

**Title of Article:** From Kyoto to Copenhagen to Cancun: An Analysis of the Politics Multilateralism on Climate Change

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**Abstract:** In 1997, the world gathered in Kyoto Japan to discuss the urgent danger greenhouse emission causes to our planet and map out strategies to mitigate the consequences. Though the protocol came into effect in 2005 after Russia ratified, the manner in which major industrialized nations led by the United States foot-dragged owing to issues that developing nations such as India and China, should be made to extract commitment on reducing their emission, the Copenhagen Climate Change Conference 2009 (COP15) raised a lot of hope that these issues would be thrashed out and everybody carried along towards a concerted effort at saving our planet through a legally binding treaty. But in Copenhagen the polarization between developed countries, emerging countries such as India and China and the rest of developing countries could not lead to a meaningful but rather a rushed agreement that shifted the attention of environmental activists to Cancun Mexico where the next climate summit (COP 16) was to hold in December 2010. That date has come and gone yet there are no concrete pathways towards arriving at objectives that would halt the rapidly changing climate that is endangering our planet. This paper therefore examines multilateralism from the platform of these conferences with the intention to analyse the political undertone behind disappointing outcomes even when

most of the negotiators realises that the only way to salvage the impending doom is a multilateral binding agreement.