

In Sir Nicholas Stern's fascinating lecture, he made the following observations (my emboldened words) a propos how the relationship between economic growth and the extent of hazard ahead from climate change is to be negotiated:

1. 'So it has to be an **international agreement...**'
2. There is a need for 'some kind of **common approach**'
3. With 'the right **ethical perspective**'
4. 'You're certainly going to have to think about **equity and fairness** in the burdens of adjustment'
5. 'You're going to have to think across **all those areas (of the economy)**'
6. 'How does a government set the right kind of **incentives for the private sector**'
7. 'But it is very important to think through the **institutional structures** and the incentive structures'

Earlier last year, a formidable group of senior industrialists in a combined call on the Government stated '.... **Solutions must be global** and participation of all major emitters is essential'. It went on to argue that '...Companies cannot determine the scale of needed investment without **a stabilization threshold for greenhouse gas concentrations**. The short-term "patchwork" of the Kyoto Protocol is not cost-effective. **A global long term, market-based policy framework** in a new partnership with China, India, Brazil, South Africa and Mexico is needed. **Emissions rights with common metrics that can be adjusted over time to reflect evolving developments will ensure that a truly global solution to the problem is achieved.**"

Last November at the Guildhall, the Prime Minister stated '...We urgently need a **framework**, with the necessary targets.... It can only happen if the US, China and India join with Europe, Japan and others to create such a framework.

The structures and framework that meet these essential criteria have been identified by the Global Commons Institute in its proposals for **Contraction and Convergence**. Numerous papers on this are available on its website - I attach one - together with impressive evidence of national and international support for it. The late Secretary of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change stated at the 9th COP in Milan in 2003 that **C&C** is 'inevitably required'.

The case for it has also been set out in my Penguin Press book **How we can Save the Planet** - see attached note on it - together with just one of many articles and papers on the subject, this one from the **open democracy** website. It has been further amplified in **How to save the planet: our last chance to prevent climatic catastrophe** (St. Martin's Press, in press). Indeed, the completion of this manuscript accounts for my inability to respond to the call for papers as part of the Stern Review and for the lateness of this response.

I would be extremely pleased to discuss the issues further with Sir Nicholas (to whom I send warm wishes not having seen him for some 40 years when enjoying a convivial evening with his parents) or, failing that, one of his colleagues.

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