



Climate Solution Businesses - Press Briefing

12.00 Tuesday 9th December, *Swan Room*

CALL TO MINISTERS: CLIMATE SOLUTION BUSINESSES NEED CLEAR SIGN OF MOMENTUM FROM POZNAN

Ministers arriving at the UNFCCC meeting in Poznan must send the business community a clear political signal that reaching a global deal on climate in Copenhagen is their priority.

Poznan is the first opportunity since the financial crisis for government leaders to signal that they remain committed to the Bali timetable for adopting an effective framework to incentivise businesses providing climate solutions by the end of 2009.

A grouping of associations representing businesses that provide climate solutions - including the International Emissions Trading Association (IETA), the International Council for Sustainable Energy (ICSE), the Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC) and the Carbon Markets & Investors Association (CMIA) – highlighted the urgent need for government action to improve the confidence of businesses at the helm of the transition to a global low carbon economy.

“Governments need to instil the confidence necessary for the mobilisation of private capital and bring an end to the cycle of policy-induced boom and bust,” said a spokeswoman from CMIA. “Despite the recession, governments must reach agreement on 2020 targets in Copenhagen because prolonged policy risk will discourage investment. Targets are essential to help businesses understand ambition levels.”

“Deployment of sustainable energy and clean energy technologies is the foundation for stable, competitive and efficient economies,” said Lisa Jacobson, Executive Director of the US Business Council for Sustainable Energy. “Government stimulus packages need to ensure they are investing in the clean energy supply chain to create the green jobs that are needed to underpin this next phase of economic activity.”

“Policymakers need to incentivise private sector capital at scale in order for renewable technology to drive us forward to a low-carbon economy,” said Steve Sawyer, Secretary General of the Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC). “Instead of reinventing the wheel, governments need to build on what we have, using international instruments like the CDM alongside national policies.”

“Private sector financing will come in response to policy: an effective and widely-applied carbon price is one of the most efficient signals that governments can send. If negotiators want to design new or expanded incentives, they need to do so in a dialogue with business. The existing channels of communication with closely-involved business are, unfortunately, only occasional and very narrow,” said Henry Derwent of IETA.

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