

14 November 2009

## Brazil and France in climate deal



Brazil aims to cut emissions by slowing Amazon deforestation

**Brazil and France have agreed a common position on fighting global warming before next month's UN climate change conference in Copenhagen.**

They will pursue the goal of reducing industrialised nations' emissions to 50% below 1990 levels by 2050.

French President Nicolas Sarkozy and Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva announced the move in Paris.

It comes days after Britain said it was highly unlikely that a legally binding climate treaty can be agreed this year.

The climate conference, in the Danish capital from 7 to 18 December, aims to create a successor to the 1997 Kyoto treaty limiting carbon emissions.

But British Climate Secretary Ed Miliband said only a political deal was likely.

Developing countries reacted with frustration and disappointment to his comments.

Negotiations so far have been clouded by disputes between rich and developing nations, particularly about who will be financing a new climate deal.

Last week, finance ministers from G20 countries said they "recognised the need to increase significantly and urgently the scale and predictability of finance" and "that finance will play an important role in the delivery of the outcome at Copenhagen".

But on new ideas on how to raise money and manage it - and of new commitments - there was nothing, the BBC's environment correspondent Richard Black says.

### 'Climate bible'

At a news conference in Paris, Mr Sarkozy praised Brazil for being "the first developing country to put its proposals on the table", and urged on other nations to follow its example going into the Copenhagen conference.

President Lula said the document he had signed with Mr Sarkozy was "more than a

declaration of intent, it is a climate bible".

It comes after Brazil said it aimed to cut its carbon emissions by at least 36% by the year 2020.

Amid the ongoing deadlock in negotiations preceding the conference, both presidents said they would attend the Copenhagen summit, and urged the United States and China to get behind strong measures.

The two leaders said they would try to drum up wider support for their initiative before the meeting.

14 November 2009

## Brazil proposes carbon cut target

By Gary Duffy  
BBC News, Sao Paulo



President Lula says climate change is the world's most challenging issue

**The Brazilian government has announced that it aims to achieve a reduction of at least 36% on its carbon emissions by the year 2020.**

If it meets its pledge, greenhouse gas emissions would be near 1994 levels.

The proposal, which is not a binding target, was revealed in advance of the major UN summit on climate change to be held in Copenhagen in December.

Brazil hopes to put pressure on richer nations to declare their intentions and break the deadlock in the negotiations.

Details of the government's proposals were unveiled following a meeting involving President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva and some of his senior ministers.

### 'Ambitious' target

In common with other developing nations, Brazil is not setting a binding target for reducing

carbon emissions, but is instead proposing to take voluntary action.

However with its promise to reduce the anticipated level of greenhouse gas emissions in 2020 by 36%-39%, South America's largest country hopes to encourage others.



[Amazon deforestation 'record low'](#)  
[Grid: Where other countries stand](#)

Officials here regard the proposal as "ambitious" and a meaningful way to combat climate change.

Much of the proposed reduction is expected to be achieved by improved protection of the Amazon.

The government here announced this week that deforestation in the rainforest was its lowest level since monitoring first began 21 years ago.

Deforestation is blamed for more than half of Brazil's greenhouse gas emissions.

At the highest end of the proposed range of cuts, emissions would be reduced to nearly 1994 levels, but ministers say international and private sector help would be needed to reach this kind of objective.

A senior official involved in the preparations for Copenhagen said while some richer industrialised nations deserved praise for their efforts to combat climate change, as a group they had not been prepared to put their numbers on the table.

Brazil hopes it can play a leading role in securing an agreement in Copenhagen, and as part of that effort, President Lula will hold talks in Paris this weekend with his French counterpart Nicolas Sarkozy.