

M'sia to slash carbon emission by 40 pct

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KUCHING: Malaysia has pledged, during a recent meeting in Copenhagen, to reduce its carbon emission intensity by 40 per cent (based on the 2005 level) by 2020.

Minister of Natural Resources and Environment, Datuk Douglas Uggah Embas said the nation's effort towards this end was "on target and achievable".

"But in coming out with an all inclusive, but differentiated responsibility, each and every country has to be trustworthy, unbiased and must not indulge in self interest or deserving actions.

"Developing countries like Malaysia should not be blamed, or be handicapped, from achieving its development goals through lopsided commitments and agreements," Uggah said at



Datuk Douglas Uggah Embas

the 'Best of Both Worlds Conference' held here yesterday. His text of speech was read out by the chairperson of the Malaysian Forestry Research and Development Board (MFRDB) cum Batang Sadong Member of Parliament Nancy Shukri.

Uggah pointed out that green and environmental issues had become one of the worlds' biggest concerns in recent years.

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Datuk Douglas Uggah Embas, Minister of Natural Resources and Environment

"Progress has been slow, unconvincing and literally stunted. Economic and financial crisis overtook the concerns and focus on environmental matters, and climate change has taken a back seat," lamented Uggah.

However, Uggah reiterated that Malaysia was serious in doing its part for environmental conservation.

"I am proud to note that the Forest Research Institute of Malaysia (FRIM), with the collaboration of the University of South Africa (UNISA), is working on a proper environment

education initiative. In fact, a certification programme called 'Certificate in Environmental Education (CEE)' would be implemented next year."

Uggah said the CEE course would "fill the gap" in Malaysia' training needs, especially for pre-service and in-service teachers and environmental practitioners.

FRIM director-general Dato Dr Abdul Latif Mohmod and the general manager of Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC) Wilfred Landong also spoke at the function.