

**Is there a Silver Lining to the  
International Climate  
Negotiations ?  
Durban and Beyond...**

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# Outline

- The international legal framework
  - UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC 1992)
  - The Kyoto Protocol (KP 1997)
- The negotiations for a post-2012 climate regime:
  - The Bali Action Plan (2007)
  - The Copenhagen Accord (2009)
  - The Cancun Agreements (2010)
  - The Durban Platform (2011)

# The International Framework on Climate Change

- United Nation Framework Convention on Climate Change adopted in 1992 in Rio
  - « **Stabilise atmospheric levels of greenhouse gas emissions** at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system»
  - Obligations of Parties based on the principle of «**common but differentiated responsibility**»
- Main decision making body:
  - **Conference of the Parties (COP)**
    - Decisions by consensus

# The Kyoto Protocol (1997/2005)

- Obligations of **developed countries**:
  - Reduction of **at least 5%** with respect to 1990 levels in the **first commitment period** (2008-2012)
  - Reduction commitments varying from – 8 % (European Union, Switzerland) to +10 %
- Use of **flexible mechanisms to increase cost-efficiency**:
  - Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), Joint Implementation (JI), International Emission Trading (IET)

# The Kyoto Protocol

- Necessity to establish **implementation rules for the KP**
- Marrakesh Accords 2001:
  - Adoption of **a package of 15 decisions** by the COP
    - Rules on flexibility mechanisms, compliance and accounting rules, etc.
  - Common accounting rules: Coverage of sectors and gases
    - Use of common metrics
    - Land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF) accounting
- **Withdrawal** from the KP ratification process by the **United States** in 2001 !
- Entry into force of the KP in February 2005

# The Bali Road Map (2007)

- Launch at COP 13 in Bali (2007) of a new international negotiation process:
  - Reach an « **agreed outcome** » for the post-2012 period
  - Establishment of a **two-track negotiation process**:
    - AWG- KP : « **Kyoto-track** » (without the US)
    - AWG- LCA : « **Convention-track** » – The Bali Action Plan » (with the US)

# The Bali Action Plan

- A shared vision for long-term cooperative action, including a long-term global goal for emission reductions
- Enhanced national/international action on mitigation
  - Nationally appropriate mitigation commitments or actions by all developed countries which are comparable
  - Nationally appropriate mitigation actions (NAMAs) by developing countries
  - Policy approaches relating to deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+)

# The Bali Action Plan

- Enhanced action on technology development and transfer to support action on mitigation and adaptation
- Enhanced action on the provision of financial resources
- Enhanced action on adaptation

# The Copenhagen Summit (2009)

- Largest international summit with 130 heads of state
- The Conference of the Parties „**takes note**“ of the **Copenhagen Accord**
  - No adoption of the Copenhagen Accord by the COP !
- Decision to continue the negotiations in the „**two-tracks**“ (AWG-KP, AWG-LCA)

# The Copenhagen Accord

- Invitation to developed and developing countries **to submit mitigation commitments and NAMAs to the UNFCCC Secretariat**
- Recognition by Parties to limit **global warming to 2 degrees**
- Proposal by developed countries to provide **fast-start and long-term finance** as well as finance to fight deforestation (**REDD +**)
- Decision to envisage the creation of **new institutions** (Copenhagen Climate Fund, Technology Mechanism)

# The Cancun Agreements (2010)

- **KP-Track:**

- **No agreement** on a **second commitment period** !
- Decision to continue negotiating a second commitment period

- **LCA-Track:**

- Adoption of a **balanced package of decisions** by the COP despite the opposition of Bolivia !
- Compromise between
  - **Key asks of developed countries** (mitigation actions by developing countries, monitoring and verification of these actions (MRV)) and
  - **Key asks of developing countries** (mitigation commitments by developed countries, finance, technology, capacity building)

# The Cancun Agreements

- **Mitigation:**
  - The COP « **takes note** » of mitigation commitments until **2020:**
    - **Economy-wide objectives** of developed countries
    - **Nationally appropriate mitigation actions** (NAMAS) of developing countries
  - **No global mitigation commitments** for 2050 !
- **MRV:**
  - Decision to establish enhanced rules in the field of monitoring, reporting and verification for both developed and developing countries

# The Cancun Agreements

- Finance:
  - Obligation by developed countries to provide fast-start finance and long-term finance for mitigation and adaptation of developing countries
    - **30 billion \$** for 2010- 2012
    - **100 billion \$** from per annum by 2020
    - Support for REDD +
  - Decision to create a **Green Climate Fund**
- Establishment of a **Registry** to match financial support with NAMAs looking for support

# The Cancun Agreements

- **Technology:**
  - Decision to establish a Technology Committee and a Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN)
- **Adaptation:**
  - Decision to establish an Adaptation Framework and Adaptation Committee
- **Numerous working programs:**
  - Clarification of mitigation and financial pledges, MRV, registry, design of institutions
- **Periodical Review** of the adequacy of overall efforts
  - First to start in 2013 and to finish in 2015

