

CJA Meeting in Bonn

May 29-31 2010

Key Decisions

Letter of support for 1000 Cancuns

Decision: write an open letter supporting La Via Campesina's call for 1000 Cancuns,, will spread to our allies and networks.

Decision was made after long discussions about the capacity to mobilise during this time, but there was agreement that our allies need support quickly and there is the possibility to commit to actions in a separate call out at a later date. No decision was made after long discussions about the purpose of and capacity to mobilise during this time, but agreed to send support for regional processes, spread the call in our networks and begin to see what we could organise. Would not commit to specific actions at this stage.

Global day of action October 12

Decision: will send a call out for actions on October 12. In order to make it a global day of action, CJA has appointed a working group to write a four page story to link struggles around the world. Work will be done in two groups – media/story and materials/networking/mobilisation.

Decision followed a discussion about whether actions should occur over the course of a week, or on October 12. Decided to stay with 12 October (noting that some actions would happen on 16th Oct). Other groups have planned events around the same time in October, will look into supporting allies during this time. The group felt that there were strategic problems with organising with 350.org, on 10th Oct, partly due to the 1010 campaign.

New CJA mailing list and crabgrass network

Decision: abandon Climate09 mailing list and create a new list for CJA network. This will be complimented by a new crabgrass network where most work will be organised.

After discussing the challenges the network is facing in terms of decision making, and what tasks need to be achieved in the future, it was decided that the current structure is not the most effective.

Other Decisions

Finance

Decision: Person previously handling finance has now taken over a transparency role along with a second person. Finance role has been handed over.

Decision making between meetings

Decision: we should avoid making decisions on anything that can wait until next meeting. Working groups should be encouraged to make decisions within their remit. When decisions do need to be made a form will be completed explaining relevant information, sent out to the list, and as much time as possible will be given for people to respond.

Process group tasks and planning the next meeting

Decision: a process group is needed for the email account, circulation of minutes, checking working groups are doing their tasks and producing the news letter. The task of planning the next meeting will be delegated to a separate group.

Building theory on climate justice in Europe

Decision: create thematic groups to look at developing what climate justice means in Europe. Groups will be created on crabgrass for discussion and we will look to our allies for help where we do not have theoretical capacity.

SATURDAY MAY 29 2010

Program

- Feedback from Bolivia – Break – Update from Workshop – Break – Discussion around working groups – Cancun mobilization

List of represented countries and activities

- Germany: looking at how to link various local struggles, current camp in Bonn and two future camps near open mines.
- The Netherlands: groups are targeting coal power stations.
- France: Climate camp 22 July – 1 August in Normandy, focusing on Total.
- Ireland: Will have a camp in August
- United Kingdom: Coal action near Bristol; lock on to a coal line, solidarity bike ride targeting Shell, future camp in Scotland in August targeting RBS.
- Paraguay
- Brazil
- Turkey
- Canada
- Denmark: Nordic climate camp 14-20 July

Feedback from Cochabamba

- Conference made up 17 working groups, each on a different theme
- Estimated 30,000 people attending
- Lots from Latin America, some from North America, less from Europe. Few from Africa and Asia
- Cross between a social forum and a summit
- Lots of different types of people attending, lots of info stalls etc.
- Worries at the start about the outcomes from the conference being pre-determined by the organisers

- WGs wrote their statements over 3 days which were then combined into a 11 page final document
- Most people felt that interventions and the process meant that the summit was legitimate and that the outcomes were generally good.
- 18 Mesa was a WG that was excluded from the conference. It discussed issues around extractive industries, mega projects etc. Some of the contradictions between the discourses and actions of the
- Bolivian government. Were complications about whether it would be seen as against the conference/bolivian government. Produced its own document
Was a blockade of San Christobel mine during the conference. Sumato offices (which own the mine) were also occupied. Was solidarity action at head offices in London.

Main goals of the conference were:

- 1) global referendum on climate change
- 2) declaration of rights of mother earth
- 3) international court for ecological crimes
- 4) process for recognition and repayment of ecological debt

CJA Workshop in Cochabamba

- There was a discussion about climate justice in each country, where the movement came from, and how the concept developed since the 1990s.
- Questions: Who are the allies and obstacles in the fight for climate justice and how to mobilize for a global day of action?
- Participants filled out a form about their actions and where they came from, then they were placed on south-side up map. Someone has all the contact details and information from the approximately 70 participants.
- Broke into small groups to discuss the implications of the Bolivian process. There was debate over how CJA can relate to events such as this one.

