



out to make an appointment with the Russian delegation representative – the activities in Copenhagen are really quite intensive. This can easily be understood. But it seems to be time to ask: “Why anyone of a few dozens of the delegation members couldn’t be appointed to deal with providing information and explaining, then necessary, the Russia’s position to observers, journalists and others concerned? Why instead of having such a person we have to bother extremely busy negotiators who obviously cannot break into parts?”

By the way, where are those dozens of Russian representatives? So far, we have seen perhaps a dozen of (and actually less) people at plenary rooms. The role of nongovernmental organizations in the negotiation process is hard to overestimate. The mere presence of NGO observers in many ways affects the position of official delegations. Not to mention the possibilities NGOs have in the process of discussion and formulation of specific positions.

We hope that situation will change in Copenhagen and the delegation will become as open and accessible as other civilized countries’ delegations.

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## russia wins third place fossil on wednesday

Russia wins third place Fossil today for proposing, during the Kyoto Protocol plenary discussion, that President Medvedev’s announced 20-25% reductions were “an important political statement” - not an actual submission for the Kyoto Protocol. “We will not be ready to submit those most recent figures announced by the president,” said Russia’s negotiator, “because they were not intended for the KP.” Well, large majority of environmental groups thinks Kyoto protocol must not be killed.



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## the media overview

(continued)

Russian media continue quite actively discussing the climate negotiations in Copenhagen.

While commenting the Russian position, a number of the media refer to the recent meeting of Vladimir Putin with the Danish Prime Minister Lars Rasmussen. Thus, according to **Rossiyskaya Gazeta**, “in the course of negotiations... it was mentioned that the Russian Federation will act in accord with industrialized countries on certain conditions. First condition is that Russia insists on accounting the Russia’s forests potential to absorb carbon dioxide as, according to Putin, this aspect hasn’t been sufficiently reflected in the Kyoto Protocol”. Yesterday’s issue of the *Below 2°C* published an article on the forest issue and Russian proposals in Copenhagen.

Tuesday’s headlines of Russian media were filled with announcements of the scandalous so-called ‘Danish text’. Describing the situation that at **the Times** suggestion was dubbed as a climategate, **RIA Novosti** are quoting a Sudanese delegate Lumumba Stanislas Dia Pin:

“The text is seriously threatening the successful outcome of the climate negotiation”. The *Rossiyskaya Gazeta* even suspects a collusion of the insiders (the UK, the USA, and Denmark) and believes the negotiations are under jeopardy.

RIA Novosti approached the topic of possible options to prolong the Kyoto Protocol in its material “Linear” continuation of the Kyoto Protocol is not to suit Russia”. Referring to the Russian delegate Oleg Shamanov, the agency reports that “a simple continuation with the Kyoto protocol is an unvital option”. It will suit neither Russia, nor developed countries, nor the environment. The only viable option seems to be a legally binding agreement signed by the major emitters such as India, China, Brasil, and the USA.

Unlike some other positions where the official vision meet opposition between the environmentalists, pursuing to sign the legally binding agreement is also supported by the Russian NGOs representative attending the Copenhagen summit.

(to be continued)

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**2**<sup>o</sup> According to scientists, a cap on global warming of 2°C is seen as the minimum to prevent irreversible global warming.  
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