

**PANEL 2:
COMPLIANCE MECHANISMS FOR CLIMATE PROTECTION AFTER 2012**

Panelists: Hon. Romina Picolotti, Secretary of Environment and Sustainable Development, Argentina

Kunihiko Shimada, Principal International Policy Coordinator/
Principal International Negotiator, Ministry of Environment,
Japan

Jan van den Heuvel, Director, DCMR Environmental Protection
Agency, The Netherlands

Moderator: Kenneth Markowitz, Consultant to INECE Secretariat; Senior
Counsel, Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP

Rapporteur: Meredith Reeves, Earthpace, LLC

Summary Report

The world's best hope for combating climate change lies in securing broad commitment to a successor agreement to the Kyoto Protocol before the current compliance period expires in 2012. In December 2007, the international community embarked on a two-year negotiation process under the Bali Roadmap with the goal of realizing a "shared vision for long-term cooperative action, including a long-term global goal for emission reductions." Within such an agreement, well-designed compliance mechanisms are critical to ensuring environmental benefits and economic efficiency. This panel session explored compliance mechanisms for the successor global framework and the role of national, state, and local actors in enforcing monitoring, reporting and verification programs to promote accountability and efficiency under any regulatory approach to greenhouse gas management.

During the plenary presentations, the three speakers identified the global, national, and local challenges associated with ensuring compliance of climate laws and policies and sought to guide the INECE community towards identifying the best theory and practice of environmental compliance and the innovative strategies that could help shape the new global climate mitigation and adaptation framework.

Secretary Romina Picolotti emphasized the need for any climate agreement to maximize co-benefits, such as the protection of ecosystem services. Secretary Picolotti discussed the importance of identifying areas of cooperation between developed and developing countries, similar to the recent successful consensus to accelerate the phase-out of ozone-depleting hydrochlorofluorocarbons in a way that promotes climate mitigation under the Montreal Protocol. The Secretary

illuminated the role for INECE in advancing compliance mechanisms to support national emissions mitigation regulations and discussed the importance of building capacity to help vulnerable populations adapt to the effects of climate change.

Kunihiko Shimada advocated for a balanced approach between mitigation and adaptation under a post-2012 agreement. Mr. Shimada described the commitment of parties under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to “promote and cooperate in the development, application and diffusion, including transfer, of technologies, practices and processes that control, reduce or prevent anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases” and discussed the need for public and private sector actors to fulfill this commitment through increased support for climate technology research and development and increased diffusion and dissemination of such technologies.

Jan van den Heuvel described national and sub-national measures to support climate protection, emphasizing the role of local authorities in promoting compliance with and enforcing existing laws that have climate co-benefits, such as air quality regulations, renewable electricity standards, greenhouse gas emissions permitting, and laws protecting forests and other carbon sinks. As part of the European Union reduction commitments under the Kyoto Protocol, countries may set local targets in line with the national targets. For The Netherlands, a formal agreement between the municipalities and the Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning, and the Environment commits local governments to working cooperatively to meet The Netherlands’ reduction target. Achieving progress towards climate change mitigation will only be achieved through cooperation among all levels of government – from negotiators participating in the international treaty dialogue to national governments adopting comprehensive targets to state and municipal authorities leveraging their extensive knowledge about locally-appropriate transportation and land use regulatory options.

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