Discussion around CJA working groups:

- Right now the network is an unstructured group without active working groups.
- Do we want it to be more than just the big meetings?
- Need to decide what CJA is and what it will do.
- Should working groups be created as they are needed? Or having something longer lasting?

Finance:

- Previous person handling finance has some documents about the working group because he will be taking over a transparency role.
- There was 3,500euro in the CJA account a week ago, but there was a 2,000euro payment to the Bonn camp, some of which may be a loan.
- The finance role was taken over and second person was added to the transparency role
- Discussion about the need to move the account to a country where the currency is Euros.

Process:

- Although process has traditionally been responsible for planning meetings and circulating minutes, we are unclear what the role of this working group is.
- It is clear that we need to have a bigger discussion about CJA structure.

Communication:

- The group has not been highly active.
- Some people have been working on a new website, but need more people to make this happen quickly and effectively.
- Question of what to do with Climate09 email list.
- We have an announcement list but have only sent one update on it.
- Will continue this discussion.

Legal:

- 16 – 20 people imprisoned after COP15.
- The longest time spent in prison was 2 months.
- The people`s kitchen from COP15 donated their extra money to legal support.
- 250 people who were preventatively arrested are pressing charges against Danish police. While there is a good case it is felt that there is almost no public awareness or media.
- There are 4 trials remaining – two of the trials are at the end of August.
- There has been a case won by legal support and the judge ruled that the Rahnilsgade raid was the legal but the way the police carried it out was not. The police are appealing this ruling.
- CJA has been asked to attend a press conference – needs to be discussed.
- Decision to add to the agenda a wider discussion about CJA structure.

Cancun Mobilization: Nov 29 – Dec 10 2010

- Klima Forum at COP16: similar idea in Cancun based on the same ideas of alternative civil society summit.
- Concerns raised about this: top-down, doesn't take into consideration local realities, not an appropriate model for the Mexican reality. Should the model be imposed from Denmark to Mexico or have their own regional processes.
- Letter went out from Via Campesina criticizing the Klima Forum and calling for 1000 Cancuns.
- Pushing for a decentralised strategy of protest.
- Klima Forum is pushing for centralised actions in Cancun.
- Two central questions:
How can CJA relate to the call for 1000 Cancuns and how do we have the capacity for decentralised actions?
- Decision to write an open letter. We agreed that we want to send the letter and support the call for many Cancuns, and looking into the possibility of CJA action (non-committed). We will run it by our allies.
- Agreed that a group would create a draft of the letter and present the ideas the next day.

Day of Direct Action for System Change not Climate Change – October 12 2010

- There was a CJN debrief meeting at the end of Copenhagen. A recommendation was made by CJN to the network for a day of action sometime in the autumn.
- At the Amsterdam gathering CJA responded to this recommendation and decided to call for a day of direct action for 'system change not climate change.'
- The date of 12 October was chosen by CJA based on the awareness of an existing call for action from Global Minga.
- CJA's call will not be the same, but a separate call recognising the Global Minga call.

What are groups in different countries able to do?

- London: Local London Climate Camp group discussed extractivism at their last meeting – raw materials (coal, palm oil, soya) being produced in the south. All of these are major contributors to climate change, and also a source of oppression between the North and the South. Don't want to impose austerity, but directly target products that are contributing to the problems (i.e. soy being fed to livestock in the UK)
- Idea of tackling a few big trade ports – do we have the capacity to shut down Rotterdam for example
- The date may not be the most ideal, but something will happen.
- Turkey: ESF happening in Istanbul 1-4 July. Will approach people there.
- France: October 16 targeting the largest oil refinery. If enough people attend, will be the first mass direct action, and also the first direct action against climate change in France.
- Denmark: concerned about the effectiveness of a global day of action. Maybe interested in a week instead. Maybe a surprise event will take place.
- Brazil: Jubilee South is planning a "week" of action from 7-17 June in order to include all relevant dates such as 9-11 June when IFIs have their annual meeting.
- Other events: India – Conference on Monsanto and Climate Justice; Italy – interest in the global day of action on the 12th; Barcelona – targeting oil companies extracting in the amazon; Ireland – interest in the idea of a global day of action; Ecuador – migration/climate justice action on October 12.

