

Statement by Joe Biden

To stop global warming and to restore our credibility in international negotiations, we have to act.

First, we have to:

- Drastically reduce our own emissions by 80 percent by 2050;
- Stop construction of new coal-fired power plants unless they have technology to capture greenhouse gas emissions;
- Invest in the green technologies and jobs of the future – I am proposing a 5-year, \$50 billion program to make us the world leader in clean energy technology.

Second, we have to lead internationally. I am leading a bi-partisan push to restore U.S. leadership in international climate talks.

We must bring developing countries like China and India, which will soon overtake us as the biggest emitters, into binding agreements. China is building new coal fired plants at the rate of one a week. If we don't engage them, we won't be able to stop global warming.

Climate change is not just an environmental problem, it is also a national security issue.

One example: If temperatures rise 3-5 degrees, oceans could rise 3 feet by the end of the century – maybe more. That means 15 million people in India, Indonesia and Bangladesh would be displaced – that will mean war.

Just look at Darfur – the farmers and the nomads are fighting over land because of a drought.

