**Climate change debate guide**

**Readings:** Adger, W.N., Paavola, J., & Huq, S. (2006). *Fairness in adaptation to climate change.* MIT Press: Cambridge, MA., Chapters 7, 13

**Introduction**

In this debate students will do research on an assigned country to understand the impacts of climate change on the country, the current climate change policies that have been adopted by the assigned country and overall view of the country's obligation by the international community to addressing climate change. Each student will then have use environmental justice and climate justice principles to develop an argument to support the assigned country's position on climate change.

**Class Activity**

Each person is assigned a region/country (US (2), European Union [(UK, France, Italy (3)], SIDS [Maldives, Tuvalu, Grenada, Vanuatu (4)], China (2), India (1), LDC (4) [Chad, Ethiopia, Niger, Uganda] South America [Brazil, Chile, Venezuela (3)]

**Preparation for Debate**

* Engage in some research about the assigned country to understand the following:
	+ What are the impacts of climate change
	+ Where are these impacts seen
	+ What is the country’s position on climate change – if any (if you are unable to find material about this, then determine what the most plausible position would be given the characteristics of the country)

**Instructions**

* You are to develop your position of support or opposition against climate change policies (specific to mitigation measures). This is to be given in after class.
	+ These measures can include Clean Development Mechanisms and Joint Implementation
	+ Take into consideration the different climate change mitigation measures that have been proposed – e.g. carbon taxes, cap and trade, REDD programs
* Bear in mind the tenets of environmental justice and climate justice, but also using information from Chapter 7 and 13 from the Adger et al text, which illustrates the notion of who should pay whom in this climate change discourse.
* The debate will take place at a country level and so keep this in mind (in terms of scale)
* You may align yourself with parties that have a similar position to yourself if you like in order to strengthen your voice.
* Be prepared to present your position and to defend
	+ Have in mind what types of policies you believe will be best for your country
* Prepare questions for the different representatives of the various countries
* Be creative in designing your position
* Each person/coalition will have 2 to 3 minutes to present their position – if there is a coalition among countries, a spokesperson should be selected and this person will be allowed an additional minute to present the overall concerns of the coalition countries.
* Once each country/coalition has presented, the floor will then be opened for debate

REMEMBER THAT THIS EXERCISE IS TO EXAMINE THE ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE OF CLIMATE CHANGE SO KEEP THIS IN MIND WHEN YOU ARE PREPARING

**Potential Starting Points**

*North America*

US: <http://www.state.gov/g/oes/climate/> <http://www.bbc.co.uk/climate/policies/usa_policy.shtml>

<http://www.gcrio.org/OnLnDoc/pdf/HWatson011129.pdf>

*European Union*

UK: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/climate/policies/uk_policy.shtml>

<http://worldwideviewsuk.org.uk/>

[http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/+/http://www.berr.gov.uk/files/file39578.pdf](http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/%2B/http%3A//www.berr.gov.uk/files/file39578.pdf)

France: <http://www.ambafrance-us.org/climate/france-brazil-climate-change/>

<http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/france-priorities_1/environment-sustainable-development_1097/environmental-diplomacy_4155/climate_4596/french-position_7459.html>

Italy: <http://www.idia.net/Files/PositionPaperFiles/4221/PositionPaperFile/italy%20position%20paper.%20%20climate%20chnge%20and%20tourism.pdf>

<http://www.masterresource.org/2010/05/eu-climate-policy-update-italy/>

*Asia*

China: <http://en.ndrc.gov.cn/newsrelease/t20090521_280382.htm>

<http://www.ccap.org/docs/resources/905/Chinas_Measures_and_Position_on_addressing_Climate_Change.pdf>

<http://www.twq.com/08winter/docs/08winter_lewis.pdf>

India: <http://pmindia.nic.in/Climate%20Change_16.03.09.pdf>

<http://www.america.gov/st/energy-english/2009/September/20090923110407mlenuhret0.2119104.html>

<http://www.eurojournals.com/rjis_15_01.pdf>

*SIDS (also research on your specific country – Countries represented: Maldives, Tuvalu, Grenada, Vanuatu):* <http://www.sidsnet.org/aosis/documents/AOSIS%20Summit%20Declaration%20Sept%2021%20FINAL.pdf>

<http://unfccc.int/files/adaptation/adverse_effects_and_response_measures_art_48/application/pdf/200702_sids_adaptation_bg.pdf>

<http://www.sidsnet.org/1f.html>

*LDC (also research on your specific country – Countries represented: Chad, Ethiopia, Niger, Uganda):*

<http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/csd/csd15/statements/africa_cc.pdf>

<http://www.iied.org/climate-change/key-issues/economics-and-equity-adaptation/economics-climate-change-adaptation-least->

<http://www.cicero.uio.no/fulltext/index_e.aspx?id=4214>

*South America*

Brazil: <http://www.scidev.net/en/policy-briefs/brazil-climate-change-a-country-profile.html>

<http://www.as-coa.org/articles/2015/Energy_and_Climate_Change_in_Brazil/>

<http://www.climatechangecorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=4816>

Chile: <http://www.treehugger.com/files/2008/12/chile-climate-change-plan-research-adaptation-mitigation.php>

<http://www.cfm2009.org/es/programapost/resumenes/uploads/climate_change_and_politics_FD.pdf>

<http://ideas.repec.org/p/wbk/wbrwps/5170.html> - you will have to find this article

Venezuela: [http://beforeitsnews.com/story/227/670/Venezuela\_and\_climate\_change:\_Change\_the\_system,\_not\_the\_climate.html](http://beforeitsnews.com/story/227/670/Venezuela_and_climate_change%3A_Change_the_system%2C_not_the_climate.html)

<http://venezuelanalysis.com/news/1210>

<http://ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=49590>

**Examples of potential countries to be assigned**

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| United States |
| UK – European Union |
| France – European Union |
| Italy – European Union |
| China – Asia |
| China – Asia  |
| India – Asia  |
| Maldives – Small Island Developing States |
| Vanuatu – Small Island Developing States |
| Tuvalu – Small Island Developing States |
| Grenada – Small Island Developing States |
| Brazil – South America |
| Chile – South America |
| Venezuela – South America |
| Chad – Least Developed Countries |
| Ethiopia – Least Developed Countries |
| Niger – Least Developed Countries  |
| Uganda – Least Developed Countries |