What will CJA do for the global day of action?

- Will it be a day or a whole week? Do we want to work with 350.org?
- Discussion about 10/10, there are political differences, need to discuss this more.
- We affirmed that we will do an action on October 12 for its political implications. Agreed that we would have some sentence in the letter that recognises the need for regional specificities in the action.
- Planning work will begin tomorrow.

SUNDAY MAY 30 2010

Cancun Letter

- Working group feedback on structure of the letter:
- Introduction about Bonn being a failure, COP15 failure, UNFCCC failure, social movements over government solutions and success of Cochabamba.
- Support regional processes and la Via Campesina call for 1000 Cancuns
- Do we want the letter to include a commitment to action or not?
- Plug the action planned for October 12.

Recap on the LVC letter:

- KlimaForum, alternative summit seen by allies as being liberal NGOs removed from social movement reality and working too closely with the Mexican government.
- There is more social power in Mexico city than in Cancun.
- Criticizes KlimaForum and proposes 1000 Cancuns and some kind of sounding board for discussion

between Cancuns on the day.

- Need to decide if we will support LVC call for 1000 Cancuns and decide if we will commit to a day of action.
- Split into groups to discuss possibilities for actions, and what can we do if we don't support 1000 Cancuns?

Group 4:

- Think we should mobilise for Cancun, had action ideas of decentralised ETS actions and interfering with our local representatives being able to attend Cancun.

Group 2:

- There are political reasons not to do actions at this time.
- Might be more productive to do actions in October for the global day of action and not focus on the summit again. The power of the summit works in the region where it happens but not necessarily in Europe where the process is more removed.
- Lack of capacity to have actions is a reason to say 'no.' There does not seem to be the energy for actions.
- October actions could include solidarity with social movements in Mexico.
- The letter supporting LVC still works without promising action.
- CJA can still spread the word about 1000 Cancuns without making a promise for action.

Group 1:

- Should use Cancun to mobilize against political and financial institutions. October day of action could focus on production issues.
- Could have people's assemblies during 1000 Cancuns to concretize system change.

Group 3:

- Capacity for action is a concern.
- If it is decentralized, need to discuss how to knit a narrative together.
- Could use 'What does Climate Justice mean in Europe' paper as the background.
- A real Cancun will put climate justice into action – not only a negative response to the issues.
- This could be used as an opportunity to network with new organisations focusing on other things.
- Need to build more alliances otherwise our actions are coming only from CJA and which will lead to mobilization problems.

Groups Discussion:

- Small actions can still be very meaningful.
- By responding LVC's call we are responding to a major ally who we should support.
- There are actions like shutting down the ETS that don't require a lot of capacity and wouldn't be very big but the benefits would outweigh the costs.
- We can respond more broadly by not focusing any the summit but rather showing how we think about climate justice and effectively link action to the 1000 Cancuns.
- Solidarity can be shown at any time; it's not necessary to have to have a specific day or time for action.
- Saying that we will do something at some point is better than promising to do something and then not doing it.
- Problem with how to follow-up COP15 and mobilize the same kind of support again. There was a lot of momentum for COP15, where will this kind of energy come from for Cancun?
- If we want to represent 1000 Cancuns it should be decentralised, direct action against something we oppose such as false solutions.
- Not necessarily referring to mass action, but something. We might not have consensus on whether we should act, but we can leave the letter open or leave it until the next meeting to discuss again.
- Putting off a decision makes it difficult to go back home and tell people what was decided at the

meeting. It is easier to go back and ask people to get involved with a specific action. The longer we wait the less capacity we will have for action.

