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## **PARIS CLIMATE ACCORD: IS IT ALL ABOUT WEALTH REDISTRIBUTION?**

By Stephen L. Bakke  June 19, 2017



Many of us are familiar with the following claim: “The primary goal of international climate change agreements is international wealth redistribution.” This isn’t mere speculation or wishful thinking by skeptics and critics of climate and energy policies. Statements coming out of the U.N. collectively seem to disclose a shift from environment to wealth redistribution as the real goal of the U.N. climate movement. This is one of the most important reasons for the U.S. withdrawal from the Paris Climate Accord. Consider these statements by U.N. officials:

- “Isn’t the only hope for the planet that the industrial civilizations collapse? Isn’t it our responsibility to bring about?” – Maurice Strong, founder of the U.N. Eco-Summit and a former Undersecretary General.
- “One has to free oneself from the illusion that international climate policy is environmental policy.” – Ottmar Edenhofer, Co-chair of the U.N.’s IPCC climate change working group from 2008 to 2015.
- “Climate Policy has almost nothing to do anymore with environmental protection.....One must say clearly that we redistribute the world’s wealth by climate policy.....” – Edenhofer
- “The next new climate summit in Cancun is actually an economy summit during which the distribution of the world’s resources will be negotiated.” – Edenhofer
- “This has almost nothing to do with the environmental policy anymore, with problems such as deforestation or the ozone hole.....We redistribute de facto the world’s wealth by climate policy.” – Edenhofer
- “.....in order to get rich one has to burn coal, oil or gas.” – Edenhofer once again, this time explaining why the Paris Accord would allow Third World countries to emit as much CO2 as they choose while restricting developed countries’ emissions.
- “This is the first time in the history of mankind that we are setting ourselves the task of intentionally, with a defined period of time, to change the economic development model.....it is a process, because of the depth of the transformation.” – Christiana Figueres, U.N. “climate chief.”
- This is probably the most difficult task we have ever given ourselves, which is to intentionally transform the economic development model for the first time in human history.” – Figueres

There are 195 countries signed on to the Paris Climate Accord. Of those, about 75% have now ratified it. Many of the participants are recent signees and are Third World or underdeveloped countries. It's not difficult to conclude that the Accord's recent popularity has been greatly influenced by the evolution to "wealth redistribution," and away from environmental goals.

Are we to conclude that the United Nations endorses a movement by the "West" away from its traditional free market model? The alternative must be a new model of wealth equalization using enforced wealth and resource redistribution. The Paris Accord "slush fund," a philosophy of "reparations," and possible carbon credit legislation – those are some of the "chess pieces" being used in this new international game.

Repeating Edenhofer's quote: "Climate Policy has almost nothing to do anymore with environmental protection.....One must say clearly that we redistribute the world's wealth by climate policy....." That is a shocking disclosure!