



## **\*\*PRESS RELEASE\*\***

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### **COP 16 AGREEMENT LAYS GROUNDWORK FOR DELIVERY OF FUTURE SUCCESS**

**Cancun, Mexico** – The Conference of Parties agreement tonight marks an important step in rebuilding the foundation of international climate policy that has been shaken in the past year. Mexican COP President Patricia Espinosa and her team have deftly engineered a process producing a diplomatic text that is a true “tour de force”, said Ned Helme, President of the Center for Clean Air Policy (CCAP).

“It is indeed special to see an international negotiating process produce a more robust and nuanced agreement at the finish, particularly when the differences among countries seemed so intractable at the start and expectations were so low”, the CCAP founder added.

The agreement lays the groundwork for the delivery of the vital elements of future success: financing commitments, reduction targets and actions, and mutual transparency. It also defines the process for the design of a new green fund to support developing country action, as well as new programs to reduce deforestation and promote technological innovation.

“The key to protecting our climate is action on the ground in both developing and developed countries. Developing countries have stepped up in recent years, taking actions on their own to cut greenhouse gas emissions. The new financial incentives this agreement offers will catalyze ever more aggressive actions”, said Helme.

CCAP, an environmental think tank based in Washington, D.C. and Brussels, Belgium, has worked extensively with leading developing countries in designing climate policy actions and market-based systems. CCAP will be launching a new regionally-focused effort bringing decision makers from key countries together to design new climate policy initiatives in early 2011.

*Since 1985, CCAP has been a recognized world leader in climate and air quality policy and is the only independent think-tank working exclusively on those issues at the local, national and international levels. It is an independent non-profit organization headquartered in Washington, D.C. that helps policymakers around the world to develop, promote and implement innovative solutions to major climate, air quality and energy problems. With on-the-ground policy and research activities across the U.S. and around the globe, CCAP is developing pragmatic solutions that balance both environmental and economic interests. For more information about CCAP, please visit [www.ccap.org](http://www.ccap.org).*