



## government communications

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### **NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL MEDIA COVERAGE REPORT**

**FROM : 19 OCT 2011 (15:00) TO : 25 OCT 2011 (12:00)**  
**STORY CATEGORY: CLIMATE CHANGE (COP17)**

#### **MAKING HEADLINES**

- **The National Treasury has briefed Members of Parliament on the introduction of carbon tax aimed at reducing Greenhouse Gas levels.**
- **National Consultative Seminar on climate change taking place in parliament this week.**
- **Street kids and beggars are being taken off Durban city streets and moved into places of safety ahead of next's global Climate Change conference**

#### **ECONOMIC SECTORS AND EMPLOYMENT**

##### ***Climate Change***

The National Treasury has briefed Members of Parliament on the introduction of carbon tax aimed at reducing Greenhouse Gas levels. Some Members of Parliament were highly critical of the plan. (SABC 2 Morning Live - 20-Oct-2011 - 07:03)[South Africa]

Street kids and beggars are being taken off Durban city streets and moved into places of safety ahead of next's global Climate Change conference. Child rights groupings are not happy with the move. Childline says removing the children ahead of important events does not solve the problem. Durban police say the decision to move the children into places of safety has nothing to do with the conference. They say it's something they do all the time as the children are involved in crime and threaten tourists. Around 20 000 delegates are expected to attend the Climate Change conference in Durban. (SABC 2 Morning Live - 20-Oct-2011 - 07:04)[South Africa]

Durban authorities have denied reports they are clearing the city of its streets kids and beggars because of the upcoming COP17 climate change conference. EThekweni Metropole say they are merely trying to make the city safer. The move has sparked outrage from welfare organisations who say the sweeps are not a long term solution to a serious social problem. The street kids are being moved to places of safety and Metropole says beggars found wondering on the streets will be charged for breaking city bylaws. The approach has not been well received by Umthombo Street Children Organisation. (E-TV News - 20-Oct-2011 - 19:00)[South Africa]

COP 17 to deliver tough talks. Nkoana-Mashabane says political issues will have to be discussed at climate conference in Durban. The UN climate negotiations in South Africa will be "tough", with the big question focusing on the future of the Kyoto Protocol, the foreign minister said Friday after preparatory talks. "It is going to be a tough COP (Conference of Parties) because it is a COP that can't avoid the political issues that were not thoroughly discussed in Cancun," Maite Nkoana-Mashabane told journalists, referring to a big meeting of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) last December. "We no longer have time to postpone the key issue, particularly of the second commitment period" of Kyoto, she said. "It has to be discussed in Durban." Nkoana-Mashabane hosted two days of ministerial consultations attended by more than 40 countries which

she said had seen opinion coalesce in favour of fresh Kyoto commitments after the current set of carbon curbs expire at end 2012. "The majority of party members here were saying Kyoto is very, very important because this is the only instrument we have in the UNFCCC process that is legally binding." Arduously negotiated, the Kyoto Protocol requires rich countries that have ratified it to sign on to binding goals in curbing greenhouse-gas emissions. As a result, its critics say it is ineffective because it does not include the world's two biggest carbon emissions, China, which as a developing economy does not have carbon targets, and United States, which boycotted the accord in 2001. But Kyoto's supporters say the protocol is a cornerstone for attacking climate change because of its legal teeth and its distinction between rich and poor. The European Union (EU) is one such defender, but is cautious about signing up to a second commitment period without ambitious promises from the major emitters in a wider UNFCCC negotiation arena. (Jacaranda FM - 22-Oct-2011 - 08:53)[South Africa]

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**CURRENT AFFAIRS**

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***SAFM: PM Live***

- Climate change affecting different aspects of life. Ahead of the climate change summit that is coming up in Durban towards the end of November there are already visible changes of the climate change affecting different aspects of life. There has been a change of rainfall and the temperature was very cold this year. (24-Oct-2011 - 16:41)[South Africa]

***SAFM: The Forum***

- There a little over month left before the COP 17 conference takes place in Durban. Few years ago, one of the outcomes of the African Peer Review Mechanism was that African governments in particular did not do much in trying to involve people across the continent in issues. Are there any chances that there will be a fair and an all inclusive outcome out of the COP 17 conference? (20-Oct-2011 - 08:08)[South Africa]

***Metro FM***

- National Consultative Seminar on climate change taking place in parliament this week. The National Consultative Seminar on climate change is taking place in parliament this week on the 28th and 29th. The theme for the seminar is 'Building tomorrow today, working towards a national consensus on climate change in the African COP'. The house chairperson in the National Assembly responsible for committees Mr Cedric Frolick was interviewed. (24-Oct-2011 - 20:00)[South Africa]

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