

CJA Meeting, Saturday 27 February 2010

Complete Notes

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Summary of Meeting

CJA meeting, 27-28 February 2010, Amsterdam:

Over 50 people from at least eleven different countries met for the CJA meeting in Amsterdam. The main outcomes and agreed proposals are listed below, followed by a summary of the discussions that took place on the first day.

Main proposals agreed upon:

- Agreed to mobilize for a European Day of Action in Sep/Oct to coincide with System Change Not Climate Change day called by CJN. A call out is being prepared
- Agreed to use Bonn (29/30/31 May) as next CJA meeting, to further plan the Day of Action
- Agreed for a working group to draft a letter to take to the Bolivian social movements summit (people would not attend as CJA representatives)
- Agreed to issue a call out for solidarity actions at Danish embassy on 11th March.
- Agreed to describe situation of CJA in Europe for now as: the Amsterdam meeting on 28 February 2010 focussed on Europe to see how we can work for Climate Justice specifically in Europe. We agreed to use CJA in Europe on the following basis:
 - Act as a platform for networking and organising activities and actions in Europe based in Climate Justice
 - Connect with other related struggle and movements within Europe and elsewhere
 - Act as a space for political discussion and outlet for our ideas and messages
 - Continue to actively participate in the global network and to strengthen and spread the movement within Europe.
- Agreed for a working group to draft a discussion paper about what Climate Justice means in a European context, and to hold a day long meeting in Bonn on 31 May to discuss it (Immediately following, but separate from, the Bonn meeting on 29/30 May). ALL DATES STILL PROVISIONAL.

Other outcomes/agreements:

- International meetings should be planned long enough in advance (preferably at previous international meeting) with a PROPOSED agenda and then encourage local groups to discuss it and prepare proposals before coming to the international meeting. Try to make meetings more multilingual. Not a spokes model, but aim is to start the discussion process earlier and in many locations.

- No active call out from CJA for a people's assembly, but that we support the idea.
- Agreed that some people would develop a new proposal for how to use tools and technology to build better internal communication. They will research it and make a proposal on this in Bonn.
- Agreed that we were not going to actively encourage the adoption of the name CJA for local networks but that we would also not oppose it if certain groups wanted to. (But please see the concerns raised about this below in session 3)
- Media: Agreed that those who are contacted by journalists just say that nothing is decided yet and only once there is a call out actually speak to journalists. For now don't say anything. Once there is a call we will discuss how to deal with it and send a proposal to the list.
- We agreed a *proposed* agenda for the Bonn meeting. See below and please think what else might need to be added to the agenda.

Proposed Agenda for Bonn Meeting (hopefully 29/30 May):

(partial and in no particular order):

- Introductions and expectations
- Plan the Day of Action:
 - Report back on mobilization/outreach to new groups
 - Action proposals (how many actions, where, against/for what?)
 - Relation to global CJA – if/how to link?
 - Draft a new call for Day of Action
- Report back from Bolivia (possible proposals from that)
- Working group updates
- Splitting into working groups + feedback
- Proposal from communication group on use of new technologies for internal communication
- Feedback from grassroots movement meeting in Mexico beginning of May: What came out of this and how to relate to COP 16?
- Other action proposals
- Feedback from local groups about their local struggles and links made since today

31 May: Day of discussion on Climate Justice in Europe draft paper – where are we now?

Summary of discussion on Saturday:

(Saturday Session 1 was introduction round and expectations of the meeting)

Saturday Session 2:

This was just a brainstorm resulting in the following themes:

CJA aims to/would link to:

- Building analysis and practice that is system critical
- Empower people
- Develop long term vision
- Build movement of groups across Europe (amendment to this: but by being careful not to feed into new forms of protectionism, green jobs; has to be part of wider global struggle) (agreement from others and comment: that's a framing issue, need to be sure to involve movements in other countries too).
- Build street-ready movement (amendment to say 'direct action ready' instead. Agreed)
- Linking climate struggle with global justice and social justice struggles
- Recognising that different movements have different starting points
- Support local struggles in north and south
- be against false solutions
- be for food and energy sovereignty
- practice solidarity against police and state repression
- reclaim the commons
- take action to directly reduce emissions
- engage in social struggles
- support autonomous transition movements

Questions for further discussion:

- do we need a program for transition?
- should we have a coordinated global day of action
- is CJA for networking or for organising or both?

- how should we relate to the use of science? For example, use of 350 ppm?
- what is the role of direct action? Only antagonistic?
- what is our relationship to the UN process?
- what is our relation to the Bolivia process?
- what do we want to do with people's assemblies?
- how do we relate to climate debt?
- what exactly do we mean by solidarity?

Saturday, Session 3:

We had a discussion organized around five topics. The following working groups were proposed during the discussion and after short general discussion the meeting split up into these working groups:

- Bolivia process: draft a statement and plan a feedback process
- CJA in Europe. What are we and what does CJ mean in a European context?
- Global Day of Action planning
- Improving communication and spreading info, also skill shares.
- Post-COP 15 reassessment/evaluation and look at new potentials/limits.
- COP 16 (working group never actually happened)

Complete Notes

CJA Meeting, Saturday 27 February 2010, session 2:
 (Session 1 was introduction round and expectations of the meeting)

Summary of points made in the discussion:

We will try to keep this session more of a brainstorming session. Concrete actions will be discussed later.

- One thing that came out of Copenhagen is that the civil society organisations who focussed on the talks are all screwed. There is not even any process anymore to discuss approaching the official meetings. Our message has been reinforced by that, our way of doing things has more credibility now.

- But what is our way of doing things? Many people are looking to Bolivia as a preparation for Mexico. We are for confrontation; but we are not all in the boat together. We want to have a process of constructing alternatives based in confrontation, but are not very ready for it. We need to prepare for the confrontation side. Need to discuss.

- There are two ways to interpret the action on December 16th. The first is that our way of doing this is confrontation outside of the institution itself. But the other way is to view it as unjust system that people need to push to make it fairer, to create more possibilities for them. Is Bolivia just a way to appropriate what was a confrontation in Copenhagen? Is it a way to make the process of challenging institutions more representative or will it be a closing of space? This is not clear, it's still an open question.

- What we saw in Copenhagen was the bankruptcy of NGO politics. That way of doing politics is finished, now need more social movement politics that are about putting energy into developing an alternative. We need to talk about what CJ means in a European context. Indigenous struggles have been so central elsewhere, but we don't have them here. Need to discuss this. How can people with different political positions work together through linking strategically?

- Hand signals: It would be helpful if people used hand signals when they agree. Then I can tell what is just an idea of one person or what people more generally feel so that I can feed back to people back home how people feel.
Reply: It is really common in some countries to use these signals, but I am not really used to it. And now the aim is not to agree, so maybe let's not use them.

- Cochabamba: its up to us how to engage with it and to let it go one direction and not the other.

- Can you clarify what Cochabamba is? Reply: It's where Evo Morales will host his summit. There's been discussion about whether a government can call for such a summit and how social movements will relate to it. We need to help direct it, specifically to keep the element of conflict.

- There are different feelings about this summit. We need to broaden our knowledge. There is one tendency that sees governments and political parties as illegitimate and another that demands climate justice from those that already have power. This is a real issue. We need to find our place.

- It is obvious now that the UNFCCC's way is over. The world has to look to movements. It has to be people's movements all around the world without one boss, without one direction, but conference in Bolivia is also good.

- Can people feedback from the group discussions they've had in their countries?

- How we frame it here is important, so far we've framed it as a North-South issue, but it is a global issue. Here we can frame it in terms of social justice. Feeding that into the broader process is crucial. That has the potential to distinguish CJA from others. We need to think about how movements are structured within other countries.

- Also women need to be very clearly involved, that can be a contribution to Bolivia. It is important to act locally; It is important to incorporate this into our global struggles and to focus on the issues that people are already struggling on. Like racism and sexism, people that are already active can then relate to climate in European context. We should develop CJA in that direction.

- It's important that we approach climate change not as the first and foremost issue, but rather think about climate as a way to think about other issues like farming. We need to look at how we connect all these struggles from farming to racism. If we talk about movement building that is a productive space to look at these links.

