Equity and Justice

Section Two
As previously stated, Bangladesh bears a disproportionate cost of adapting to the effects of climate change.

In a world full of hundreds of countries more affluent than Bangladesh, someone needs to take the initiative to alleviate some of the financial burden placed on countries like Bangladesh in a way that allows the country to flourish rather than maintain its economically suppressed existence.

This is not a demand for a re-distribution of wealth, but a request for countries much better off than most LDCs to save the lives and preserve the cultures of countries succumbing to the effects of climate change.
Bangladesh is not only experiencing breaches in national security as a result of SLR rise in coastal areas, but is also jeopardizing the national security of other countries.

As Bangladesh’s much larger neighbor, India, has become the new home of thousands of Bangladeshi “environmental refugees.”

In an effort to protect national security and reduce the entrance of additional refugees into the country, India has resorted to constructing a barbed-wire fence along portions of its border with Bangladesh (sounds like a familiar practice with the U.S. and Mexico).

Now, Bangladesh’s climate change problems are becoming disproportionate burdens on India’s population.

This is yet another example of the environmental injustice occurring as a result of climate change.
The Role of Adaptation in the Agreement

- To achieve equity and justice, the definition of adaptation needs to be more specific in regards to how it enables a country to adjust to changes and progress forward developmentally.

- The role of adaptation should include not only a country’s ability to adjust to the effects of climate change, but also a country’s ability to adjust in a way that facilitates positive socio-economic growth and development in a sustainable manner.

- By ensuring that adaptation measures provide for an equitable future for developing countries, we will be working to eliminate the social, environmental, and economic injustices imposed by climate change.
Proactive Vs Reactive Adaptation Plans

- As a country with low mitigation and heavy adaptation costs, Bangladesh strongly advocates for a both proactive and reactive approach to adaptation.

- Bangladesh has spent millions of dollars in proactive ‘climate proofing’ measures, and millions more adapting to unavoidable effects of climate change.

- Who should adapt and to what extent and at what cost should be assessed according to the Seven Key Vulnerabilities outlined in the IPCC report.
The Seven Key Vulnerabilities associated with climate-sensitive systems as defined by the IPCC should be used as guidelines for the agreement to determine:

- Key sectors in need of adaptation
- Targets for sector adaptations
- Funding for sector adaptation
- Exceptions to normal adaptation practices based on total degree of vulnerability
- Funding for and allocation of technology transfers

The Seven Key Vulnerabilities are:

- Magnitude of impacts
- Timing of impacts
- Persistence and reversibility of impacts
- Likelihood of impacts and vulnerabilities and confidence in those estimates
- Potential for adaptation
- Distributional aspects of impacts and vulnerabilities
- Importance of the system(s) at risk
It is of the upmost importance that climate change education is promoted around in the world in the next few years.

As more people become educated and aware of the risks and dangers GHG emissions pose to the stability of the Earth’s climate system and the livelihood of a significant portion of the Earth’s population, the more likely climate change will appear on political agendas around the world.
Climate Change Education Fund

- As part of the agreement, there should be a Climate Change Education Fund.
- Each country with a binding agreement can contribute a very small portion (less than 1% maybe?) of annual GDP to the fund each year.
- This fund can then be allocated to each country, including non-binding Annex IV countries, based on:
  - population and the existence of a reliable education system (to ensure that money is not wasted).