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Concurrent Session II:
The Energy Challenge of Sustainable Development and Energy Security
...navigating a smooth energy transition

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...navigating a smooth energy transition

Energy Transition: how do we navigate it smoothly?

Major Premise...

- ▶ Energy transition is to be achieved by climate change agreement
- ▶ Energy transition is needed only so as to realize 2C
- ▶ Paris COP is crucial for global warming and for energy transition

Will the Paris deal achieve 2C?

Unlikely rather than likely....because

- Disconnected with science as it is ambition-based,
- Politically controversial to share global burden amongst nations
- increasingly outdated CBDR
- Climate finance not forthcoming massively
- Short-termism (new reduction commitments each 5-8 years...)

Aren't there surer solutions?

A long-term phase-out commitment is an answer...

Long-term phase-out can achieve 2C for sure and maybe more easily than other games

A long-term phase-out of your emissions...
rather than apportioning global burdens to governments

Two approaches to long-term phase-out:

- (i) Net global phase-out by 2050 achieving 2C by 85% of certainty
- (ii) Net global phase-out by 2100 through a 2050 gateway by cutting 40-70% from 2010 level: IPCC says this would realize 2C by 66% of certainty

“Possible Elements of a 2015 Legal Agreement on Climate Change”, Erik Haites, Farhana Yamin & Niklas Höhne IDDRI, 2013.

<http://www.iddri.org/Publications/Possible-Elements-of-a-2015-Legal-Agreement-on-Climate-Change>

“Feasibility of Phasing out GHG Emissions by mid-century”, Niklas Höhne, Pieter van Breevoort, Yvonne Deng , Julia Larkin, Gesine Hänsel 2 October 2013

<http://www.ecofys.com/files/files/ecofys-2013-feasibility-ghg-phase-out-2050.pdf>

Why long-term phase-out game is better and easy?

Long-term phase-out game == long-term decarbonization game

- (1) Clean-up your pollution and decarbonize your economy provide stronger ownership and motivation than just holding xx% of the global reduction duty
- (2) long-term national decarbonization strategy realizes better use of resources
- (3) adaptable to national circumstances
- (4) achievable with currently available technologies

Can each country do it? Possibly and likely...

- (1) most vulnerable countries (about 130-140 of them)
Likely due to their small carbon economies
- (2) Industrialized countries (about 25-30 of them)
Likely since they already made public they reduce 80-95% by 2050
- (3) Emerging economies (about 15-20 countries)
Likely... with massive introductions of REs...and energy savings

Phase-out is gaining ground....

● Christina Figueres, “Compelling case for global deal on climate, says UN” FT on 140114

● Angel Gurría, “A call for zero emissions”

<http://oecdinsights.org/2014/01/24/a-call-for-zero-emissions/>

● Pacific Islands Forum, “Majuro Declaration” of Sept. 5, 2012

http://www.majurodeclaration.org/the_declaration

● “The Trillion Tonne Communiqué”

The Prince of Wales's Corporate Leaders Group (CLG) 8 April 2014

<http://www.cisl.cam.ac.uk/clg#sthash.9XfNGveC.dpuf>

● “Possible Elements of a 2015 Legal Agreement on Climate Change” ,

Erik Haites, Farhana Yamin & Niklas Höhne IDDRI, 2013.

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<http://www.ecofys.com/files/files/ecofys-2013-feasibility-ghg-phase-out-2050.pdf>

● “Deep decarbonization pathways” The Deep Decarbonization Pathways Project (DDPP)

Columbia University July 9th, 2014

<http://unsdsn.org/what-we-do/deep-decarbonization-pathways/>