

Alive and Kicking

The First Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol

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In the end of 2005 the parties to the Kyoto Protocol convened to decide on a number of operational aspects of the international climate regime. More importantly, they also agreed to launch consultations on future mitigation commitments for the period after 2012, when the current "Kyoto targets" expire. Dr. Camilla Bausch and Michael Mehling analyse the outcome of the meeting in an article and discuss the summit's significance as a first step in the further evolution of the international climate regime.

The first Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (COP/MOP 1) took place in Montreal, Canada, from 28 November to 9 December 2005.

In their article, the authors outline the principal decisions passed at the meeting, notably the Marrakesh Accords implementing the flexibility mechanisms and compliance regime of the Kyoto Protocol. Moreover, they address some of the more salient developments under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and analyse the prospects for further evolution of the climate regime.

With a view to the upcoming second Meeting of the Parties in Nairobi, Kenya, in November 2006, the negotiations on future commitments are once more acquiring renewed urgency. The process set in motion during the Montreal summit is only a first step, albeit â as the article argues â a highly important one.

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Table of contents

1. Introduction
2. Background
3. Decisions Adopted in Montreal
 - 3.1 Decisions under the Kyoto Protocol
 - 3.1.1 Onset of the Post-2012 Process
 - 3.1.2 Flexibility Mechanisms
 - 3.1.3 Compliance Regime
 - 3.1.4 Financial Mechanism
 - 3.2 Decisions under the UNFCCC
 - 3.2.1 Dialogue on Long-Term Cooperative Action
 - 3.2.2 Deforestation
4. Conclusions

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