- LVC needs a show of support now for the respect of local processes. We can discuss the specific use of the word 'action' later.
- There was so much attention on CJA at the COP15 so not doing anything would be problematic and we do have the capacity to kick-off mobilisation in a lot of countries in Europe.
- Agreement on sending the letter as soon as possible, but there are still capacity concerns about using the summit mobilise – RTNA has supported the call but has put their own twist on it, this is something we could also consider.
- Recap: It is important to send support but there is a concern about making false promises and COP15 was a major event that could mean we are missing an opportunity if we don't mobilise for COP16.
- The letter will definitely send support and indicate that we will be doing actions in some way, somewhere.
- Question whether more feedback is needed before the letter is completed, keeping in mind the fact that there has already been a working group about it, the information has been fed back, it was discussed and anyone who is concerned can join the next meeting. Agreement that we trust the group to write the letter.
- We all agree to spread the 1000 Cancuns idea to our own networks in Europe and around the world.

What to do on Global Day of Action – October 12

- Ideas on the significance of the day: do we want to connect our struggles explicitly to Columbus Day? Do we want to represent the idea that it was not only a tragedy for Latin America but also transformed Europe through the extraction of raw resources?
- Global Minga may have already done most of the background work for us on this.
- Idea of connecting the action to the extraction of natural resources, but will this message be picked up by the media?
- Do we need to create a communication strategy or an action plan?
- Decision to divide into two groups: Story-telling/media and mobilisation/materials/networking
- What working groups do we need to take us forward for the next 4 months?

Mobilisation/Materials/Networking group

- Question is how to make this a global day of action instead of different actions happening in different parts of the world.
- Need a live tool that will connect us all.
- Questions to be answered: how will we make mobilisation tools? How will we mobilise among our networks, who contacts whom? How do we use the website to mobilise? Do we want to create an online toolbox (something to download that will help with mobilisation and coordination before and during the action)? Is this working group permanent? Can we use October 12 to mobilise for 1000 Cancuns? Can we do October 12 and 1000 Cancuns at the same time?
- Need to organise a print out poster, delegate to other countries, have ready for next meeting or have it decentralised and translated.
- Need a list of names that are responsible for printing in each country and need someone to design the poster. Need to have a section where you can fill in whatever you are doing in your area. Need to have a unified graphic so that decentralised actions can be unified. Need a branding process so that other people can see that the actions are connected in different parts of the world.
- Do we want to have a stencil included? Are we making a materials toolbox? CJA already has a lot of resources, so maybe we can collect them and put them back on the website. We can include links to external websites that are relevant.
- Should do outreach to other contacts. To do this, it would be nice to have a list of who our contacts are and who we do and do not engage with. We should make a list so they can be contacted locally in

different countries.

- We should start by 'contacting ourselves,' meaning that we should contact the network or organisations that we have already worked with and make contact with them again. There is a list on the website already that we can use for this.
- Then we should create contacts with new allies and link up with groups doing different things in our local areas.
- ESF Istanbul will be important for this.
- Should we use an online tool that has already been created like an open website for communication?
- CJA is essentially creating a framework for a global day of action for other climate related groups to use for mobilisation.

Story/Media Working Group

- The story will take the climate issues away from science and make it political.
- Essentially a four page story for people who want to link up.
- In addition to a one page version for the press.
- Could be adapted to other formats like cartoon video, etc...
- Need to make sure it is relevant to local communities – find examples of people in the global south taking actions we can relate to.

Defined three key parts of the story:

- Colonial history: explain how climate justice is linked to October 12/Columbus Day.
- Continued expansion of colonialism and capitalism has created a series of crises. Tying colonialism to the multiple crises we now face.
- The 12th symbolises the rise global climate justice movement as a response to crises (the hopeful bit).
- Talked about making it relevant to the local context. Within the story we will illustrate the shift from historical colonialism to global Empire. Idea that we are all colonised now, not just about South America.

Series of tasks:

- 1) The creation of the story (big 4 page version). After third draft will go to a collective who will pass on suggestions and criticisms. Comments will go back to the writing team to create the final draft.
 - 2) Create a shorter version for media
 - 3) Create a Bonn press-release
 - 4) Create a list of amenable journalists European-wide
 - 5) Make online tools for journalists (press packs)
 - 6) Media training closer to the action.
 - 7) Linking CJA media teams with national media teams.
- There was some disagreement about creating a completely new identity for the action itself, and whether it should be independent from CJA.

