

# Helping Along the Road

**During the course of a two-week conference** on climate change held in Bali, Indonesia from 3-15 December 2007, 187 countries agreed on a so-called Bali Roadmap — a framework of a new agreement — to reduce global GHG emissions.

The countries called for continued action to address the negative effects of climate change. This includes implementing methods to reduce GHG emissions, identifying and deploying climate-friendly technology, and allocating funds for more climate change mitigation and adaptation measures. Organized by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Bali conference brought together high-level government representatives with observers from intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

The IAEA acted as a UN observer during the conference, serving as a resource for delegations during the talks on a variety of issues. The Agency, through

its laboratories, its Department of Nuclear Energy, and Department of Nuclear Science and Applications, supports and contributes to climate change studies and assessments on mitigation of GHG emissions. It also advocated its position that nuclear energy could play an important role in future strategies to reduce emissions.

“In the context of the UN climate change discussions, we have presented nuclear power as having strong potential for reducing future carbon emissions,” said H. Holger Rogner, IAEA Head of Planning and Economic Studies. “Nuclear power presents a relatively carbon-free energy option, but has its own bag to carry in terms of finance, waste disposal and political acceptance.”

The Agency also hosted a side-event in Bali on how the IAEA can aid Member States in the development of their own peaceful nuclear power programmes. Entitled *Nuclear Power Prospects and IAEA Assistance for Interested Developing*

*Countries*, the presentation touched upon nuclear programme implementation for States interested in launching a nuclear power programme. Indonesia’s National Nuclear Energy Agency (BATAN) also participated in the side event and gave a presentation on the country’s developing nuclear power programme. Over 120 people attended the IAEA event.

The Bali talks represent the first in a series of meetings planned to take place over the next two years. The discussions were the first steps that parties hope will lead to a follow-up agreement to the Kyoto Protocol (which includes emission reduction obligations for industrialized countries), and many of the more contentious issues are expected to be worked through later in the process.

A deadline of 2009 has been set for an end to negotiations, with a plan to bring a new agreement into force by 2013. The Kyoto Protocol expires in 2012.

# Bali Roadmap