
The Bolivia Debacle

350: Agent Saboteur

by CORY MORNINGSTAR

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Knowledgeable people and authentic activists that are going to the “People’s” Climate March must re-ignite the “People’s Agreement” of the [World People’s Conference on Climate Change and the Rights of Mother Earth](#), 22 April 2010, Cochabamba, Bolivia, reject 350’s [corporate agenda](#), and step aside for the Indigenous nations to resume their proven leadership in protecting Mother Earth.



PHOTO: THE CITY PROJECT

Participants sit in bleachers at the packed World People’s Summit on Climate Change and Mother Earth’s Rights.

The World People’s [Conference](#) on Climate Change and the Rights of Mother Earth that took place in April of 2010 in Cochabamba, Bolivia, was the first and only climate conference that

1. was led by Indigenous Peoples (approx. 35,000 people attended),
2. was hosted by a state with an Indigenous President ([Bolivia's first Indigenous President](#))
3. was presented by a state with a very strong position on climate change (still to this date, the state that holds the strongest position in the world), and
4. produced the first democratically written document by its members as an answer to climate change—later to be [submitted](#) and recognized by the United Nations (due to the State of Bolivia representatives, no thanks to climate justice groups.)

The [People's Agreement](#) declaration that resulted from this conference, would come to represent the only climate declaration ever written that could serve as an ideological and scientific foundation to build upon; that could have possibly (and realistically) averted, or at least mitigated, advancing climate crisis and ecological collapse—if only it had been acted upon at that time.

It was during this conference that American 350.org co-founder, Kelly Blynn, had a tantrum. The People's Agreement was calling for a maximum of 300 parts per million of carbon dioxide. When pressed (by the former Green Party Canada leader and activist, [Joan Russow](#), and myself) to consider the necessity of changing the 350.org logo (by crossing it out with an x and placing the new number/logo “300” beside it), an irritated Blynn stated that she and her co-founders would never agree to do so as 350.org was “the most powerful brand in the world.”

For the moment, let's ignore the fact that “the most powerful brand in the world” aside, 350 ppm is a death sentence for coral reefs, small island developing states, and billions of people living along low lying coastlines. A fact disclosed in an [Alliance of Small Island States Briefing](#) prior to COP15.[1]



Whiteness & Aversive Racism

In the ultimate display of arrogance, it was clearly demonstrated that 350.org's sole purpose for attending the conference in Bolivia was to [literally undermine](#) the host country's official policy position on climate change (300 ppm, 1°C limit, etc.). After exhausting all resources to have the "brand" (numeral 350) adopted as the official target cited in the evolving text of the draft document (350 ppm rather than 300 ppm), their efforts were finally defeated after both Russow and I challenged the 350.org colonial superiority at that evening's plenary, which was packed with Bolivian citizens. Ultimately, the pre-industrial measurement of 280 ppm was rightfully added to the document.[2]

Ironically, the Bolivian-hosted conference was created in direct response to the December 2009 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP 15 or "Hopenhagen") in Copenhagen, Denmark, where Avaaz and 350.org, under the umbrella of [TckTckTck](#) (a campaign created by Havas advertising agency), undermined the necessary targets and radical emission reductions courageously put forward by the some of the Earth's most vulnerable states. The Copenhagen conference's proposed climate goal was a full one degree Celsius higher than the one put forth by the State of Bolivia, thereby knowingly sentencing these populations to certain death in order to maintain white Euro-American privilege.[3]

While the State of Bolivia demanded that a 1°C temperature increase not be exceeded, and the G77 called for severe, [radical and necessary emission cuts](#), the non-profit industrial complex (NPIC), including most "climate justice" groups called for double this: the target of a full 2°C temperature increase. A few of the more legitimate groups barely mustered the valour to "demand" the world not exceed 1.5°C. One may wish to note that over 20 years ago, both [Greenpeace](#) and Friends of the Earth fully recognized the global average temperature increase must not exceed 1°C (as [clearly evidenced in documents](#)). Yet at COP15, two decades later with climate change advancing rapidly, both groups under the [TckTckTck](#) umbrella participated in the [2°C lie](#)[4] and the [manipulation of civil society](#).[5]



[Part II](#) | "Capitalism as Pathology: The Illusory "Green Economy" vs People Solutions," *youtube*, 25 Nov 2012



Raw Footage, Lumumba Di-Aping, December 11, 2009 [Running time: 12:30]

“I would rather die with my dignity than sign a deal that will channel my people into a furnace.” –Lumumba Di-Aping

One of the most inspiring leaders present at the COP15 was the ever so eloquent Lumumba Di-Aping, chief negotiator of the G77. (The G77 bloc is the major group of developing countries, many of which are among the most threatened by effects of climate change, as well as the largest developing country bloc represented at the COP15.) Although Di-Aping was Sudanese by birth, his parents (who called themselves “Lumumbist”) named Di-Aping after the famous Congolese leader [Patrice Lumumba](#). (Lumumba, the anti-colonialist democratically-elected prime minister of the Congo, was assassinated in 1960 having been deemed a severe threat by the U.S. due to his uncompromising ideas of freedom and African unity. He played a leading role in the struggle for the liberation of Africa and all of Africa’s resources.)

At the historic press conference which took place on November 11, 2009 in Copenhagen, Di-Aping addressed the international NGO community. The conference room was packed with representatives of the non-profit industrial complex and corporate media complex, which includes the so-called progressive media. In a most direct approach, Di-Aping asked NGOs to support the demand that developed countries cut emissions 52% by 2017; 65% by 2020; and 80% by 2030 (based on a 1990 baseline). Further, Di-Aping asked the NGOs to demand GHG emission cuts well above 100% by 2050, which would (perhaps) keep the global temperature from exceeding a rise of no more than 1.5°C. These targets, if met, would perhaps allow Africa to merely stay alive.