Relationship of CJA to other activities happening during this week

- Started as a single day of global action that was discussed widely at Cochabamba. It became clear that lots of groups had actions planned around October 12. To be most effective tried to find a way to knit all of the activities together into a week of action.
- Indigenous groups are supporting the idea, plus Rising Tide, 350.org and LVC.
- There has been no concrete work done on making this a cohesive week of action but there was a lot of energy and positive response to making this happen.
- Knitting these different days together is our prerogative.
- A number of questions need to be addressed: what would it mean for CJA to do this? How can we

create a narrative? Who do we want to work with?

- We may work with groups whose politics we do not fully agree with, but we can offer a proposal to adopt a common climate justice frame. The people they mobilise are the ones we really want to talk to.
- There are some people in other organisations who have similar ideas as CJA but don't know how to radicalize. We need to reach out to these people.
- Consensus that conversation could begin between CJA and our obvious allies, for example LVC, Jubilee South etc...
- Still need to create an exhaustive list of who our allies actually are so this needs to be completed before we can begin developing a common framework.
- The question of working with other groups was deferred to our next meeting when we have already done some work with our allies on creating a common framework of climate justice.

CJA Working Structure

- What is working, what is not working?
- What needs to be done for the two projects that we took on?
- How can we organise for this?
- Do we need to reactivate the same working groups?
- Working groups are generally non-existent at the moment.
- There is a lack of structure outside of official international meetings
- People are not informed about what certain people are doing with the CJA name.
- Some think that the weaknesses of the network are not a technical problem but a social problem.
- Need for continuity, but maybe because there has been no concrete project there have been no mandates, and therefore no structure or activity.
- Need some kind of decision-making structure
- Discussion about the problem of the Climate09 list but recognised that it is impossible to answer any of the questions about the list until we have assessed what structure we need to do our tasks.
- Split into small groups to discuss how we need to organise.
- Agreement that a new general list would be created for CJA work.
- Everyone on Climate09 would be invited to join that list.
- Climate 09 will be abandoned, not destroyed but no longer used by CJA.
- The new list will be unmoderated but there will be a list of guidelines that people will be kicked off the list for abusing.
- Overall we will try to move all of our work onto the crabgrass network.
- Four people will make the crabgrass network.
- Someone will set up the new list.
- The announcement list will be kept for sending out a newsletter twice every three months.
- Appointed someone to do the first news letter and someone will coordinate translations.

MONDAY MAY 31 2010

- Question of how are we going to make decisions between meetings: agreed that we will not make decisions on anything that can wait until the next meeting.
- We will do our best to empower working groups so that few working group tasks have to be passed to the whole group.
- Agreed that we would create a submission form: on this form explain why this decision falls outside the group's remit, justify why the decision needs to be made, and why it cannot wait. Have to state the longest possible amount of time required for this decision to be made. Must be submitted on the new email list and need to point toward where relevant decision making tools and documents are on

crabgrass.

- Affirmed that we do have a process group and outlined their tasks: email account, circulation of minutes, checking working groups are doing their work, producing the newsletter. The task of the next meeting will be delegated to a small group at every meeting and will not be the direct task of the process group.

What does Climate Justice mean in Europe Discussion

30 min general discussion of the document

- We need to build up a discourse that captures our interpretations of climate justice discourse, to avoid it being abused by other forces. We have to take these ideas to other groups as well to build a shared position that is common and strong enough that when another entity says it is something else, it doesn't have weight.
- The discussion paper was a start in this direct, but we need to develop these issues, and come to an agreement with other organisations.
- The understanding of climate justice could change in the public discourse after other campaigns like tck tck tck took it on without criticizing false solutions. We need to make it clear that there is a struggle around defining this term.
- We have individual understandings of climate justice, but we may not all share them.
- We already have common ground statements that we have produced.
- But we have been recycling things from the Durban group and Bali principles; need to move beyond the bullet points and have a realistic sense of where we are and what our long term objectives are.
- Questions are about how to provide support from a European context, rather than a definitional debate.
- We will talk about each section, and how to support demands and implement them in a European context.
- Are there any key areas we are missing out on? Green jobs, austerity, just transition, energy sector, transport.
- Process: Look at the key demands, the organisations we can work with and then what steps we can take to move forward in those areas.
- What is CJA? CJA does not exist to produce policy documents. It is an action-based network that tries to get more people involved in largely disobedient action addressing climate justice.
- There were no conclusions to this initial discussion so we moved on to work in small groups on the themes below.

