

Practical

Brussels, October 27th, 2011

08h30 - 18h00

Location

Boudewijn building

Boudewijnlaan 30

1000 Brussels

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Flemish Environmental Law Association

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Vlaamse
Vereniging voor
Omgevingsrecht

VVOR

Will national climate
change legislation cool
down global warming?

Brussels, October 27th, 2011

in collaboration with

VMR
vereniging voor milieurecht

Will national climate change legislation cool down global warming?



A few months before the UN Climate Conference in Durban, South Africa, the outlook for a legally binding framework to replace or complement the Kyoto Protocol post 2012 remains very challenging. Although the generally endorsed, though not binding Cancún Agreements aim to limit average global warming to a 2° C increase compared to pre-industrial levels, the pledges put forward by industrialised and emerging economies so far, are insufficient to keep this overarching target within reach. As each country faces its own challenges, domestic policy instruments have an important role to play in the battle against climate change.

The climate conference, jointly organised by the Flemish and Dutch Environmental Law Associations, departs from this international context to explore the (legal) measures to meet these ambitious engagements. It goes without saying that all of these policies and measures have to be seen within the framework of EU laws, regulations and EC policy communications that determine the contours for domestic actions. Another element that cannot be unaddressed is the role of the international carbon market in this respect.

The second part of the conference deals with the diverse national and regional, even local measures at stake aimed at the mitigation and adaptation to climate change. Will national law bring the solution? What are the confinements but also opportunities put forward by EC law? How will the international landscape evolve and are there any alternatives if the multilateral negotiations should fail?

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Thursday October 27th, 2011

Program

08h30	Registration and Welcome Coffee	14h00	The national perspective: belief in own legislative initiatives? <i>Chair: Phon Van den Biesen</i> , Lawyer Van den Biesen Boesveld Advocaten <i>[UK-US] Valerie Fogleman</i> , Consultant Stevens & Bolton LLP/ Professor of Law Cardiff University: UK and US climate change developments <i>[FR] Philippe Billet</i> , Professor Jean Moulin Lyon 3 University/ President French Environmental Law Association: The Grenelle-legislation <i>[GE] Eckard Rehbinder</i> , Professor Research Centre for Environmental Law, Goethe University Frankfurt: Renewable energy as a panacea Discussion
09h00	Welcome and Opening Remarks <i>[BE-NL] Isabelle Lamuseau</i> , President Flemish Environmental Law Association and <i>Rosa Uylenburg</i> , President Dutch Environmental law Association <i>[BE] Jean-Pierre Heirman</i> , Secretary-General Department for Environment, Nature and Energy <i>[EU] Jos Delbeke</i> , Director-General, DG Climate Action, European Commission <i>[BE] Hans Bruyninckx</i> , Professor Catholic University of Leuven	15h30	Coffee break
10h00	The international perspective: in search of alternatives? <i>Chair: Hannes Descamps</i> , Adviser Climate Change, Flemish Government <i>[EU] Jürgen Lefevere</i> , Adviser, DG Climate Action, European Commission: Options for a post-2012 framework <i>[BE] Aviel Verbruggen</i> , Professor University of Antwerp: Critical review and alternative pathways for a jammed process Discussion	16h00	The national perspective: some hot topics <i>Chair: Mathias Bienstman</i> , Bond Beter Leefmilieu <i>[NL] Edward Brans</i> , Lawyer at Pels Rijcken & Droogleever Fortuijn: Carbon capture and storage <i>[BE] Bernard Vanheusden</i> , Professor of Law Hasselt University, Lawyer Monard-D'Hulst: The role and influence of energy regulators <i>[UK] Stephen Hockman QC</i> , Head of 6 Pump Court Chambers, London/UK Environmental Law Association: How to deal with enforcement issues? Discussion
11h00	Coffee break	17h30	Concluding observations <i>Joke Schauvliege</i> , Flemish Minister for Environment, Nature and Culture
11h30	The EU dimension: leading by example? <i>Chair: Delano Verwey</i> , Legal Adviser, DG Climate Action, European Commission <i>[PL] Tomasz Chruszczwow</i> , Head of the Polish Delegation and current EU Chair: The international offsetting mechanisms <i>[NL] Hugo von Meijenfeldt</i> , Deputy Director General at Ministry of the Environment/Dutch Climate Ambassador: Speaking with a single European voice within and outside UNFCCC Discussion	18h00	Drink
12h30	Lunch		