# Evaluation ...

- **Restoration of the trust** in the UNFCCC process
- **Mitigation pledges remain unclear and are insufficient** to meet 2 degree goal
- **No certainty** about the future of the **Kyoto Protocol**
- Little direct impacts for business:
  - No decision on market-based mechanisms

# The Durban Accords

- **KP-Track:**

- Decision to have **a second commitment period** under the Kyoto Protocol from 2012 to 2017?/2020?
- Continuation of the **CDM**
- Canada decides to leave the KP
- Japan and Russia don't commit for a second commitment period
- Australia and New Zealand remain undecided

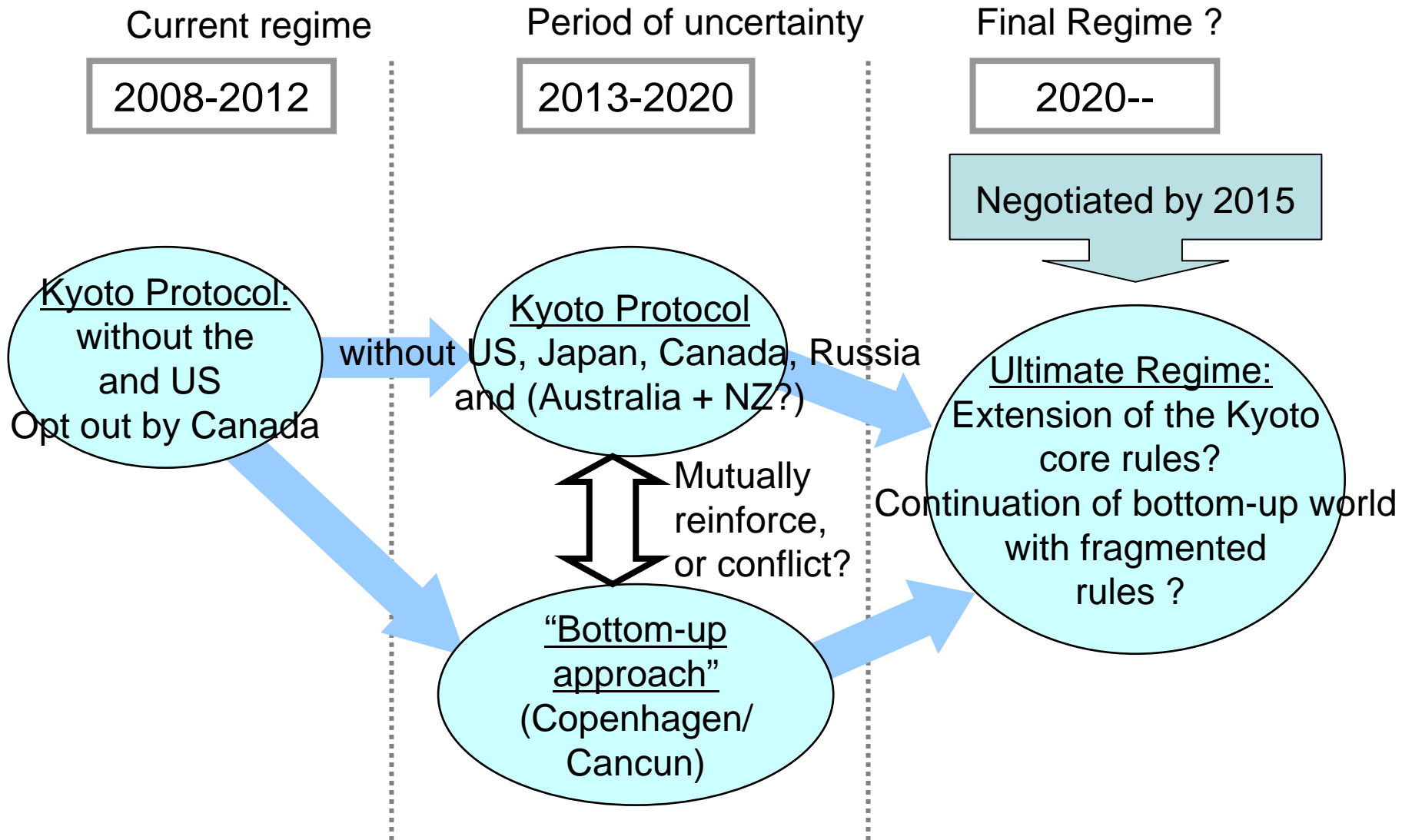
- **LCA-Track:**

- Operationalisation of the **new institutions**: Green Climate Fund, Adaptation Committee, Registry, Technology Committee

