

BirdLife's key asks of Parties at UNFCCC COP 17

Title

BirdLife Policy Brief for UNFCCC COP17, Durban ? [full briefing here](#) Will Durban deliver? There is a profound mismatch between the level of action demanded by our best scientific knowledge and the level of ambition of the world's governments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. We are currently on a path towards 3°C to 5°C of climate change in this century, with likely disastrous consequences for most of the world's inhabitants and ecosystems. Healthy ecosystems and biodiversity support human lives and livelihoods. They play important roles in sequestering carbon and helping society adapt to climate change. Urgent political action is needed in Durban to commit global economies to the deep and fair greenhouse gas emissions reductions needed to limit dangerous climate change to a level that gives people and ecosystems a fighting chance to adapt. Specifically, BirdLife International calls on Parties to:

1. Secure a second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol, and secure a mandate to negotiate a legally binding instrument to be adopted no later than 2015;
2. Agree modalities and guidance for halting emissions from deforestation and degradation by 2020, whilst safeguarding biodiversity and livelihoods;
3. Agree robust and transparent rules for accounting for emissions from the land use, land-use change and forestry sector that reflect emissions actually released to the atmosphere;
4. Account fully for emissions from bioenergy;
5. Agree modalities for national adaptation planning that deliver to vulnerable groups and ecosystems;
6. Establish a pathway to deliver adequate finance to the new Green Climate Fund from 2013.

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