- One of the really important international demands is reparations. The idea that they will ever be delivered within the market is impossible. It is about the need for an alternative to the market to even be able to start to think about redistributing wealth. In the context of a market it's not going to be delivered. Also linked to resources, land factories, energy, imports, exports. That is a level of discussion we are not used to having. What kind of collective control of resources do people in Europe have, can they have? Agriculture sometimes touches on this, but the question of ownership and control has been lost over the past years in other areas. We cannot expect governments to deliver on this; we have to push the agenda ourselves.

- What does CJ mean at the daily cosmopolitan level in big cities in Europe. Food sovereignty can be maybe something other than just living on the land, maybe think about how we get our food and what we consume. Also for how we get our energy, small community run energy enterprises have all been bought out over the years.

- In the UK we've really felt the need for a real viable and inspiring alternative to talk to people about. How can we really develop these?

- Struggles in Latin America have thrown out water privatisations, that's why Bolivia is important, because the process there is grounded in social movements. There is a massive social crisis in Greece; we also need to be able to say something about that. Opposite of NGO approach that treats

climate as a single issue. We cannot build a movement that way because people need to see that it is related to social justice.

- Who do you mean by we? Us as people as CJA or as our local groups? We can link all these struggles but it gets complicated. Not sure this is the direction CJA should go. As local groups we should link for sure, but as CJA it just creates bureaucracy and only works for people with time.

- It is important that we manage to communicate something out to the world after these meetings. And I think that it seems that we have been focussing a lot on what CJ means in the global south, but we have to think about going beyond this kind of sustainable agriculture etc. because most people live in big cities. We are already working on things like reclaim commons, housing, food sovereignty, supermarket actions, etc. We should manage to formulate these things together with anti-oppression and no borders issues that are related to climate. It's possible to communicate these links.

- When linking the struggles we need links to struggles for positive solutions for small scale also. Our autonomy in the form of food sovereignty and energy. We have to change, so that others can be more free. We need small motivating solutions also and to link the small scale solutions to larger struggles.

- Thinking about what justice means here, these concepts have worked in the global south, because the neoliberal model has been threatening food and shelter for people in global south, but here it has guaranteed us these. To make food and shelter the focus is great for solidarity with them, but neoliberalism is dead now, and something has to change. We are no longer guaranteed these things anymore either, precarity is a big part of our lives now too. Sovereignty means freedom to produce our own energy and food, freedom from this particular way of organising our production, organising ourselves, instead of letting it be organised by relations of capital. We need to move beyond using the idea of global south or we need to globalise the global south, global poor or global working class...

- CJA was really important politically not just as mobilization, the future of the network is worse if the focus is based on what people do locally, if we do that we need a political message to tie us together. It is worth it to revisit the texts and slogans to make them more concrete and specific. To recapture the term climate justice. It's been abused by other groups, by corporations. Need to agree on positions towards Cochabamba, towards Bonn, etc. Something on top of what we are all doing locally.

- Fossil fuels have been a focus so far, could really have an effect if we focus on this.

Break out into smaller groups to discuss further – 30 min

Feedback from small groups:

Group 1

We need a statement on what climate justice means in Europe. Not necessarily to finalise it here, but think about it. Emphasize links with other social justice movements and workers in the energy industry. Emphasise the democratisation of transition. How we can have an autonomous transition movement? So far transition movements have not been so political. How to make these more political? More confrontational? Maybe have networks that can support these things. We should work on structures for sharing knowledge. Building capacity for summit mobilizations, or learning how to link farming policies to no borders and have that information available to people. We also discussed the need for finding out about different groups in Europe that are not active and find out how to get them involved, and we said we need to be more proactive in talking about ownership.

Group 2

We discussed the need to link social struggles with climate issues, not just in terms of practical engagement by literally joining other struggles, but also the need for deep theoretical analysis about links based in struggle. We also need to think about freedom of expression and anti-repression. Continue to resist false solutions. Reclaim the term climate justice. Not just talk about % cuts etc. but show people real solutions, autonomous spaces as well as solutions like converting production. Building links between struggles within the north and within the south.

Group 3

We discussed three things that CJA could do: 1. Connecting the dots, CJA could do this in two ways: by linking struggles happening all around the world, struggles of all sorts, on an antagonistic resistance level and also by connecting the solutions that already exist to solve the crisis. CJA as connector in both. 2. Facilitating people to have power and autonomy over their own decisions, to create the change that they want. 3. Have a long-term view, knowing that work will never be done, that it's a continuous process, to transform everyday life everywhere. Defining CJ through our actions not just through words and debate. We need to awaken the public to these issues, not just sign petition, but get involved. Moving beyond environmentalism, both reactive and affirmative aspects are needed. Talked about the concept of the commons as an important concept to engage with in Europe in order to think about the way we relate to resources.

Group 4

We were a really diverse group and we didn't reach any agreed statements so I will just summarize the discussion. People's assembly at COP15 formed a global movement, this was very important, led to a discussion about how do we change the bigger system while changes are happening locally. Act locally is good, but how do we change larger problem? Think globally, act locally? 'System change not climate change' as a slogan worked. Managed to say that slogan a lot during COP15 and it was recognised by the broad movement and they adopted it. Even within Klimaforum declaration included this slogan that we created. Now it is even legitimate to say that the system is the problem and the climate justice has to be framed within the system change

perspective. Turned to more social justice than climate justice. How can we fade out fossil fuels? That should be a point in our strategies. Also need to think about climate debates for Europeans. Should we be concrete about what we mean by system change? Is it important to explain this? In the UK people get asked a lot what they mean by this and they disagree a lot. So maybe no need to be more specific? CJA could fill the empty political space created after COP 15. Nothing came out of it and there is a big political space that is not being filled, how could we fill it? Something we could do. What should we concretely say about how to stop climate change? Should we say 350ppm as maximum and that the sky should not be privatised, that it belongs to everyone? We had a big discussion about concrete scientific things and whether/how to include these. Doesn't make sense from a social struggle point of view. CJA as a platform to get messages across? For movement building, share experiences proving inspiration. Food and energy sovereignty was discussed, point was made that maybe we have been doing a lot of direct action in Europe and people are tired of direct action. This mass direct action is very used and it creates reactions from people who think we are shutting down their work etc. Are there other ways to create space to get political messages across? Global days of action in the past, why haven't those days worked? Very few examples when it has worked to create energy and build a movement. We need to talk about this and find ways to build the movement.

Group 5

We didn't try to come to consensus, we just discussed things. We said we need to go beyond movement building and actually start taking action to reduce emissions. There's lots of information available about what's happening in Latin America, but we barely know about what's happening here across Europe. Maybe we can help give a voice to this? CJA in the lead up to COP15 worked as both a networking and organising platform – the first mainly global and the second mainly Europe-based, simply because of where the summit was. So CJA Europe was more an organising structure. Global day of action came up as idea, people said why not stick to a European day of action? Or support other calls instead of making a new one? Currently no street-ready movement in Europe. Need to fill this gap. Some people thought we were proved right about our position, being clearly antagonistic, others thought our position was unclear because of our inside/outside action-concept. Should we continue to recognise Bonn etc. (UN process) or should we go local and ignore them, or continue the antagonistic approach to the summits because global processes require a global response? The key values that are part of CJA philosophy are social justices and global solidarity. No one expected the police to declare open war on all forms of dissent, including even the institutional legitimate side of dissent. The fact that they did should be factored into future plans for dissent in a serious way.

Group 6

Many things have already been said. Connect to social movements across spectrum. Redefine as one struggle. Recognise the diversity of the different positions. No border and climate have already shown promising mergers. CJA should be rooted in local organising, but with international dimensions: what are the added values and how do we continue these? Can make a common

campaign, European wide, simultaneous actions throughout Europe. Also it's a known name with media and with the public, which can be added value for local organising. We also discussed the media – it is a very important thing. When we talk about political discussion we mean social movement politics, not NGO politics, but at the same time realising that people are starting from different places and also recognising that people change through struggle so it cannot be dogmatic. Not insisting on ideological purity. No manifesto.

