

6-17 NOV., 2006

NAIROBI, KENYA

COP12

COP PRESIDENT: KIFUTHO KIBWANA,
MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT OF KENYA

Summit Kickoff:

The 12th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP12) kicked off its work with calls for action and a stark warning that climate change is fast becoming one of the greatest challenges in human history.

The conference was held in the Kenyan capital, Nairobi, from November 6 to 17, 2006, with the participation of 190 countries; to discuss the second phase of the Kyoto Protocol and actions to be taken from 2012 to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and help developing countries adapt to climate change. Many industrialized countries had previously pledged to reduce their carbon dioxide emissions by 5.2% compared to the 1990 average, until 2012, during the signing of the "Kyoto Protocol" in 1997.



During the conference, the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Yvo de Boer, called for undertaking specific activities to be agreed upon within the five-year action plan on impacts and adaptation on the ground.

The conference also discussed energy, sustainable development, agriculture, food security and water issues to provide a platform for individuals and organizations working on development issues to adapt to climate change. In this platform, experiences are exchanged to reduce climate fluctuations, knowledge is shared, and experiences are applied on the ground.

Summit Conclusions and Recommendations:

- The need to shed light on the dangers of climate change in Africa, especially with regard to wildlife, the poor, children and women in the African continent is highlighted.
- A five-year action plan was adopted to support adaptation to climate change by developing countries.
- The plan included a structured five-year program of work on the scientific, technical, and socio-economic aspects of vulnerability and adaptation to climate change, which was adopted at COP11 in 2005.
- The conference emphasized that good energy policies can support adaptation, through the transition to a low-carbon energy sector that is resilient to face climate change. This is necessary for governments to launch campaigns to educate citizens to confront climate change. The following were also recommended: the use of irrigation, infrastructure, and technology with the adoption of drought-resistant crop varieties, improvement of animal husbandry, change of traditional farming methods, and the use of modern methods adapted to climate change.

