



Questions for citizens participating in WWViews

WWViews

C/o The Danish Board of
Technology

Antonigade 4
DK-1106 Copenhagen K
Denmark

Tel +45 3332 0503
Fax +45 3391 0509

wwviews@wwviews.org
www.wwviews.org

WWViews Day: September 26th 2009

- Global citizen consultation on climate change
- National citizen meetings around the globe, connected and communicated on the Net
- Up to the UN conference on climate change COP15 in Copenhagen, December 2009
- Initiated and coordinated by The Danish Board of Technology and The Danish Cultural Institute
- National citizen meetings coordinated by partners all over the world

First thematic session: Climate change and its consequences

Different people have different views, knowledge and concerns about climate change. What do you associate with climate change? What are your hopes and fears about what this could mean to your community, to your children and the next generations?

1. 1 *To what extent were you familiar with climate change and its consequences before joining WWViews?*

- I knew nothing
- I knew little
- I knew some
- I knew a lot
- Don't know / do not wish to answer

1. 2 *Having been presented with various assessments of climate change and its consequences, to what extent are you concerned about climate change?*

- Very concerned
- Fairly concerned
- Slightly concerned
- Not concerned
- Don't know / do not wish to answer

For each question citizens can select only one option!

Second thematic session: Long-term goal and urgency

Some crucial elements in making a global deal are to decide about its urgency, find a shared vision and determine the level of commitment. We ask you to discuss if and when a climate deal should be made, if your country should join it, which long-term change in temperature should be aimed for, and how strong commitments should be.

It is not certain whether or not the climate summit COP15 in December 2009 will result in a new climate deal.

2.1 How urgent do you think it is to make a global climate deal?

- It is urgent, and a deal should be made at COP15
- It is important, but it can wait a few years
- A deal can wait until serious effects of climate change occur
- I do not want a global deal
- Don't know / do not wish to answer

2.2 If a new climate deal is made at COP15, should the politicians in your country give high priority to joining it?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know / do not wish to answer

The current temperature level is 0,8 degrees Celsius above the so-called pre-industrial level. The most often mentioned long-term goal is to limit the increase in global temperature to no more than 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial level.

2.3 What should be the long-term goal for limiting temperature increase?

- A goal is not necessary
- A larger increase than 2 degrees Celsius is acceptable
- Limiting the increase to 2 degrees Celsius
- Limiting the increase to the current level
- Returning to the pre-industrial level
- Don't know / do not wish to answer

It is debated if there should be economic consequences (a punishment) for countries that do not live up to their commitments in a new climate deal, and how strongly such consequences should be enforced.

2.4 Should countries that do not meet their commitments under a new climate deal be subjected to punishment?

- Yes, and the punishment should be so severe that no benefit can be gained by not meeting the commitments
- Yes, and the punishment should be significant
- Yes, but the punishment should be mostly symbolic
- There should be no punishment
- Don't know / do not wish to answer

For each question citizens can select only one option!

Third thematic session: Dealing with greenhouse gas emissions

There is much debate over how much the individual countries should reduce their greenhouse gas emissions. To decide on concrete emission targets is a highly political decision. Some say that the economic costs of meeting high reduction targets are inhibitory. Others say, that the total economy will benefit.

In this session we ask you to give your opinion on emission targets for three categories of countries – Annex 1 countries (as defined in the climate convention); non-Annex 1 countries with substantial economic income and/or high emissions, and lower-income developing countries.

Annex 1 countries: Based on IPCC calculations on how to limit global warming to 2 degrees Celcius, it has been proposed that Annex 1 countries adopt a short-term target for reduction of emissions of 25-40% in 2020 (compared to what they emitted in 1990).

(This country category includes countries such as USA, EU, Japan, Australia and Ukraine)

3.1 *Do you think the short-term reduction target for Annex 1 countries should be*

- Higher than 40%
- Between 25% and 40%
- Lower than 25%
- There should be no targets
- Don't know / do not wish to answer

Countries with substantial economic income and/or high emissions: Some of the countries not included in Annex 1 are countries with substantial economic income and/or high emissions. In the climate convention, they are categorized as developing countries, but it is debated whether these countries should take on bigger commitments in a new climate deal than lower-income developing countries. The commitments could reflect a combination of their economic income and their emission levels.

(This country category includes countries such as Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Saudi Arabia and South Africa)

3.2 *What do you think the short-term target should be for Non-Annex 1 countries with substantial economic income and/or high emissions?*

- The same targets as for Annex 1 countries
- Their emissions should be somewhat reduced and increasingly so the richer they are and the more they emit
- Their growth in emissions should be somewhat limited and increasingly so the richer they are and the more they emit
- They should not be committed to control their emissions in any way
- Don't know / do not wish to answer

Many **lower-income developing countries** have a pressing need for economic development, but if based on fossil energy this may add considerably to global greenhouse gas emissions.

(This country category includes countries such as the Maldives, Mali, Bolivia and the Philippines)

3.3 *What do you think the short-term target should be for lower-income developing countries?*

- The same targets as for Annex 1 countries
- Their emissions should be somewhat reduced and increasingly so the richer they are and the more they emit

- ❑ Their growth in emissions should be somewhat limited and increasingly so the richer they are and the more they emit
- ❑ They should not be committed to control their emissions in any way
- ❑ Don't know / do not wish to answer

For each question citizens can select only one option!

Fourth thematic session: The economy of technology and adaptation

In this session we would like you to discuss two closely related but separate issues. First, we would like you to discuss whether fossil fuel prices should be increased in order to encourage the development and introduction of new energy technologies with lesser greenhouse gas emissions.

Second, we would like you to discuss if and how funds should be raised, in order to support developing countries in adapting to climate change and limiting CO₂ emissions.

A low price of fossil fuels makes for example transport and production of consumer goods cheap. It does, however, also make it difficult to introduce new energy technologies with lesser greenhouse gas emissions. If wished so, prices on fossil fuels can be increased in various ways (for example through taxes and carbon trade).

4.1 Should the price of fossil fuels be increased?

- Yes, for all countries
- Yes, but only for Annex 1 countries and countries with substantial economic income and/or high emissions
- Yes, but only for Annex 1 countries
- No, there should be no regulation of prices
- Don't know / do not wish to answer

Some sort of global system could be installed, which would generate funds to aid developing countries in adapting to new climate and transforming their energy systems. Such a system could for example involve global green taxes on use of fossil fuel emissions and international transport. Maybe, nations could pay a fixed part of their national economy. A tax on international, monetary transactions has also been proposed.

4.2 Should a global financial system be instituted in order to generate funds for mitigation and adaptation in developing countries?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know / do not wish to answer

It has been suggested that developed countries should pay the funds needed for developing countries to adapt to climate change and to transform their energy systems. Another suggestion is that all countries (except the Least developed countries) should pay, but taking issues such as emissions, economic income and population size into account. Financing could also remain voluntary.

4.3 Which countries should be committed by a new climate deal to pay?

- All countries
- All countries (except the Least developed countries)
- Annex 1 countries
- No commitments should be determined
- Don't know / do not wish to answer

For each question citizens can select only one option!

Recommendation session

In this session we would like you to answer the following question:

Considering the issues debated today, what is your most important recommendation to the negotiators at COP15?

Your recommendation should be short and precise and look like this:

- **Headline:** Maximum 40 characters
- **Recommendation:** Maximum of 30 words

In this session the citizens select three recommendations each