# The Durban Platform – a silver lining ?

- **Creation of a third negotiation track: the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action” (AWG-DPEA)**
  - Negotiations “to develop a protocol, another legal instrument or an agreed outcome with **legal force** under the UNFCCC applicable to **all Parties**”
  - Deadline in **2015**
  - Commitments starting by **2020**
- Strongly worded and open-ended process to strengthen ambition in the ambit of mitigation
- **For the first time **developing and industrialized countries agree** on a common approach!**

# International climate policy 2008-2020

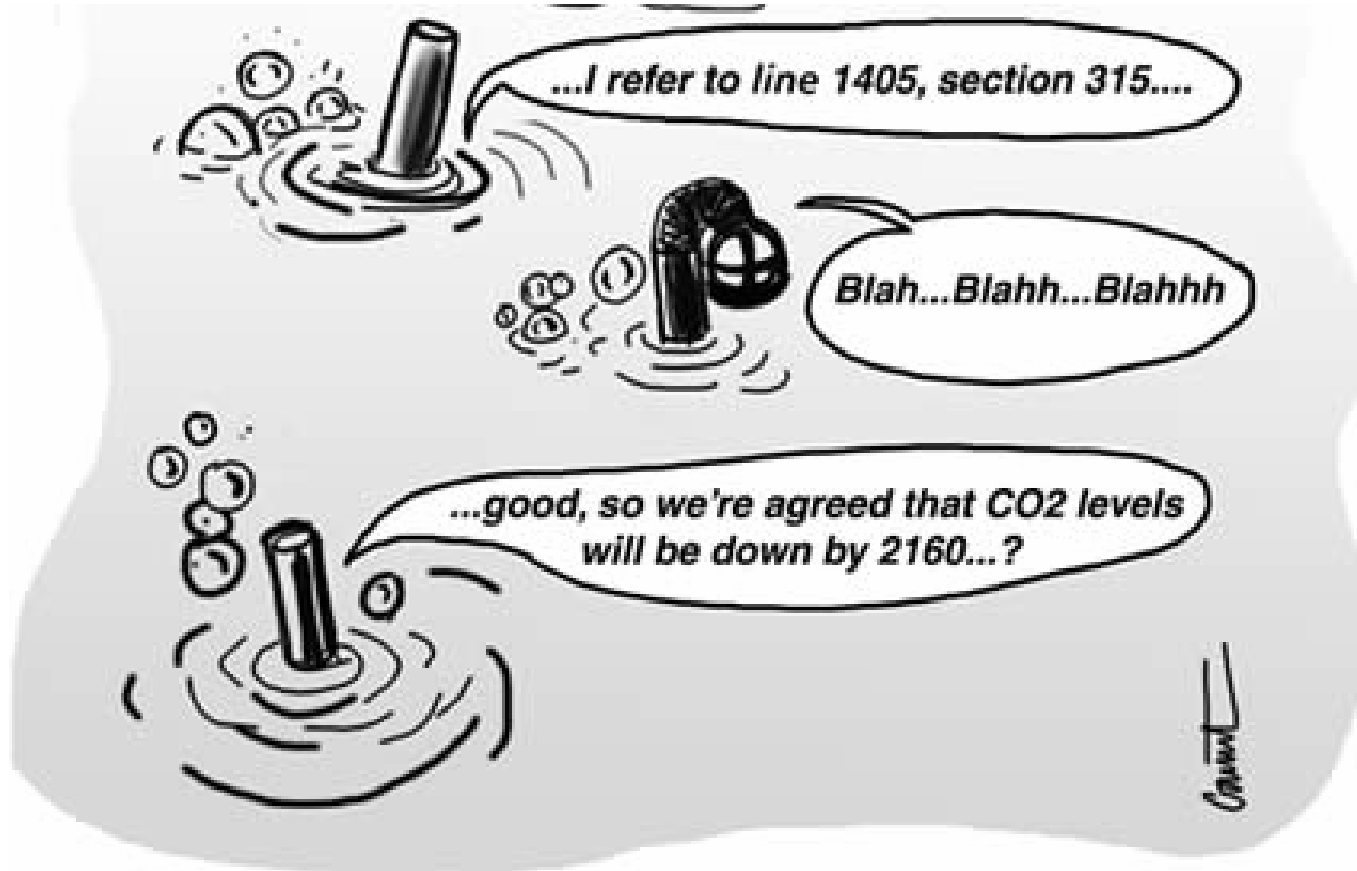


# The missing pieces ...

- **Key contentious issues** are deferred until **2015/2020**:
  - No clarity with respect to who provides what kind of financial sources
  - No clarity with respect to the meaning and the verification of mitigation pledges
  - No decision on “bunker” emissions (aircraft and maritime)
  - Without financial, technology and capacity-building support **the new institutions might remain an empty shell !**



# COP 50?



# But.....

- ....this does not mean that nothing will happen until 2020 !
  - All countries have submitted pledges for 2020 emissions reductions
  - New international institutions and work programmes are essential for progress on the ground

What is your opinion ?

Thank you for your attention!

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