Energy, Fossil Fuels and Resources

- Part I – Narratives and Principles: discussed de-growth critique of capitalism, critique of the energy systems (not favouring one technique over the other), some discussion on the theme of energy sovereignty.
- Discussion needs to be Europe focused but not Eurocentric; thinking about Europe's role in the world energy system.
- Part II – Action and solidarity: need to map and support other existing struggles on the issue of energy, resources and fossil fuels; needs research into picking specific action targets and not just energy systems
- There is a problem with a lot of campaigns that already exist being understood as technical protests in favour of technical solutions. CJA understands this as a political problem not a technical problem.
- Need to develop a master narrative about energy systems in Europe. This master narrative would look to explain energy in terms of demands created by economic systems. Capitalism is the problem, and the reason why we have the energy crises.
- Look to shift toward the positive in saying that what's required in the way we organise our daily lives and production. What we look to develop is an energy strategy for a different society.

- Emphasised that we need to map the struggles in this sector but as CJA we need to support a number of these struggles, not limiting it to a specific energy system and use this as a way to tie protests over energy into the master narrative.
- The third phase of this would be an educational role of working with these groups or campaigns to illustrate the structural causes and consequent solutions.

Transport

- Transport is an area where our strengths could be utilized – one of the areas where we can have a positive contribution and communicate a vision of a better society and not be seen as a green austerity movement.
- Discussion broke down into following topics:
 - 1) cars and roads
 - 2) public transport
 - 3) transport of goods
 - 4) air travel
- Looked into demands, strategic targets and who are our allies.
- For example the car industry: could be difficult due to opposition from workers in the car industry. 1/7 workers in Germany is in the car industry for example.
- Could work with local transport campaigns, demanding free public transport for example.
- Looked into modal shifts from air travel to rail, there were possibilities but also problems. One of the problems is the expansion of high-speed rail is highly problematic.
- Air transportation: push to expand regional airports due to saturation of hub airports. Lots of local opposition to these expansion plans – could find allies.

Borders and Militarism

- Discourse is not as developed as in other areas such as transport. The discourse is still developing, needs more theoretical work.
- Discussed migration and what it means in Europe.
- There is an issue about linking struggles from a theoretical perspective. There is much in common, but need to approach the issue from an actionist rather than theoretical perspective.
- There are lots of links (our friends are involved in these networks).
- It is not possible to have the next CJA meeting in a no-border camp because it is already being planned, but can develop common tools with no-border network.
- Discuss what a campaign in this area could do in terms of outreach with people who are involved in refugee campaigns.
- We can do joint actions with no-borders and anti-militarist groups, but can we lend our name to join such joint actions?

How do we take these discussions forward?

- Realised the necessity to continue strategic discussions and that this was crucial for developing the CJA network as there is a need for a network like CJA to take on these questions.
- Investigated the possibility of something like strategies for climate justice conference/gathering. Need a meeting to discuss gaps in the paper and theory in general.
- Outlined a series of thematic threads emerging within this. We are not referring to a conference that will happen in the future, but building a working process that leads to that event and beyond.

- There are a series of thematic threads that have names attached to them for who will get the ball rolling in each section

- 1) Climate debt
- 2) Food and agriculture
- 3) Energy systems
- 4) Borders and military
- 5) Transport
- 6) Possibility of housing

7) Green/climate Jobs

- Proposal that we should set up crabgrass for pursuing these thematic discussions. These will go onto the agenda for the next CJA meeting. We need to look into each of the themes and also cover the themes that haven't been covered such as climate debt, and food and agriculture. Each of these thematic threads should aid to produce a strategy document for the basis of the strategy meeting.
- This will be included in the newsletter.
- We should recognise that we may not have the theoretical or strategic resources to develop some of these ideas such as on the issue of no-borders network or energy within Europe. We could go to the allied networks under the general themes and develop a framework for developing strategy with other groups.
- Climate Justice in Europe paper needs to get the perspectives from the network and movements in other continents. It would be good to get input from other groups on strategic work.