Question for all the groups: did anyone address whether there is a need to collectively develop a programme for a transition process? Reply: There was that tension in our group: that we wanted a formulated programme, but what?

CJA Meeting, Saturday 27 February 2010, session 3:

Summary of the outcomes of session 2:

CJA aims to/would link to:

- Building analysis and practice that is system critical
- Empower people
- Develop long term vision
- Build movement of groups across Europe (amendment to this: but by being careful not to feed into new forms of protectionism, green jobs; has to be part of wider global struggle) (agreement from others and comment: that's a framing issue, need to be sure to involve movements in other countries too).
- Build street ready movement (amendment to say 'direct action ready' instead. Agreed)
- Linking climate struggle with global justice and social justice struggles
- Recognising that different movements have different starting points
- Support local struggles in north and south
- be against false solutions
- be for food and energy sovereignty
- practice solidarity against police and state repression
- reclaim the commons
- take action to directly reduce emissions
- engage in social struggles
- support autonomous transition movements

Questions for further discussion:

- do we need a program for transition?
- should we have a coordinated global day of action
- Is CJA for networking or for organising or both?
- How should we relate to the use of science? For example, use of 350 ppm?
- what is the role of direct action? Only antagonistic?
- what is our relationship UN process?
- what is our relation to Bolivia process?

- what do we want to do with people's assemblies?
- how do we relate to climate debt?
- what exactly do we mean by solidarity?

Discussion in smaller groups should focus on these questions as well as the question of 'how' to achieve these aims and to put it specifically in terms of CJA and idea for what CJA can do.

Break out into smaller groups 30min.

Feedback from small groups:

One person from each group feedback to the main group, one topic at a time.

Topic one: Local struggles, how to link to global and social justice movements

Group 1 – global days of action, in response to callouts from the global south (can also help build action ready network). Find actions that are linked to corporations operating in south, but with headquarters here in Europe. Organise speakers coming from south to north.

Group 2 – talk about developing Plan B(s) (plan A = neoliberalism and things as they are), to develop visions of the future. Northern and southern groups look at their specific struggles and how they are working towards their own vision of the future. Everyone makes a plan B, but the specific content can be different everywhere. Move beyond environmentalism to transformation of society.

Group 3 – how to move to CJ in a legitimate way. We need to develop ideas about energy sovereignty etc. We need to think about how CJA Europe could act in solidarity, respond to southern callouts, do actions in Europe, etc.

Group 4 – we need ongoing analysis. Set up working groups that look at some issues more specifically (i.e. energy, immigration), get the facts and make strategy proposals. We need a process for how local groups can get involved in and relate to network.

Group 5 – asking at Cochabamba about what they want us to do. People within CJA that will be in Bolivia should come up with a concrete message. The whole group should decide. (important to realise that those who go to Bolivia may be seen as representatives even if they are not, so should decide together now what we want those people to say/do or not say/do).

Additional comments:

- can look at trade and how it influences inequality (and look at energy and resource flows). Think in terms of social and economic exploitation.
- look for other struggles within Europe that are related to CJ, and engage with them, look for countries within Europe where movements are starting and help them.

- link to workers struggles (vestas etc.)
- plan B sounds a bit like anti globalisation movement. We should learn from where there may have been mistakes before. What is different about our 'one no, many yeses' approach? ▪ should be developing an actual link to communities and reflection on how other networks like PGA fell apart. (Response was that this was discussed and that we also have to examine which of the many yeses we support).
- Look at solidarity with the rest of the world from a European perspective.
- Arrange outreach (workshops/info tours) specifically about one area (i.e. specifically linking CJ with worker struggles)

Topic two: Long term view (including just transition, programme for transition etc.)

Group 1 – Science can be used for strategic plans, especially in terms of choosing targets for action, but not for transition. Having a clear strategy is important for success. Don't necessarily need a policy statement from CJA, but an outline would be good.

Group 2 – Start with Plan B(s) at the local level and build up from there. We shouldn't make blue prints, but invest in communities for finding their own ways

Group 3 – would involve controversies. Would CJA benefit from having a clear vision, or is it better for CJA to be a tool for other organisations to link to each other? Some felt we needed some sort of vision to start with. The vision would need to keep on changing though.

Group 4 – No one blueprint, but still having our key points is important, gives us identity and means other people know what we are talking about, helps us make connections.

Group 5 – Maybe reference a future vision in our rhetoric. Make sure its not only resistance, but also working towards a long term vision. Need to empower and excite people to make the changes, i.e. it will enhance your life. We should set up a working group to make the CJA materials more inspiring and motivating.

Additional comments:

- Talked about working group to develop ideas in our goals (like food sovereignty etc.) and go into them in more detail
- would be good to point towards examples where things are working, rather than just theorising
- important to remember there are other people already doing this. Should we be participating in these discussions? (like the Social Forum processes)

- blueprint assumes that we are moving from failed situation to a predetermined future, but change can also be in the present, i.e. we are making the blueprint as we go along, in creating social spaces etc. We create plan B by doing it, not by saying beforehand what the future will look like.
- shouldn't try and do everything, we have other things to be concentrating on rather than coming up with our own blueprint for the future.
- maybe not have a blueprint, but something for people to have an idea about what we represent. Would be useful to help expand to Eastern Europe.
- we should celebrate what we already have.
- this discussion makes it sound like we are only for local sustainable living? Shouldn't we be concentrating on changing large scale systems?
- work out the 'no' before we work out all the 'yeses'.
- its also about informing short term actions, so that we move in the right direction. We have to work out the steps that we are going to take on the way. We are running out of time. We need to propose and defend alternatives.
- COP15 changed things, capitalism has been shown not to work. It will not make the transition. But we are not strong enough to push the transition within our movement.
- we should be for open revolt in communities.
- we are weak , need to think about what system change means in an intermediate way. We are already recognising that there has been a shift in the way we think about social change when we say 'transition' rather than 'revolution'. We should see how CJ applies to the energy sector for example, or how system change applies to food. Then see where we want to be in 10 years and how we are going to get there.
- we should stop taking general crap and start really thinking about what CJA can be doing. We have so many concrete things we have to get going on and this discussion is still so abstract.

Topic three: Relationship to Bolivia process and the UN and people's assembly

Group 1 – we didn't discuss it really.

Group 2 – make sure that we do more than just mobilise around the UN process.

Group 3 – talked about themed actions/pan European actions.

Group 4 – Relationship to UN process will define our actions. We were unclear in Copenhagen about our position vis-à-vis the UN. Talked about video conferencing/link ups. Also talked about possible global days of action in Bolivia/Bonn/Mexico/October. Could have position statement at Bolivian summit. Could use April event in Bolivia to ask questions and get answers from other people there. But then we need a plan for feedback into the larger network from those going to Bolivia to think about how and if that process can help further our aims.

Group 5 – could engage with Bolivia if it is going to move us towards solutions

Additional comments:

- could coincide actions with Bonn, rather than mobilising for the summit.
- UNFCCC doesn't matter, is it G20 instead now that will decide?
- We shouldn't forget the Via Campesina call for a meeting of grassroots struggles in Mexico on May5/6.
- Could use meeting in Bolivia for CJA global meeting (rather than CJA Europe)
- Bonn could be used for next CJA Europe meeting
- organise other events coinciding with Bolivia (already one planned in Brussels)
- we should move away from the inside/outside strategy and we need to find ways to communicate with people directly in the south. Don't ignore Bolivia and Mexico events, but find new ways to engage with them.
- important for us to engage with the process in Bolivia.
- we should put together our concerns about engaging with the Bolivia process and maybe make them into a statement, to ask questions about what we do.
- asked Bolivian negotiator about it, and they said they didn't know where the process would end up because it will depend on the people who come and the ideas they generate.
- there is already a meeting planned in march in Hamburg about Bolivia.
- if we make a statement for Bolivia, maybe we can also make one about what CJA in Europe is doing and what it wants to achieve so that we have something concrete to feed into the process there.
- One of the proposals that came up in our group was that we should set up a working group to specifically think about what CJA in Europe can and should contribute. To think about at least four things:
 1. explain that 'Europe' is an organising frame and not a nationalistic thing
 2. do we try to create a space for discussion
 3. are we a platform for networking
 4. identify specific movements in Europe and establish links between them.

