

Response paper

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Q2

The international cooperation related to the environment has not been successful because the arrangements that are made to curb the climate change are not acceptable for each and every nation involved. Montreal Protocol is an international treaty that is made to phase out the production of substances that deplete the ozone layer. The Copenhagen Conference congregated the world leaders and highlighted the measures that are needed to be taken to tackle with climate change. These efforts have not been successful because the needs of developed countries are different from the needs to under-developed countries. Countries like China and India are in the development phase and are looking to establish themselves more in the international economy. For this purpose, they require more and more energy and as this energy is produced, more greenhouse gases would be emitted. The US and European countries, on the other hand, can afford to invest in the development of Clean Technology because they are well-developed. International cooperation asks all the countries to take certain measures to reduce the GHG. Such measures are acceptable for developed countries but under-developed countries cannot afford to comply with such requirements because of their energy needs. When these countries do not comply with international treaties, the other countries also pull out of such treaties. Apart from the economic needs, countries may also opt not to comply with a treaty because they do not want to follow the lead of Western countries. For instance, history tells us that China rarely followed the lead of US on many occasions. The treaties made for better environment can work only when

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they are harmonized and every country contributes. This has not been the case in the Montreal Protocol and the Copenhagen conference.

References

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