted shared vision towards a less destructive climate future along with four other objectives of the Bali Decision is watered down and surrendered and the expectations for an opportunity to ensure early actions has been postponed for at least another 9 torturous years, the fate of the most vulnerable has been guaranteed. Not only the harmful situations have been continued by the delay, any potential helpful regime has either been denied or halted. The Most Vulnerable Countries have been betrayed by their formal leadership of G77&China. It appears a signature action of the major developing countries, which have done this time and again in other international negotiations. They have always wore the mask of developing country parties, use them as a shield to ensure their own benefit from negotiations and left the alliance as soon as their benefits are guaranteed, often at the cost of poor and vulnerable countries.

We urge the African Group, the SIDS and the LDCs to come out of the illusion, accept the reality, formally protest and dissolve the G77&China, and learn to negotiate on their own. Their citizens likely to be hit hard by climate induced effects do not like to be betrayed repeatedly.

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- Moderated By: Ziaul Hoque Mukta, CSRL ● About the organizers: Rezaul Karim Chowdhury, EquityBD
 - Statement readout by: Raja Devashish Roy, BIPNet ● Questions answered by: Dr. Ahsan Uddin Ahmed, CSRL ● Vote of thanks: Dr. Abdul Matin, BAPA/Mijanur Rahman Bijoy, NCCB ●

The Press Conference is organized by the following alliances of civil society organizations in Bangladesh:

- **Bangladesh Poribesh Andolan (BAPA)** ● **Bangladesh Indigenous People's Network on Climate Change and Biodiversity (BIPNet)** ● **Climate Change Development Forum (CCDF)** ● **Campaign for Sustainable Rural Livelihoods (CSRL)** ● **Equity and Justice Working Group Bangladesh (EquityBD)** ● **Network on Climate Change, Bangladesh (NCCB)**