Topic four: Direct Action questions and Global Days of Action?, etc.

Group 1 – We discussed having 2 types of actions: actions that show what we are against and actions that show what we are for. Days of action against specific industry, but also positive actions like bike actions. Also do actions on days in solidarity with global south.

Group 2 – We need to think strategically about direct action, instead of trying to just reduce emissions. We need to choose our actions with specific goals in mind.

Groups 3 – antagonism is important

Group 4 – need to set more unconventional targets. Target companies that claim to be green, for example.

Group 5- Direct Action and antagonism is something that we should continue. Discussed Global Days of Action, there are sometimes problems with these. They tend to work better when there is a central event (i.e. something else happening). Has worked before, need to learn lessons. Action days should be backed up by social media and good follow up. CJA could be a way to coordinate communication between these actions.

Additional comments:

– system change not climate change day/week of action already discussed at CJN meeting at the end of COP15 mobilization and got very strong support. We wouldn't be calling for a global day of action ourselves, there is already a call.

Topic five: Linking to other groups in Europe etc. what is CJA in Europe?

Group 1 – should set up a skill sharing working group. Need to identify where there are sparks of the movement just starting.

Group 2 – didn't discuss

Group 3 – could explicitly say we are CJA Europe, but need to keep the international focus. We also discussed empowering people: giving alternatives is empowering, big actions can be empowering, feeling like you are part of something bigger. But need to think about how to link this empowerment to local events.

Group 4 – working group could work on linking campaigns on specific issues between countries.

Another group – We discussed the main aims of CJA. The network is important, can involve people in Direct Action and can help mobilise around Europe. Day of action can be useful. Other aim is to link people and other struggles, to be a communication platform for political messages. We need to discuss how to engage with Bolivia. We are still not sure about Bonn and Mexico, we should put together a clear message on Bonn. Others are looking to CJA to either put out a call or not.

Additional comments:

– COP15 changed a lot. We can do something really good here, let's make sure we do something good with the new political situation. For that we need to have a discussion about where we are now, we are in a new place, but how can we take advantage of that?

- It's important to define our vision so that it is clear how people can affiliate to CJA. When can other groups call themselves CJA (i.e. CJA Belgium)? provided they agree with a vision?

The following working groups have been proposed, let's take a break and then reconvene in these working groups:

- Bolivia process: draft a statement and plan a feedback process
- CJA in Europe
- Global Day of Action planning
- Improving communication and spreading info, also skill shares.
- Post-COP 15 reassessment/evaluation and look at new potentials/limits.
- COP 16

End of Session.

CJA Meeting 28 February 2010, Sunday, Session 1:

Agenda:

1. Feedback from yesterday
2. Split into working groups
3. Discuss Bolivian statement (being drafted by working group)
4. Discuss CJ in Europe statement (being drafted by working group)
5. Internal structure
6. Set a date for the Next meeting (- Bonn?)
7. Bonn action plan?

1. Brief feedback from each group on discussions begun yesterday:

Bolivia, CJ in Europe, COP 16, Reassessment post-COP15, Communication and Skill shares, Global Day of Action.

Bolivia:

There are a few people interested in going, but none sure they are going. People felt it was worth going despite having some criticism. We will write a letter that gets into the process somehow, though still not clear how that would work. At some point in Bolivia, get the letter circulated, and it would be good to have people who were mandated from here to be 'receptors', take things out of Bolivia to discuss here in CJA process in Europe. We support processes that encourage movement autonomy. Discussion about state/non-state question – frame things in a way that is not focussed on being critical of the one part of the process but that stresses the good parts of the process.

Question: is the working group prepared to bring a statement? Reply: Statement is not done at all, plan was to do it today. Maybe get some version

that is ready to read out after lunch – at least get key themes to read out, and to work on the details later.

CJA in Europe:

We have a statement on how we are interpreting climate justice in Europe with introduction on why we are doing this. The statement first discusses the problem from a European perspective, then specific topics like food sovereignty, consumption, energy etc., then discusses details on how these processes work in a European context. We'll bring a version of the statement to the meeting this afternoon for feedback and then finish it off and get it agreed before the end of today.

Question: Is it possible to print it out to let people read it? One of the democratic problems is that we haven't talked about the priority of subjects. It needs to be said that this is a problem and we need a way to agree and that is hard without a way to agree.

Reply: It's still a draft. In terms of the process for choosing the subjects, we need to be prepared to dedicate a lot of time to choosing the subjects if we want to do that because there is not really agreement even in the working group. We don't want to go through the whole debate again, just want to be able to read it.

Comments:

- It is a priority for this meeting today to get more practical about what are the targets we want to work on. Otherwise it stays too general.
- Another thing from that group that still needs to get discussed is how we are going to engage with other groups in Europe and a strategy for doing that.
- Were also supposed to talk about Bonn, but I think there is someone else here from Bonn to talk about that?
- Yes, we are here from Bonn. There are three preparatory meetings planned, many local people are involved but not so many at international level. From the political view it's close to our point of view, left radical groups. Some environmentalists, but not the bigger NGOs. They are thinking about a decentralised action day on 29 May. From Monday 31 May – Sunday 6 June, there will be a camp. On 4/5 June there will be a forum and some decentralised actions. On the 5th there will be also a big demonstration. They already have a site for the camp. They are not appealing to the UN process; they are setting their own agenda. Next meeting will be next Friday.
- We are using the event as a way to build the movement, we have no expectations of the Bonn process itself. Climate movement in Germany doesn't really exist right now so we are trying to get things going.
- There will also be an action academy from ATTAC. We might combine them, but not sure yet.
- We are waiting in Belgium whether to mobilize for Bonn to see if there will be an international call to come to Bonn. Is there a plan to issue an international call or not?

- It would be good to issue an international call to fill vacuum after Copenhagen.
- Would be good to meet there and do some actions and come together again. Would be good for the movement in Germany too. It will be summer.
- Outline of provisional dates:
29 May: decentralised actions.
31 May-6 June: camp.
4-5 June: forum.
5 June: big demonstration.
- There is also an anti-racist action and people would like to combine the two somehow.
- There is also the carbon expo in Koln right before.

Proposal: It would be good if we could decide now to meet in Bonn as CJA Europe (hands waving)

- Is anyone opposed to doing the next CJA meeting in Bonn?
- We could also do it in Bolivia → CJA international then, not CJA Europe.
- It might be worth putting Bonn on the agenda – how can we use it, what can we do there? Can we make a Bonn WG? Maybe once we've decided what we're going to do there.
- There is now a proposal for both Bolivia and Bonn.
- I think it depends what we are planning to do around Bonn. If we are going to do decentralized actions in our own countries than it's not the best place/time to meet.
- I think the movement needs some momentum to keep the energy going. After Copenhagen people are expecting something. Movement going on, also resistance not just meetings.

Process Proposal: Bonn clearly needs to become an agenda item. Can I add it to the agenda and we carry on with feedback now? **Agreed.**

Feedback:

Communications Working Group:

- It is hard to know what to communicate when we don't know what we are doing, or don't have an event or movement building strategy. Need one or the other to communicate. Lots of other things came up, ideas not decisions.
- Website: it is only a small group of people who are doing the website. Already have 7 languages, but need more guidelines about content and more people to make it happen.
- Discussed that the website content and the call outs in Copenhagen focussed on what was happening in Copenhagen and the December actions. It would be good to put other actions on there too now, decentralized actions. Show that CJA is active. But should this be a post-it-yourself thing (like indymedia) or should there be a team that decides which kinds of actions can go on the website and which kind cannot based on our principles? How can we do this without a mediating team and in an open way that is still useful?

