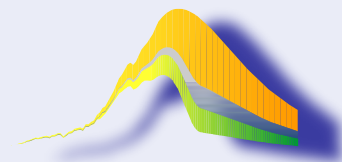




5th December 2005

Sir Nicholas Stern
Stern Review of Climate Change
2nd Floor, Room 35/36
HM Treasury
1 Horse Guards Road
London SW1A 2HQ



Dear Sir Nicholas

Contraction and Convergence [C&C] - GCI Contribution to your Review

Thank you for conducting this enquiry. The implications for energy demand and emissions of the prospects for economic growth over the coming decades are serious.

GCI has addressed this problem since 1990. Our primary emphasis has been the economic, social and environmental consequences of climate change in both developed and developing countries. The risks of increased climate volatility and major irreversible impacts, and the climatic interactions, as well as possible actions to adapt to the changing climate and the costs associated with them, are a function of the rate of damages - albeit from a lower base - already exceeding the rate of growth.

GCI believes that the framework of Contraction and Convergence [C&C] makes it possible - indeed is the necessary prerequisite - to address this death-trap. The impact and effectiveness of national and international actions reducing net emissions in a cost-effective way while promoting a dynamic, equitable and sustainable global economy, including distributional effects and impacts on incentives for investment in cleaner technologies is not possible without a C&C agreement.

The Prime Minister remarked recently: -

"We urgently need a framework, with the necessary targets, sensitively and intelligently applied over the right timeframe that takes us beyond 2012. It can only happen if the US, China and India join with Europe, Japan and others to create such a framework. Failure will mean not only increasing the damage to the environment but in a world of greater competition for carbon fuel, real pressure on energy supply and energy prices. Yet such an agreement cannot materialize without the major nations of the world agreeing an approach that is fair and balanced, sharing the most advanced science and technology to tackle carbon emissions; in other words, a just settlement as well as an effective one."

He is correct and C&C answers this call. The position is full-term constitutional. It has withstood fifteen years of criticism to become now the most widely quoted and supported position in the debate.

C&C has been formally advocated by the Africa Group since August 1997. This was reaffirmed by the Government of Kenya at the UNFCCC COP-11 in Montreal.

Enclosed is our submission to COP-11. I ask that your review focus on pages 12 - 15. Kenya's presentation at COP-11 was entitled, "The Rhino is Charging". The global average rate of damages from climate change is at least twice the global average rate of Economic Growth. This is the 'Rhino' that exercises all of us.

I hope you will find this useful and that the arguments inform the outcome of your review.

With best wishes

Yours sincerely

Aubrey Meyer

