



Report Bonn, SB48 Climate Change session 7 - 8 May

Monday 7 May, 2pm in the WCCB Interfaith coordination meeting



Daniele Violetti, from the UNFCCC, is now switching to a different function (finance and capacity building), so no longer in the capacity of Executive Officer and will no longer liaise with faith and other groups. So faith based groups are going to be under the Global Climate Action team for the coordination purpose and interaction with faith groups as well as with other constituencies. Daniele confirmed that we should engage with the Conference Affairs Team concerning having a space for meditation during the COP 24 and having negotiators on board would certainly help. He advises that we engage with the Polish government and religious leaders on this too – noted that negotiators are also pushing for this, and it is not solely a civil society faith groups push. The UNFCCC Executive Secretary will be in Greece for the inter-faith conference at a June Inter-religious conference organized by the orthodox.

Suggestion from ACT Alliance (a coalition of more than 140 churches and church related organizations)- religious organizations could have their own Talanoa Dialogue so that our collective voice could be included in these processes? Many people are already doing this. This could give birth to a possible statement for the COP24 – ACT USA – will do a Talanoa Dialogue at Global Climate Action Summit to be held in California, September 2018, intend to come forward with a substantive outcome.

We would also consider writing a statement for the COP24 to find ways to encourage ~~the~~ this voice to be heard by politicians, as many government policy makers do not believe people would be willing to change behaviors for the help of the common good so that we make clear messages on what moral and ethical achievements we want to see to come out of Poland during COP24. We did this in other COPs and ~~it~~ it has made a difference.

ACT, QUNO (Quakers United Nations office) and BKs would help in drafting this. Considering ways to blend a statement that weaves on a achievements at the COP24, including finance and L+D, and solidarity of sustainability to support those whose lives are too poor to even consider the 3 asks – on diet, waste and energy. These are already part of poor lives in the most vulnerable communities. CIDSE (International Alliance of Catholic Development Agencies) sees ways to weave in the COP24 technical and the sustainable livelihoods together. BK upholds the importance of this, in bridging the wealthiest and poorest actions on what is most important.

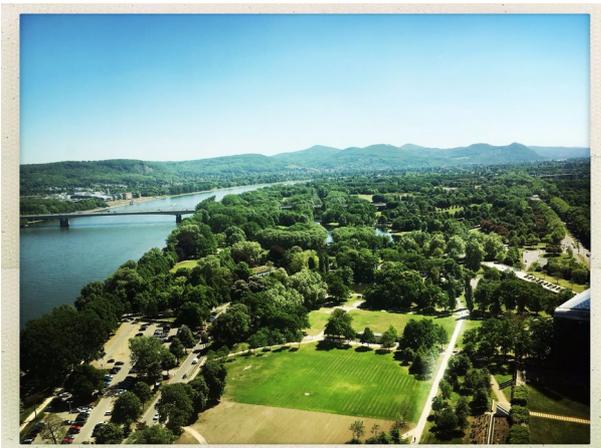
CIDSE also offers to map the different pilgrimages towards COP24

Tuesday 8th, 10 am meeting with Living the change interfaith initiative in the Marriott Hotel

This global, multi-faith initiative, for sustainable living, of which Brahma Kumaris is a part of, was launched at COP23 in Bonn and brings together a broad coalition of faith based organizations and communities. We promote climate mitigation through individual behaviour changes at scale in the areas of plant-based diet, eco-friendly transportation and reduced and renewable energy use. You can also have a look at the website with the testimonials and Stories of Change here: <https://livingthechange.net/index.html>



Tuesday 12.30 – 2 pm Linking Data and Aggregation Deliverables workshop



held at the premises of the UN Climate Change secretariat in Bonn on 8 May 2018. From that place the Rhein and Bonn look amazing. Looking at Data aggregation to 2018 Key Moments, as part of the ongoing collaboration on Climate Action Methodology, Data, and Analysis. Methods to give visibility and show the global impact of climate actions around the world.

Side event Brahma Kumaris, QUNO and Quaker's earth witness Tuesday, 8 May, from 15:00-16:30,



“Why aren't we really mitigating?” Honest conversations for effective climate action.