- Use of email lists. We are using the announce list better, and maybe Process working group could think about how to use the planning list a bit less.
- The email list is now still international and it might be problematic to monopolise that for just Europe things
- There is no film about CJ and CJA, maybe we should make one or find one?
- Talked about events where we can do more face to face communication. Climate camps – can we build a CJA element in the events that we organise in our own countries? Maybe ESF in Istanbul this summer? Infotour? But that brought us back to question of what it would be about? Didn't talk about media very much.
- Different countries have different strengths and resources. Maybe find ways to share these? Is our aim to deepen existing network or to expand it? Both. We felt uncomfortable turning up in other countries and telling people they should become part of CJA. So should be rather finding common ground in other places and connecting.

Questions for the group?

- At the moment everything is still in English, we need to think about other languages to get people in Spain and Italy etc. involved.
- People who are involved in CJA can just post on the website. Everyone who is considered as a member should post on it.
- It might need some moderating... is the communications group going to carry on meeting? Reply: We didn't really decide yet. We need to first discuss what the whole network is going to do.

Day of Action Working Group:

- Too early to flesh out a proposal: wait to see what comes out of Bolivia.
- Two possible dates for international days of action, one on 'system change not climate change' possibly in September, the other on international day for mother earth in October (came out of Belem). Bit too early now to decide which kind of action we could support/mobilise for?
- If we wait until Bolivia to decide, we need to plan a meeting right after that to start mobilising.
- Fossil Fools Day is 1st April (April Fools Day)? – there has already been a callout from Rising Tide for actions against fossil fuels on April 1 this year.
- For a successful International Day of Action we need a social media strategy. It can fill the gap between the local and the global. We also talked about a more sustainable strategy for this global day of action that also fits local situations.
- Is there a sense that people thought it was not useful to make a call from this meeting?
- I don't understand why wait. We need to decide something...(hands waving)

Proposal: To do a European Day of Action during Bonn and support a Global Day of Action in September because that suggestion came out of Copenhagen.

Alternative Proposal: Can't do both a mobilization for Bonn and decentralized actions across Europe. Bonn will happen anyway, so maybe just go for a centralised something at Bonn and a decentralized day of action afterwards.

These decisions seem quite urgent so that working groups can get to work on it.

Should we finish the feedback first? Agreed to finish the feedback before deciding on Bonn.

Feedback Continued:

Post- Cop 15 reassessment and evaluation group:

Decided that it was actually two/three different discussions. 1. Internal discussion about How we Work(worked). In the lead up to COP 15 and during. 2. is the way in which the political situation has changed post-COP 15. that we felt had two dimensions. a. in terms of internal movement dynamics there has been a shift of power between big NGOs and us. b. in terms of movement-state relations, with police/state repression, etc.

We also discussed the need for better communication of the details of geography of local situations before an action. It was very hard to know before arriving in Copenhagen exactly what the bellcentre looked like and what the action plan was and we therefore couldn't plan accordingly. We then discussed the pros and cons of coalition building and the need to think about when it is a good idea when not and how much to compromise. Also had some more concrete things. There is a book being compiled about the diagonalism, evaluations of COP 15 in terms of internal movement dynamics. And on the website there is a survey to compile feedback on the process. Fill it out!

Some of the reflections from this group can be fed into the CJA europe statement. Especially reflections on the movement-state relations.

Ok. So lets go back to the proposal on Bonn. Can someone repeat it?

Proposal:

Something is going to happen in Bonn. CJA can support that but I don't think that Bonn should be the main focus for action. If we do that the national group will spend all of their energy making that happen. We should focus on a European day of action that aims to shut something down. Mobilize for Bonn and have CJA meeting there, but main focus should be to do decentralized actions that will help build national local networks. Main focus should be a European day of action.

Comments:

- I'm sceptical about decentralised same day actions. From our experience it is not exciting and inspiring feeling, takes energy from local networks. If we do that, we need to first analyse why these Days of Action are not inspiring, why it doesn't work for movement building. We have good ideas, but we are not good at following through. When we propose things in this room, we should be sure that we are prepared to actually do it. Not just that we think it is a good idea. People need to do things locally now. European action is also local if decentralised but I am worried that people don't have the energy for this and that will drain us. Also having the next meeting in Bonn during the mobilization, I think that based on experience in Copenhagen, those were not CJA meetings because there were so many people there that didn't identify with the network. Might be the same problem in Bonn.

- I want to explain why I had a different proposal. It would be good to be able to report back that CJA agreed to mobilise around Bonn. I feel like otherwise it will be hard to say what we should do. We should maybe say that we support people going to Bonn, but we should also say that we support people to do things at the same time in their own country. If the only thing that CJA is doing is have meetings it won't seem like much. What does meeting in Bonn offer the people that feel after Copenhagen that going to the UN process is not working.

- It is still too early for an international Day of Action. And if we do it, it should coincide with already called for days of action. Propose that people can do either local actions or go to Bonn is good compromise.

- You're critique of Day of Action is good, but I think these problems can be addressed if we try. Or do you think that we don't have the energy to do anything?

- Is our structure as CJA to be summit hoppers? I think it has to do with that. What is our structure, where are we going? What do we think is a good use of our energy?

- That's why I think that having a meeting in Bonn is a good idea. Somewhere where we don't need to do the logistics. Would help us figure those things out.

- From the point of linking international struggles, I think there is a good opportunity to build on links made in Copenhagen by participating in one of the calls for a Day of Action, on fossil fuels for example. Maybe even only do two strong actions. Maybe one in Antwerp and one in Columbia?

- I think there are reasons why doing a European day of action makes sense. To actually realise the CJA Europe document is a concrete way. Doing a European day of action on trying to link these actions within a climate justice framework. Also get call translated and get people in Europe not yet involved to take it on. Meeting in June to build and work towards October.

- I support the phrase shutting shit down. I think we have to show that we are serious. We shouldn't say it is too early, there is very little time to solve this problem.
- Meeting in Bonn and then having an action meeting later, actually mobilising around summit not just at summits. Lots of people are going to Bonn that we otherwise never get to meet with.
- I think the problem with Day of Action is that if you do one in every city than you don't get big actions. Maybe focus on a few actions in Europe so that there are a lot of people.
- The reasons that days of action don't work is often because they are the result of a call out coming from one place with no real backing. CJA has the advantage of being actually based in many different places. I know we are capable of choosing one or two coal plants in November or December. If we back up the call with specific commitment from people to do things in their own place than it can happen. This is doable. People will go to Bonn. We cannot call for either/or, people will go there. It is also important to spread out CJA, have a double structure in Bonn, those of us here as well as new people and other people.
- In terms of action day, let's not have a Day of Action. Let's have a show case your local action day. Get people to tie in local community groups. Take on city council. As part of local organising campaign. An organising day.
- In the working group there wasn't energy in the meeting for a Day of Action. We should wait.
- What I find really unique about what has happened is the links to Global South, so I think it is important that we bring something to Bolivia to say that we are up for a Day of Action, and decide targets together with them. Solidarity within CJA meeting in Bonn could decide on what happened in Bolivia to decide how to response with the proposal that is coming from Bolivia.
- Whatever we decide here today, wouldn't necessarily mean that people in the UK would get on board with CJA plan. We would need a good narrative about why we should shut something down because there is a feeling that that has not been the best option right now. Need a moment to check in about actual support.
- Call out for a day of action has already been made by others. We need to decide whether we openly welcome that decision and will take responsibility to mobilise. Not necessarily how exactly, but that at least and take that to Bolivia and then meet in Bonn to bring groups together to mobilise. Get to south and east and explain why it is so important and mobilise people.
- April 1 Fossil Fools Day of action should also be borne in mind. We should at least mention the dates on the website.

- I am worried that we see this call out as something that is going to happen on one day. I think the strength of that call is that from now on we take seriously the call to make links and that that becomes a continuous process to fill gap between now and October.

- I agree. Its good to have a Day of Action, but I also really want to get to the local level. That is my problem with international days of action. Focussing on one specific topic all the time is limiting. We should focus on shared topics and shared analysis and bring that into our everyday lives. We need to prioritise both.

- I agree but working towards this global day of action may require us to build local struggles.

- We need momentum otherwise there is nothing to talk about. That comes down to the form of the action we take in October. And the message we bring out.

- Connecting movements and social struggles. Maybe call out for people to meet up and discuss? Simultaneous meetings too?

