



**Announcing the American Bar Association
Section of Science & Technology Law's
Cleantech & Climate Change Committee (CTC3)**

2009 Educational Webinar Series – Program #4
Co-sponsored with the ABA Section of Environment, Energy, and Resources

***Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) Reforms in the
Context of a Greater Protocol: Berkeley Law Students'
Perspective from Copenhagen***

[Click here to Register - \\$10 Fee](#)

Non-ABA members are invited to register for this program.

**WEDNESDAY
JULY 15, 2009**

9:30am -10:30 am PDT /

11:30am – 12:30pm CDT

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Register - \\$10 Fee](#)**

For more information about the ABA Section of Science & Technology Law's Cleantech & Climate Change Committee, including updates on upcoming events, please [click here](#) to visit our homepage.

The presentation materials will be available on the [committee homepage](#).

[Click here](#) to join the ABA Section of Science & Technology Law's Cleantech & Climate Change Committee for FREE! Please note: you must already be a member of the ABA and [Section of Science & Technology Law](#) to join CTC3.

CLE credit is not available for this program.

With less than six months before the world gathers to negotiate a successor treaty to the Kyoto Protocol, all eyes are turning towards Copenhagen.

In a prelude to this historic meeting in December, four law students from the University of California, Berkeley, traveled to Denmark as finalists in an international negotiation competition that centered on reforming Kyoto's market-based offset system, the Clean Development Mechanism ("CDM").

Organized and hosted by the Faculty of Law at the University of Copenhagen, the competition brought together young legal minds from six continents to generate innovative ideas for improving the CDM's economic efficiency, administrability, and equity. The students' proposals were published and presented to the Danish Prime Minister and his top climate negotiators.

We invite you to join the ABA's Cleantech & Climate Change Committee (CTC3) for a webinar panel with these four Berkeley students, who will share some thoughts and insights from their experience in Copenhagen.

More specifically, the panelists will describe some of their proposals for reform, including: (1) replacing the CDM with a multilateral fund that would target offset money toward emission reduction projects based on a competitive bidding process, and (2) increasing funding to developing countries in exchange for their commitment to binding emission targets by 2020.

In addition, the webinar program will highlight innovative ideas presented by other teams, and explore the points of divergence and convergence on how the teams chose to improve the CDM's environmental integrity and economic efficiency, while promoting development and sustainability. Such proposals included professionalizing and streamlining the CDM's administrative structure, re-defining the scope of projects eligible for certified emission reduction credits (CERs), and using discount factors to send appropriate price signals about differences among CERs. Furthermore, the students will describe the different ways by which developing countries might take on binding limitations – such as an objective graduation metric, a three-tiered rather than two-tiered system, or sectoral-based targets.

Finally, the students will describe the atmosphere already building in Copenhagen, and offer their humble and speculative predictions and hopes for the negotiations in December. This program is designed for lawyers and academics interested in potential CDM reforms for the Copenhagen Protocol and how the youngest generation of lawyers is confronting international climate policy.

Panelists:

Ian Fein has served as a lead environmental reporter for several publications. Now entering his second-year at Berkeley Law, he hopes to re-interpret and revise natural resources laws so they can better adapt to the changing planet. He is working at the Sierra Club in San Francisco this summer.

Heather Matsumoto has a background in international climate change policy and practice. Having both worked with the U.N. to reduce CDM transaction costs and served as a project analyst in one of Europe's leading carbon accounting firms, she hopes to apply her experience to her legal career on the West Coast. She is currently working as a Summer Associate with Holland & Knight LLP in San Francisco.

Jeslyn Miller has experience in international law and policy and alternative dispute resolution (ADR). She lived for two years in Latin America, including as a Fulbright Scholar, and has specialized in international public health, globalization, and immigration issues. She has received multiple awards in ADR, including a first-place finish at the ABA-sponsored Negotiation Regional Competition, and hopes to continue to apply negotiation skills in an international context. She is currently working as a Summer Associate with Munger, Tolles & Olson in Los Angeles.

Tyler McNish had the opportunity to learn about the CDM during his first two years of law school through his work advising an Indonesian sugar producer on its CDM opportunities. Before law school, he was a Peace Corps volunteer in rural Guatemala and worked in corporate strategy in Washington DC. He is currently a Summer Associate at Sullivan & Cromwell in New York.