

An Outside-the-Box Approach to Climate Change Negotiations
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There is little hope of an early agreement on binding emission targets or large financial transfers from developed countries. The UNFCCC consensus rule is a recipe for paralysis. A group of powerful high-emitting countries can agree and move forward. A “Grand Bargain” could establish an Energy Security Compact, organize a royalty-free multi-billion dollar global R&D collaborative, and set up future GHG-related product and process standards on traded goods, among other elements. The G20 presidency could devise the parameters for a package deal that is in the selfish national interest of both China and the U.S., enroll them, and then the G20 could bless the package -it could then be brought to the United Nations.

Dr. Barry Carin was High Commissioner of Canada to Singapore between 1996 and 2000. Prior to that he was Assistant Deputy Minister Trade and Economic Policy with Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade where his responsibilities included Foreign Affairs Sous-Sherpa for four G7 Summits and leader of the branch responsible for the conduct of international trade and investments negotiations, including disputes settlement. He was also the Canadian representative on the Executive Committee of the OECD. Barry Carin holds a Ph.D in Economics from Brown University and an Honours B.A. in Political Science and Economics from McGill University.