- Day of Action and Local Actions are not mutually exclusive.

Synthesised proposal:

– **CJA in Europe supports the recommendation from CJN for a Day of Action on system change.**

– **We will send that support message to Bolivia and take responsibility for mobilising throughout Europe.**

– **We'll meet in Bonn to bring together as many struggles as possible around this Day of Action.**

Clarification: there are not actually two calls for separate days of action. Still undecided. Might be only one day.

-For the Bonn meeting, one idea was to include groups not yet included. That will be a lot of work, who will do it? Won't happen by itself.

-People have a preconceived notion of what an action day is. Maybe we can also include local organising within 'action'.

-We need to think in terms of a European day of action, we cannot coordinate a global day of action. Call for something we can actually organise.

-Can we agree on this in principle and then it will be worked on and brought back.

-We should do it now we already have used too much time for this discussion.

Concerns on the proposal?

-Three things: tricky to work out to what extent we can commit our networks. We should specifically ask people to send a decision making spoke to the Bonn meeting. And to take back a proposal to our networks to report back in Bonn. 2. if part of the aim is to get new people engaged, then we need to commit now to a multi-lingual meeting involving at least Spanish and French. Maybe Italian? Otherwise it will be English speaking people in CJA until we address that point. 3. we need to solidify what it means and get others involved, but we haven't specified how we would go to them. We need a CJA strategy for how we make common ground with other struggles. Otherwise rationale for a day of action is lessened.

-Maybe we can get consensus that we will meet in Bonn and do something in October? I think we agree on that.

-I don't think we've really discussed what is the purpose of this space we're creating or what makes politics these days. I think we've reached the limits of both networks and days of action and we have to become powerful in implementing change, not just actions. Not against the actions, but we don't know yet how it contributes to the bigger picture. We've been assuming that we carry on as usual. Maybe October should be much more about how do we make change happen? Setting up an organisation beyond a network. We haven't had time to discuss that here.

-You lose people if you have these discussions without talking about action too. Can't talk about structure without specific aims.

-I feel there is a negative attitude in the room about concerns etc being expressed here, but we are planning the next year of CJA action so perhaps we can be more open to concerns please?

Okay so for now let's agree that CJA will mobilise for a day of action or *something* and that we will start that process with our next meeting in Bonn.

Concerns? None.

So let's spit into working groups. Which ones do we need?
A Bonn WG and another group for internal working of CJA?
Write a Bolivia statement?
CJ in Europe?
Process group?
Communications? Mobilization? Maybe together?
Media group?
Finance?
We need a discussion about structure.

[Agreed to have the structure meeting here first and then break into necessary working groups.]

Session 2:

Structure working group meeting: (actually not really a working group since almost everyone (33 people) were there).

-Should have discussion around planned activities what structure do we need?

Bolivia, Bonn

-There was a media group, a process group and a finance group. There was also an action group. And a web group. There was a mobilization group. People's Assembly (PA) call out working group, but it was only three people.

-We need to work out which structure we need to achieve our goals, but also think about the discussion we had about CJA in Europe and what it is. Maybe we need to agree that first.

-Agree what first?

-But doesn't that need to be done in the whole meeting?

-Yeah, I guess.

-We need a decision-making structure.

-Comments on process?

-Discussions on how we organise the next meeting are for the process working group, but maybe now we need to talk about what structure we need.

-So that was a proposal that we discuss which working groups we need and then split up into them.

-We first need to talk about things in the bigger group that we need to think about.

Then break off into groups. Process, mobilisation, etc... so what do we need?

-There needs to be a call out for the day of action, maybe as part of a mobilization group. Maybe with video. **Mobilization**

-We need to find a way to make sure that the things we do get translated. **Communication**

-We need to organise the Bonn meeting, a process group for that. **Process**

-Email list moderation. And website feedback. Do new/different things with it?

-Do we need a finance working group?

-I think we should decide on this concretely because not having money or not knowing if there would be money was a big problem for the mobilization working group before.

-I can imagine that for now mobilization would deal with finance.

-Bloc G8 maybe has money for CJA. Also a German foundation that would be willing to give more money. We can try to get it. Application deadline is 6th of April. **Someone needs to do this**

-Need to collect info like that systematically. Maybe a funding spokes group.

-Each group should come up with a budget for what they need and then try to raise it.

-Too complicated to do it via spokes structure

-What is different between mobilization and communication

-Comms = email list and website, Mob = video flyers call out posters. For me that's how I would split them.

-I think to try something new from before is important. We shouldn't just recreate the exact same patterns as before.

-There needs to be a group that deals specifically with Bolivia. Getting people there and arranging feedback from there. Could also be part of **Mobilization**

-Finance shouldn't be its own working group. People who did it last time still traumatized.

-Maybe split now? Okay so two groups?: Process/Finance and Mobilization/Communication?

-I would also like to have a group that thinks more about theoretical analysis to develop strategic questions that we should discuss. I'm interested in this at least.

-We might not want to decentralise finance entirely. We might not get enough money, it becomes harder to finance the network as such.

-I think we could discuss the logic and advantage and disadvantage of all options, for long time, but maybe we should split up and then see.

-I'm really not sure it will work to structure the finances that way. It's a really big process and really a lot of work.

-If we are not trying to get money for the whole mobilization it might not be that hard.

-Maybe discuss in the process working group.

-Theory group is interesting idea, but perhaps for your local group.

Proposal to have communications/mobilization, process/finance, and Bolivia working group.

-But perhaps Bolivia can be part of mobilization?

-Process will also include dealing with global focus right? Maybe mobilization should also talk about media issues. Not get discovered by them, but announce ourselves.

-Working groups set up to make the People's Assembly call out are not here. How will it be fed in and which WG will be dealing with People's Assemblies (PA)?

What do we do about the PA?

-There is a call to have a PA as part of Bonn. Maybe create a space on the website for a discussion about PA? Need to think about how it can be used as a tactic in movement building.

-We have to be careful about really calling a people's assembly. We are not engaged with local struggles, so without that there is no people's assembly. We would be taking away the political significance of the term.

-If Bolivia turns into a bigger process, PA might become a part of the Bolivia process. We should maybe see what emerges from Bolivia first.

-Media: there is a media group already functioning. If anyone wants a media strategy for anything, it can be mobilised for that. Maybe bracket the media discussion.

-But did you mean that we need a statement from this meeting about PA?

-It might be useful to clarify whether we are asking for PA to happen?

-Even just to clarify that there isn't a call out would be great too. Then people can just get on with it.

-So we should clarify that there is no call out from CJA for a PA but we support it if it happens?

-Maybe we can even do something more... start to share existing experiences with PA, which is not issuing a call, but creating a structure for that kind of sharing, maybe a space on the website, or meeting?

Proposal: Say that there is no call out from this meeting, but it is still an idea and efforts of PA should be geared towards bringing together people from different sectors of society.

-The suggestion for a PA came out of Copenhagen. There was interest, but that is its context. People can organise it if they want.

-Can we not support the call out for PA that was made in Copenhagen?

-But then people might think we're actively mobilising for it. The problem is that at that meeting there was the intention to create global regional PA. but now it is becoming national ones. At the moment PA doesn't really mean anything. Maybe we can say that we are looking forward to learn from Bolivia process what a PA is and how to do it.

-Is there already a call out from that CJN/CJA meeting?

-No. that meeting was not empowered to set up working groups or make decisions, it was only a 'recommendation, which means that they did not have the power to decide, but that they thought it was a good idea. Minutes are lost too.

-Ok, there was a lot of comments that there is not a call from this meeting to call for a PA at this meeting, so let's just state that there is no call out.

-PA is a highly political space in Latin America, a space to provide a voice for people who don't have one anywhere else.

Agreed that there will be no active call out from CJA for a people's assembly, but that we support the idea.

Break out into working groups.

