

NACAA Wrap Up Report from COP-17
December 12, 2011

The NACAA Delegation (Larry Greene, Co-Chair, Global Warming Committee, and Misti Duvall, Staff Associate) arrived home on Saturday. We're (mostly!) over our jet-lag and have provided a brief wrap up of the negotiations. We hope you've found these reports useful, and are available to answer any questions at lgreene@airquality.org and mduvall@4cleanair.org.

Negotiations concluded on Sunday with an agreement by the Parties to extend the Kyoto Protocol for at least 5 years and to "launch a process to develop a protocol, another legal instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change applicable to all Parties." This means that the Parties have agreed to work toward a future legally-binding agreement that would include all countries, including developing countries, which had been a major goal of the U.S. While negotiations on the form of the agreement will continue to COP-18 and beyond, Parties set a goal of 2015 for negotiating next steps, with a goal of implementation by 2020. The length of the second commitment period under the Kyoto Protocol, which will continue for at least another 5 years, will also be addressed at COP-18 in Qatar.

Decisions were also reached on a number of technical issues related to implementing the Cancun Agreements. These include agreeing on the design of the Green Climate Fund, though sources of funding for the \$100 billion promised to developing countries by 2020 are still in question, and a process for transferring clean energy technology to developing countries. Parties also agreed to consider private funding and market-based mechanisms as options for financing the Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD) program, as well as define new market mechanisms, a subject that will be taken up at COP-18.

For texts of decisions adopted by COP-17 and CMP-7, known as the "Durban Platform for Enhanced Action," visit <http://unfccc.int/2860.php>.

We hope you were able to listen in on Larry's presentation during Thursday's panel discussion, co-hosted by NACAA and The Climate Registry and entitled "Understanding the Real Impact of GHG Mitigation Activities." The handout from Larry's presentations, with links to examples of US state and local actions on climate change mitigation and adaptation, is available at http://members.4cleanair.org/rc_files/5301/NACAA%20handout%20COP%20side%20event.pdf

Finally, photos from our trip will continue to be posted in the next couple of days and are available here: <http://www.4cleanair.org/Durban2011/>.