DEVELOPED COUNTRIES CHANGE GOALPOSTS EVERY TIME – THEIR INACTION IS THE ONLY UNCHANGING STORY







# **DEVELOPED COUNTRIES CHANGE GOALPOSTS EVERY TIME – THEIR INACTION IS THE ONLY UNCHANGING STORY**

#### **Rio 1992**

- UNFCCC is signed.
- Temperature: No specific target, but common goal to limit anthropogenic global warming.
- Finance: Annex-II to provide support to developing nations.
- Mitigation: To be based on equity and CBDR&RC.
- Recognition of historical responsibility a major landmark in multilateral negotiations.

### Kyoto COP3 (1997)

Kyoto Protocol adopted.

- Temperature: No specific temperature target
- Mitigation: Binding commitments on developed countries in the Kyoto
- Protocol (KP). • Specific emissions targets for Annex-I. • KP enters into force in 2005
- But US refuses to ratify KP
- Finance: No specific commitment. Developing countries had to earn their own adaptation finance through a cess on CDM earnings.

#### Bali COP13 (2007)

- Mitigation: Forcing mitigation on developing countries by "voluntary" declaration through NAMAs (Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions).
- Demand for work program on Long-Term Cooperative Action (LCA) including commitments by developing countries. Demand of peaking year from non-Annex-I.
- Non-EIT (Economies in Transition) Annex-I emissions steadily rising.

#### Copenhagen COP15 (2009)

- Temperature: 2 deg. C target introduced.
- Mitigation: Annex-I give up KP-type top-down targets and binding commitments. Voluntary actions also by developed countries.
- Finance: 17 years after Rio, the first commitment is made. Developed countries promise to mobilize 100 billion USD per year by 2020.
- Non-EIT Annex-I countries emissions reduce marginally due to recession but start rising two years later.

#### Durban COP17 (2011)

- Annex-I.
- Agreement to have a new agreement with "binding" commitments on all.
- Concerted effort to undo CBDR&RC.



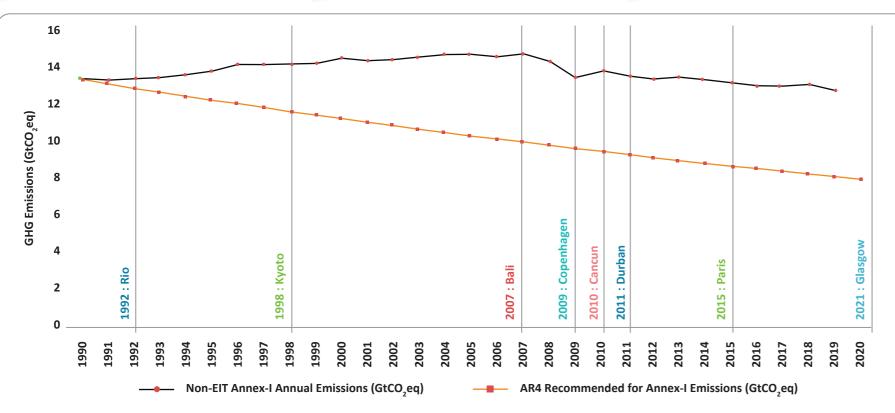
- Paris Agreement (PA) adopted.

- through NDC revision.
- - annually postponed to 2025.

## Balance sheet of developed countries in 2020 after constant shifting of goal posts:

- By end of KP first commitment period in 2012, Annex-I reduced emissions by 17% with respect to 1990 levels (with LULUCF). This was largely due to the recession in the EIT parties whose emissions reduced by 52% (with LULUCF) in this period.
- Annex-I without the EITs reduced emissions only by 1% by 2012 with respect to 1990 levels.
- Some Annex-I countries have not even achieved their highly inadequate and diluted Cancun Pledges.
- Annex-I parties projected to reduce emissions by only 10.1% with respect to 1990 levels by 2020. This is against IPCC AR4 recommendations of 25-40% reduction with respect to 1990 levels by 2020,
- EIT emissions are projected to reduce only by 33.5% with respect to 1990 levels by 2020.
- 2020.
- Developed countries cutting off all fossil fuel project support to developing countries, while continuing to invest in and retain fossil fuel infrastructure at home.

Chart prepared by climate change teams from MS Swaminathan Research Foundation, Chennai and National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bengaluru.



#The emissions in the Figure do not include LULUCF emissions

# On the road to Glasgow COP26 (2021) - Change of goal posts continues

- Temperature: "Keep 1.5 Alive" is the slogan. But committed emissions of US, EU and other big emitters exceed the 1.5 degree budget.
- Mitigation: Drive to make net-zero a commitment by all. Neither needed by science or PA.
- PA is just beginning to be implemented and goal posts have already been moved to 30 years into the future. Enhanced NDCs and Net-zero targets being forced in a top down manner
- Developed countries make a big deal of finally tightening their original weak NDCs and demand stronger NDCs from developing countries such as India that started with a 2-deg-compatible NDC.
- Even with their enhanced NDCs and net-zero commitments by 2050, developed countries are grabbing a massively disproportionate share of even the remaining carbon budget.
- Finance: Exaggerated claim by OECD on finance gap being reduced to USD 20 billion. The latest figures reported by the Standing Committee on Finance are considerably lower.

#### Cancun COP16 (2010)

- Temperature: 1.5 deg. C brought to the negotiations.
- Mitigation: Cancun Pledges introduce bottom-up, self-declared targets for Annex-I. Some Annex-I countries change baseline for emissions reduction from 1990 to 2005 or other years.
- A further breach of KP-type differentiation.

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- Finance: Slow progress on finance and technology mechanism begins.
- Temperature: 1.5 deg. C target given equal status as option with 2 deg. C.

- Mitigation: Durban Platform dilutes both equity for non-Annex-I and legally binding commitments for
- Many non-EIT Annex-I do not meet KP 1st commitment period targets.
- Temperature: Attempt to push 1.5 degrees as preferred over 2 deg C target begins.
- Mitigation: No top down commitments on both developed and developing countries.
- No binding commitments in substance but only in the process.
- Annex-I Parties begin with weak commitments only as a prelude to putting pressure on all Parties

Developing countries retain equity and CBDR&RC. India puts climate justice into PA.

• Finance: 5 years after Copenhagen, no progress is made. Target date for mobilizing USD 100 billion

Non-EIT developed countries are projected to increase emissions by 0.4% with respect to 1990 levels by