Session 2 continued:

Feedback from Working Groups:

Process working group:

- Bonn. 29/30th of May will be the next meeting. Checking for logistical capacity with people in Bonn first.
- Finance – no change to current structure except that the finance working group will NOT be writing funding proposals anymore.
- Mandate for the process working group stays the same.
- **Proposal:** international meetings should be planned long enough in advance (preferably at previous international meeting) with a PROPOSED agenda and then encourage groups to discuss it and prepare proposals. Multilingual. Not spokes model, but start the process earlier.
- Groups who consider themselves a part of CJA should put someone on the process list.
- Local groups should think about funding two people to come to these meetings and if that is not working to feed that back and let us know so we can make a funding strategy.

Proposal about meeting structure as ideal to aim for agreed.

Mobilization and Communications working group:

The group subdivided into several groups:

One group was asked to write provisional call out for the day of action. This is just an idea, something to send out to start mobilising. Just a few sentences (paraphrased):

“System change not climate change. Call for a day of action. The farce of Copenhagen demonstrates that the current approach to climate change is ineffective and unjust. It is time to stop relying on corporations and governments to solve the problem, only action from below can provide solutions. Call for day of action called for by CJN, will be taken up by CJA. An open international meeting will be held in Bonn in June 2010 to reach out to those disaffected by the official process. Plus one last ‘RA!/mobilizing’ sentence”

Comments:

- Two things: say movements from North and South were together in COPENHAGEN and agreed on a day of action and that we are recognising that this is an important day for our movements. Christopher Columbus anniversary as motivation for the day should be incorporated.
- Link at the end of the statement to what is CJ in Europe

- Make it more clear that we did not make the call.
- Concern that we still haven't fleshed out what it means. So we will need to do more work in terms of turning it into actual organising.

Statement draft agreed as initial call to be rewritten in Bonn as mobilizing process takes shape.

Subgroup on Bolivia:

We want to clarify why we want to engage with the process.

- To welcome processes that put movements first and the self-determination of people first. Anti-capitalistic.
- Support indigenous movements and grassroots people.
- Strengthen potential for global movement
- Info sharing learn from different processes of decision-making and organising.
- Make an open letter? To present why we want to engage who we are what we did in Copenhagen and why.
- Build on North-South links for the global day of action, if they take this up, we will too. Make sure they know that.
- Set up an informal meeting to discuss what is the common ground between CJA in Europe and the global south, feedback from there about CJA process.
- Try to understand where these movements stand politically, ask questions. What is their stand on the UN and on their own governments, etc. Build trust and mutual understanding.
- We won't speak on behalf of CJA, just a letter. Otherwise just report back.

We want agreement on if people are happy that a working group be set up to work on this letter.

Question: Who should sign the letter? Suggestion: not CJA network, just this meeting.

Where do you send the letter afterwards?

We're asking for trust to write the letter ourselves actually. And anyone who wants to have input on that can join the working group. Agreed.

Question: Is there formal CJA representation going there? Reply: No, we're just going ourselves.

Website subgroup:

- We discussed mailing lists and website
- Structure of website is not helpful to keep traffic on the mailing list lower.
- Try to have a calendar so that people can update events instead of posting them on the mailing list.

- More media oriented website
- Improve internal communication. Make a communication manuscript. What to do and what not to do. To help us, for internal communication
- Translation working group? We need more translation skills.
- Two deadlines: new website layout in a month

Proposal: we will go away now and think about new structures for internal communication platforms, like wiki, crabgrass. Research on them and then make a proposal about using new tools of communication at the Bonn meeting to improve communication within CJA.

Comments:

- Two things – used to be indymedia translate. Dead now I think. Try to use, not reinvent. Shouldn't delay deciding about which tools to use. Some we can decide now.
- Maybe first we have to some of the more basic things and then show people how it works in Bonn.
- Are we going on with the mailing list as it is for now?
- Want to change the way people use the mailing list, by creating other ways of communicating. But we need time for this.

Agreed to above proposal.

Subgroup on linking struggles:

We don't have clear proposals, but we are in a discussion about how climate justice action relates to these groups. Relate to other groups through actions. Also began mapping different groups and issues that we could try to relate to. But it comes down to opening channels of communication with these groups and we didn't get as far as structures of communication. Need to find different ways to talk to groups. Speakers, or call outs, or something else?

End session 2. short break.

Session 3:

CJ in Europe text discussion:

Proposal text discussing what we are and what is CJ in a European context. [The whole 3-page text was read aloud. It will be emailed out for feedback.]

-Proposal was to discuss only the first part (CJA in Europe).

-Not sure what CJA in Europe is because climate is a global issue. Also maybe we should read the Klimaforum statement because that already covers a lot of these things.

-Approach is not good. It is better to say how CJA was formed. It was formed as part of a mobilization to Copenhagen, international, but now need to go

back to local and carry on the work. Global part based on alliances, local groups now.

-We can't stop people from calling themselves CJA. What we can do is say that we only recognize people based in grassroots struggles.

-In between yesterday and today the first bit has changed. Seems to sound like a split right now. When you say 'we' at the start, you should say that we have been involved in CJA the whole time but happen to be based in Europe.

-Rooting it historically is a good idea. There is no global CJA. What is global CJA? What are we referring to being a part of? Maybe we can better recognise a reality of what it has been.

-There is a difference between seeing CJA as a European network or to see CJA as another network that we are defining ourselves against. Maybe saying we are CJA Europe will inspire other groups to emerge? I have a really strange feeling about making a CJA Europe.

-I can see what you mean, but we are trying to make a compromise. We couldn't carry on with the situation as it was, we needed to reflect on it and not carry on as we are.

The part about being able to create CJA local groups, partly because there are some that want to do that already.

-Last year we had a global network that was linked to a European network. I think a lot of people don't care about the name, I think some people here care too much. I don't think we should think of it as an identity. But as a collection that comes together to share information and mobilise.

-Very few people outside of Europe were meaningfully involved in CJA. I don't think that we should brand ourselves differently, but reflect on how we developed differently.

-The idea is not that people take the identity of CJA Europe, just that local groups can adopt CJA for their local group.

-Process point: There are two different bits here.

1. can groups call themselves CJA?
2. is there a CJA Europe?

-Start with global/Europe thing. CJA is a European network. Adding Europe after it doesn't make sense. We should say that we are a European network, and that we actively want to work with other groups elsewhere.

-Maybe CJA developed in Europe, but comprised of people from all over the world.

-I think we would get angry people if we said that CJA is a European network. Drafting it in this way was intended to leave it open for other people to

become CJA or to have meetings elsewhere too. Maybe we need to leave the definition open.

-Objection to calling it a European network

-Maybe we can say that this meeting focussed on Europe because we are in Europe.

-Not a statement of who we are, but a reflection of what has been and how where we are now, i.e. in Europe and building local struggles here.

-Instead of saying it is a global network or a European network, but perhaps a transnational network? Not all of Europe, not only Europe, but also not global and not local. But obviously this word has problems for us

-Maybe it can be something we ask other people?

-What about 'CJA, mostly active in Europe up to now, but with connections beyond.'

-Last year we described CJA as 'a globally focussed, mostly European based network.' Or we could say CJA *within* Europe

-Ok, so as a proposal: CJA is a network to organise climate justice in Europe.

**Proposal: Maybe better to say that as CJA at this meeting we focussed on Europe to see how we can do CJ in Europe and to have that as our focus for the near future. Signed as 'Amsterdam meeting, Feb...'.
Agreed.**

At the Amsterdam CJA meeting the group decided to focus on climate justice in Europe, we agreed to use CJA in Europe on the following basis:

- Act as a platform for networking and organising activities and actions in Europe based in Climate Justice
- Connect with other related struggle and movements within Europe and elsewhere
- Act as a space for political discussion and outlet for our ideas and messages
- Continue to actively participate in the global network and to strengthen and spread the movement within Europe.

(Discussion paper on climate justice in a European context will be finished by working group and sent out)

Local groups taking on the name CJA:

-People sign up on the website to say they are a part of CJA, so local groups should have the same status.

-It's not up to us to decide who can and who cannot call themselves CJA. It's up to them. It's not copyrighted

-The political effect of it is important. If we had a CJA Leeds, we might start to feel like only a subgroup of CJA Europe and can't do what we want. If you call yourself CJA Leeds then you are bound by the same values as these meetings. I think groups should have the freedom to join or not join to relate however they think needed, without their name coming into crisis.

