

An over view of the UN Convention on Climate Change:

Process

1. **1988**: An intergovernmental Panel on CC (IPCC) was created by the World Meteorological Organization and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
2. **1990**: The IPCC issues *a first assessment* report stating that global warming is real and urging that something be done about it.
3. **1992**: Governments create the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
This convention sets a framework for intergovernmental efforts to tackle the challenge posed by climate change. It recognizes that climate change is a shared resource whose stability can be affected by industrial and other emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases. The Convention enjoys near universal membership, with 192 countries having ratified by August 2007.
4. **1994- 2008**: The Conference of the Parties (COP), an association of all the countries that are Parties to the Convention's objective, new

scientific findings and experience gained in implementing climate change policies.

5. **1997: The Kyoto Protocol**, a second, more far reaching international treaty is adopted in Kyoto, Japan. The Protocol sets binding targets for 37 industrialized countries and the European community for reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. These amount to an average of five per cent against 1990 levels over the five-year period 2008-2012. While the Convention encouraged industrialized countries to stabilize GHG emissions, the Protocol commits them to do so. It recognizes that developed countries are principally responsible for the current high-levels of GHG emissions in the atmosphere as a result of more than 150 years of industrial activity. Therefore, it places a heavier burden on developed nations under the principle of “common but differentiated responsibilities.”
6. **2001:** The detailed rules for the implementation of the Protocol were adopted at COP in Marrakesh in 2001, and are called the **Marrakesh Accords**.
7. **2005: The Kyoto Protocol entered into force** on February 16th 2005. 184 Parties of the Convention have ratified its Protocol.
8. **2007 COP Bali:** Member countries agree to begin inclusive and binding negotiations on a

post-2012 framework for reducing emissions, with a view to completing those negotiations by 2009.

- 9. 2008 – Poznan Meeting:** Parties agree to complete the first draft of a concrete negotiating text for Copenhagen at the UNFCCC gathering in Bonn in June of 2009.
- 10. Meeting in Bonn:** The Ad Hoc Working group on further commitments for industrialized countries to the Kyoto Protocol will meet in Bonn in June 2009 and Thailand, if necessary to reach consensus on further commitments to quantified emission limitations and reductions and to draft text that reflect these views.
- 11. 2009 – Copenhagen: The Copenhagen conference** will negotiate an effective and binding agreement whereby nation states reduce their carbon emissions so as to limit the negative human induced effects on the climate systems for succeeding generations. The agreement will take effect after 2012, when the Kyoto Protocol expires. For the new global agreement to be in place by the end of 2012 an agreement must be reached by 2009 at the latest to allow time for ratifications and implementation.