What are the most effective and ethical mitigation approaches, and why are they not being sufficiently implemented? Which approaches help us shift from resource exploitation to ecological integrity, and help us avoid reliance on unproven geo-engineering, which may fail to address root causes while damaging ecosystems further?

Dr Kevin Anderson, Tynday Center for Climate Change :

There is an ongoing litany of technological fraud. There is a need for a change of paradigm. Action has to be



taken instantaneously. Real mitigation means:

1. Implicit change in behaviour and habits of high emitters
2. Use every means to raise energy efficiency.

Kevin's presentation was through video If you would like to follow the full presentation

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cpy0ivgn32U&feature=youtu.be>

Paul Allen, Center for Alternative Technology:

We have all the technology needed to take action and meet mitigation demands. Why don't we go for zero carbon powering up alternative energies? A global transition transmission to 100% renewables is feasible and realistic. We have to stop short term thinking with short term revenue prospects.

Father John Brinkman Maryknoll Catholic Community:

A spiritual transformation to sustainable lifestyle is needed. We have to be awoken out of this cultural pathology that started about 200 years ago, Philosopher Rene Descartes declared human intellect as separate from nature subjecting the environment to human will. The research of the psychologist Sigmund Freud has shown that the purpose of life of the human beings is to fulfill their needs. The marketing has been figuring out how to make people want what they don't really need. Confusion and alienation of the earth community is the result of this. ~~Reintegration is needed and a new notion of the sacred.~~—Regaining a sense of the sacredness the sacred will save us.

Santa Meyer-Nandi Finding Sustainia – think and Action Lab:

What makes it so difficult to switch to a sustainable lifestyle? We have an autopilot mode of our habits. So we stick to eating meat, driving cars etc. So why don't we value the enjoyment of time instead of try to enjoy only products? Also changing habits is said to reduce the chances of Alzheimer. Do something different, do it again and make it a habit. Value your time in spending it with nature.

If you would like to follow the full presentation a link to the video

<https://vimeo.com/268544744/165fbc2d88>

Guy Lennox The Nature Conservancy :

Use nature's capacity to regenerate and restore itself. Unlock its inherent potential to contribute to climate solutions. Protect intact ecosystems and restore native ecosystems.

Martin Frick Senior Director UNFCCC - Former FAO

:For greening the planet there are 5 interdependencies:

1. Simplicity – just one generation ago our life was basically waste free.
2. Use existing technology to protect life and environment instead of investing huge funds in new technologies that might also be having harmful effects.
3. Sustainability of current interventions are not enough. We should also think of undoing the damage
4. The energy revolution has just started in terms of using and producing renewable and clean energy
5. There are constant price drops for example in buffer and storage technology, you can build up capacity every day and finally energy is for free.

Aiming at changing energy into a decentralized system rewards many stakeholders whereas the centralized system we have now rewards few stakeholders with a lot of money.

We should no longer speak of co-benefits of climate action. Clean air is no co-benefit, neither is healthy food. Pope Francis recently apologized for the Bible saying, „conquer the world“ It acutally meant„ steward the world.“

Frank Ettawageshik National Congress of American Indians: In my tribe we have the 4 directions representing the four seasons. Our concept is to stay in the middle, so you can be in balance. And we have a strong notion of respect. A loss of respect leaves a gap – it is the loss of the sacred. We don't interfere with nature, we work with it. All indigenous poeple share the view that we do sacred duty when we deal with nature. What is written in books, can easily be put aside. We are facing a lack of respect for the sacred. The problem is not outside there, it is right here in our hearts. Let it back in and you can turn the tide.

Valeriane Bernard from Brahma Kumaris guided a meditation for 5 minutes on being grateful to nature, fulfilling one's own personal responsibility, tapping into inner resources and the Source's energy.

If you would like to follow the full side event, a link to the video

<https://join-emea.broadcast.skype.com/unfccc365.onmicrosoft.com/b8a76b8b0af442e68690391219f3b718/en-US/>