-If a group starts to call itself CJA, then it gets a new meaning. Now it is a network, but if there is a CJA group then it changes. Some groups will call themselves CJA others not. Might create problems.

-I think people like to use it as a mobilising thing. We want to have our local autonomy and make our own decisions, but in Milan for example, they just used it to mobilize for COP15 because it was much easier to make it clear what they were doing and who they were.

-Let's say we make no policy, then what do we do if someone does take on the name? If people do take on the name, then fine.

-If we put the question in a different way. There is currently a specific local network that wants to take this name. If there are concerns then we can take those back to the group, but if there are not then we will take on the name.

-Disagree with why it would be a bad idea. Just because someone has the name CJA they are not therefore bound by CJA. Not corporate branding. But it would be less confusing if they didn't take the name.

-From the group posing the question: Is helpful to say why we want to call ourselves CJA? We started as Climate Action Camp and then mobilized to Copenhagen. Then we want to do another camp, but we also want to be more than a camp so not call ourselves 'Camp...'. And in Belgium having an English name helps us avoid language issues (there is more than one official language in Belgium).

Proposal: don't encourage people to adopt the name, but we won't stop groups from using it, can't stop people, but perhaps groups can think about the concerns outlined above.

BREAK

Session 4:

Discussion on the longer statement about CJ in European context.

-Not sure how to approach it: Suggestion: raise only strong concerns about the whole directions? If there are not strong concerns about the spirit of the statement, circulate a draft version for feedback on specifics?

Responses to the text:

-We should not call it CJA Europe. Just going to say that we decided to concentrate on Europe at this meeting because that was where we are.

-This would be a great document to send out in advance of the May meeting and ask people for concrete points.

-I didn't mean that we should define what CJA in Europe is. We should not produce a text and then define what CJA is. I don't disagree with the content, but with the principle of the text.

-It was supposed to read as an exploration of the issues in Europe. As a way to start a process, not definitively, but to think about what it means, as a way to communicate with other movements and develop an idea of what CJ is more generally, not definitively.

-It seemed like a G8 communique. I didn't disagree with what it said, but we need to work together with other groups, not make statements.

-We should judge the statement by what we can do with it. It can open and allow us to work with people that we don't have a way to work with yet. This document is one tool among many to use to help us get to the meeting in Bonn. It could become a discussion in Bonn. Treat it as an always-open working document?

-This is a tool, not a perfect text. Another strength of it is to use it as an internal process, to explore what the statement might mean in practice and what the specifically European aspects might be in terms of energy markets etc. Might help us come together as a network within Europe.

-CJA Strategy was to mobilize around a specific summit. The critique from US was that because this opening up went too far, it excluded the autonomous left. CJ as a concept is viewed as a reformist end. With this statement we can say now, look something did happen in Copenhagen and we can ask what are the values and what is the process we are in now. We have to have this discussion, we have to have some idea of what we are for, to avoid becoming either nebulous or a sect.

-We should have a meeting with other groups to think about what climate justice means.

-When we go to Bolivia it can be a useful way to start a dialogue. To say this is our starting point, what is yours? Also, it can help us start to reclaim the definition of CJ from corporations etc.: we will have something more solid than they have.

-Proposal is to leave it as it is at the moment, send it out to the mailing list, start a discussion on it for the future. As a way for beginning discussion.

-So this would be a discussion document, not something that we bring to Bolivia as a CJA statement?

-Do we want to bring something to Bolivia, and if so, this? Can there be a group of people that try to bring the discussion together a bit before Bolivia?

-Make very clear that it is a draft discussion paper. Better to say we actually don't have a final word yet, but that this is where we are at right now.

Proposal: Put something at the start of it that makes it very clear that it is just a discussion paper. Clean it up and write intro. Great. Agreed.

Further items:

1. Question about media working group, as there is no media policy. Proposal that those of us who are contacted by journalists just say that nothing is decided yet and only once there is a callout actually speak to journalists. For now don't say anything. Once there is a call we will discuss how to deal with it and send a proposal to the list. Is that ok? **Yes.**
2. Proposed Agenda for the Bonn meeting
 - Introductions and expectations
 - Day of Action:
 - Report back on mobilization/outreach to new groups
 - Action proposals (how many actions, where, against/for what?)
 - Relation to global CJA – if/how to link?
 - Draft a new call for Day of Action
 - Report back from Bolivia (possible proposals from that)
 - Working group updates followed by **working groups** and feedback Including a proposal from communication group on use of new technologies for internal communication
 - Re-discuss draft CJ in Europe paper – where are we now?
 - Other action proposals
 - Feedback from local groups about their local struggles and links made since today

 - If we looking to actively bring new groups into this meeting we need to consider having an open structure for that. Need to have an open feeling. Is it possible to do three days instead of two, where one day is a discussion of this draft paper proposal? So Sat/Sun/Monday 29/30/31
 - When is the klimaforum? We could have a session on climate justice for migration together with other groups.
 - Will be people interested enough? Two-day meeting plus one day event on what does climate justice mean in Europe?
 - It might take a lot of effort. We would need a strong commitment from people here to do that.
 - At some point... CJA made a number of decisions about how it worked. Should the tactic be opening up, or should we maintain our autonomy.

Reclaim Power was an experiment. This needs to be properly talked about. CJA together with more autonomous groups. That could also do this in Bonn.

Additional agenda item: Via Campesina call for a grassroots meeting on COP16

- Can we leave the decision to the Bonn group to see if we can have one more day?
- We need to take responsibility to organise that. Ask for the space, but we need to fill it. Mindful not to let the work fall on the Bonn group.
- **Next meeting dates: May 29, 30, 31st**
- Do we have any capacity to actually organise a conference? It is more work than a gathering.
- Even if it was just a day long discussion with these people here, it would still be useful. If we can't make a big conference then we don't but we can still have the conference. Maybe better to keep it internal.
- There are bigger questions like: would we even want a speaker? We are defining it. The question should be is there energy amongst us to create something. Bonn just needs to give us the infrastructural capacity and we need to decide what to do. I'd love to do it and I have the time, but who else?
- In Germany there was also a discussion about using the klimaforum for putting our perspective forward
- What about instead of a discussion about policy, think about how to organise. How can we use summits as a moment to meet to talk about local organising. Make sure this text doesn't undermine bottom up approach.
- Maybe it's not logistically possible to organise a conference, but we can always have just an open discussion.
- So since we already have a document and there are people who want to take it further, we don't have to see how much energy there is for it? Are people okay with discussing this text further?

Proposal: to ask the Bonn group if we can do it on Monday, and the people who said they are up for organising it can do it once they get the response from the Germans.

Agreed to move the discussion to a third day, take it out of agenda for the two-day CJA meeting in Bonn, but have it follow immediately so everyone who wants can stay for it.

Any other points?

- Remember to start discussions about what form the global day of action will take already in your own groups so that ideas can be fed into the CJA Bonn meeting.

Announcements:

1. if you are interested in nanotech or nanobiotech and want to organise around it, talk to me (email address?).
2. is anyone interested in discussing the international state system and how it emerged, that legal systems based on states are not working, or that

the state system is on the way out.. We should have a proposal as to how to organise that differently. I would love to talk to you if you have ideas on this (email address?).

Any Other Business:

- Mailing list created for discussing how to link local struggles.

- I am making a movie reportage about CJA if anyone is willing to do an interview I would really appreciate it (email address?).

- Danish legal stuff? There is not a call out for solidarity actions, but it would be good. It is a strange situation because 2 people want to make the trial public and political, but decided to do that very late. So we haven't set up a structure yet for that. But they still need support! This will also be needed later on. 11 and 16th of march are the trial dates. It would be great if there were protests at the Danish embassies. It doesn't have to be that big, it's just important to us that something is happening
- Question: Can there be a few lines, short statement prepared for these actions? Reply: yes someone will write something.

Proposal: CALL OUT for solidarity actions at Danish embassy? Agreed.

Suggestion: At some point we should put the zero growth perspective on the table. Maybe start a working group?

Thanks to everyone who spent time and effort to put this meeting together!!