Building a post-2012 global climate regime

European Union COP-15 information sheet

Swedish Presidency
of the European Union

European Commission

Enhancing development and transfer of technology

- *The Copenhagen agreement needs to establish the right conditions for international cooperation on technology across the full cycle, from R&D to diffusion and transfer*
- *Parties should consider setting up a technology mechanism under the Copenhagen agreement to support development and transfer of technology*
- *Developing countries should set out the support they need for technology development and deployment in their low carbon growth plans*

Enhanced action on the development and transfer of technology to support mitigation of GHG emissions and adaptation to climate change is one of the building blocks of the Bali Action Plan.

The Copenhagen agreement needs to establish the right conditions for international cooperation on technology across the **full technology cycle – from research and development to deployment, diffusion and transfer**.

Private and public spending on research, development and deployment (RD&D) related to energy has been declining globally since the 1980s. This trend must be reversed in order to build a low carbon global economy.
Global energy-related RD&D needs to be at least **doubled** from current levels by 2012 and **quadrupled by 2020**. At the same time the focus of RD&D needs to shift towards safe and sustainable, low GHG-emitting technologies, especially **renewable energy** and **energy efficiency**.

The establishment and monitoring of these objectives, as well as cooperation and capacity building on climate technologies, needs to be facilitated. The EU wants Parties to consider setting up a **technology mechanism** under the Copenhagen agreement to this end.

The mechanism should include the measures and activities needed to support development and transfer of technology. In Copenhagen Parties should agree **global technology objectives** to guide national and international development towards low carbon and climate-resilient economies. These could include the provision of global technology 'roadmaps.'

The Copenhagen agreement should recognise and build upon the **"Global partnership to drive transformational low carbon climate-friendly technologies"** established by the Major Economies Forum (MEF), as well as upon actions taken by the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), the International Energy Agency (IEA) and in other fora.

All countries should explore the potential of strengthening or establishing national and regional **centres of technological innovation**, and **networks** between these. These centres and networks should promote technology development and transfer, stimulate capacity-building and

research collaboration, and improve access to information. The EU wants to explore with other Parties how such innovation centres can best be established.

How national policy frameworks are designed and implemented is essential to driving research, development, demonstration, deployment and diffusion, including the transfer of technologies on the scale needed.
All countries should create incentives and mechanisms to engage the private sector in technology cooperation. **Public-private partnerships** and **access to carbon market financing** are important to increase the demonstration and deployment of safe and sustainable technologies in developing countries.

The EU proposes that developing countries perform national assessments of their technology needs, and of barriers to achieving them.

These assessments should be used by developing countries to make strategic choices in their **low carbon growth plans (LCGPs)** (see EU information sheet *Mitigating emissions growth in developing countries*). Developing countries' LCGPs should set out what support they need to implement actions and policy frameworks that enhance technology development and deployment.

Technology support in terms of finance, technical assistance and capacity building provided under the Copenhagen agreement should be counted as part of support to developing countries.

The protection and enforcement of **intellectual property rights** (IPR) are fundamental for promoting technological innovation and creating incentives for private sector investment in R&D.

A weakening of intellectual property protection of technologies for climate change mitigation and adaptation would risk slowing down technological development in this field, thus hampering the fight against climate change.

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