A 2°C rise in global temperature, which the non-profit industrial complex campaigned upon, would mean a 3.5°C rise for Africa. This temperature is certain death for the African peoples –certain death for billions. In addition, a 2°C global temperature rise guarantees a minimum 4°C+ global temperature for future generations. In the film footage provided below,

one bears witness to Di-Aping speaking directly to the Climate Action Network (International) representatives.

One must note the disturbing irony. After the press conference was finished, a standing ovation erupted. The room shook with an audience both inspired and enraptured. Depending on one's depth of understanding of foundations, corporate power structures and the non-profit industrial complex, one may or may not be surprised at what happened afterwards, which was, quite simply, nothing. The white ivory towers, ever so acquiescent to their hegemonic rulers, wrote off the African people by continuing their "demand" for "a fair, ambitious, binding agreement." In other words: "Sorry about your bad luck, Africa. Enjoy your future of hell on Earth ... and screw you."

The non-profit industrial complex, with CAN and TckTckTck at the forefront, stuck to their 2°C and other suicidal (non)targets. The climate justice groups dared on occasion to demand that temperatures not exceed 1.5°C, while any discussion demanding that 1°C be supported and campaigned upon sent this faction, too, running scared like frightened field mice. Climate justice amounted to nothing more than a branded trademark. Silence and compliance reigned as the champagne circuit discussed career options over cocktails.

Below are excerpts from the only transcript that exists.

"The second issue is the issue of reductions of emissions. There must be radical reductions of emissions starting from now. In our view, by 2017 we should cut, developed countries must cut by 52%, 65% by 2020, 80% by 2030, well above 100 [percent] by 2050. And this is very important because the more you defer action the more you condemn millions of people to immeasurable suffering. So the idea that you start from 4% today and you achieve 80 or 50 in 2050 simply means that you do not care about the lives of those who will be devastated in this period, until you pick up the pace.

"... and I will say this to our colleagues from Western civil society – you have definitely sided with a small group of industrialists and their representatives and your representative branches. Nothing more than that. You have become an instrument of your governments. Whatever you say, whether you think it's because it's tactically shrewd or not, it's an error that you should not continue to make.

"So ask yourself, are your executive branches climate skeptics, notwithstanding their addresses like the prime minister of the UK that the cost of inaction on climate change is irreparable. His actions say he's worse than the worst of climate skeptics. If he had asked bankers to pocket 300 billion dollars because of 'incentivizing' profit-seeking activities and he says 500 million is the maximum that the United Kingdom government can afford to pay to support climate change, what are we saying? What are you saying? I wonder what the distinguished colleagues from CAN are saying about that.

"Many of you equally, and I will say this, and I would have never thought that one day I will accuse a civil society of such a thing. Dividing the G77, or helping divide the G77, is simply something that should be left to the CIAs, the KGBs and the rest [not the NGOs].

"It's mind boggling, and I say this having been the beneficiary of absolute support from civil society. Many of you may not know this, I come from southern Sudan. We've been through wars for almost 90% of our lives since independence, so I'm not sure what happened exactly to the civil society that I do know or at least knew.

"If you have received help that enabled you to rebuild your economies and to become prosperous, how come suddenly you have turned mean? Because that 2.5 billion dollars is definitely what some of the big western industrialists lose without a sleep over a trade [lose over a trade without losing any sleep]."

Notes

1. See local PDF copy of original white paper: ["What Is The Right Target For Co2?: 350 ppm Is A Death Sentence For Coral Reefs And Low Lying Islands, The Safe Level Of Co2 For SIDS Is Around 260 Parts Per Million,"](#) by T. Goreau, PhD Delegation of Jamaica Scientific & Technical Briefing To the Association of Small Island States United Nations Climate Change Conference Copenhagen, Denmark, December 7-18 2009.
2. "Developed countries shall take the lead and strive towards returning greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere to well below 300 ppm CO₂eq with a view to returning concentrations to levels as close as possible to pre-industrial levels in the longer-term, and to limit the average global temperatures to a maximum level of 1°C with a view to returning temperatures to levels as close as possible to pre-industrial levels in the longer-term, with deep and adequate economy wide emissions reductions in the medium and long terms and taking effective measures to fulfill their commitments relating to the provision of substantial financial resources, capacity building and to provide technology development and transfer of environmentally sound technologies and know how to developing country Parties. These enabling means are critical and an important measure to enhance the contribution and voluntary efforts of developing country Parties to the efforts of stabilizing of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere." Paragraph 2, Section "A. Shared vision for long-term cooperative action," in ["Submission by the Plurinational State of Bolivia to the Ad-Hoc Working Group on Long-Term Cooperative Action"](#)
3. See ["The Most Important COP Briefing That No One Ever Heard | Truth, Lies, Racism & Omnicide,"](#) 12 Dec 2012
4. See the explication of this in "Exposé | The 2° Death Dance - The 1° Cover-Up," [Part I](#) (10 Dec 2010) and [Part II](#) (24 Dec 2010), by Cory Morningstar, *The Art of Annihilation*
5. *Op. Cit.* ["The Most Important COP Briefing..."](#)

Cory Morningstar is an independent investigative journalist, writer and environmental activist, focusing on global ecological collapse and political analysis of the non-profit industrial complex. She resides in Canada. Her recent writings can be found on [Wrong Kind of Green](#), [The Art of Annihilation](#), [Political Context](#), [Counterpunch](#), [Canadians for Action on Climate Change](#) and [Countercurrents](#). Her writing has also been published by [Bolivia Rising](#) and [Cambio](#), the official newspaper of the Plurinational State of Bolivia.