

Derailing the Marrakech Express

By Michael Kile, Quadrant Online, 20 November 2016

Another positive in the ascension of Donald Trump is the gloom his impending presidency has cast over the jet-setting catastropharians gathered to promote dire visions of the planet's future and, of course, their careers, budgets and computer-modelled fabulism.

All aboard the United Nations “last chance” gravy train, [COP22](#). Hurry, you hippies, hucksters and hallucinogenic fellow travellers, hurry. Be quick, if you want a free ride on the [Marrakech Express](#).

***Hallucinogen:** A drug that causes profound distortions in a person’s perceptions of reality. People often see images, hear sounds, and feel sensations that seem real but do not exist. Some hallucinogens produce rapid and intense emotional swings, as seen last week in certain cohorts in North America, especially after passage (56 to 44 percent) of [California Proposition 64](#) legalising adult use of recreational marijuana in that state.*

Could there be a more appropriate location than this exotic Moroccan city — immortalised by Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young in the 1960s — to celebrate the global ambitions of the UN’s Climate Caliphate? The intention is surely noble: two weeks getting high on self-congratulation, other people’s money, junk science and the eco-worrier’s favourite over-the-counter drug, DAGW (dangerous anthropogenic global warming), now rebranded as DACC (dangerous anthropogenic climate change) to entrench public credulity.

***Climate-caliphate:** 1. Entity led by a climate-caliph, generally an eco-zealot, ex-politician or career bureaucrat turned climate-control propagandist. 2. Global climate-caliphate: theocratic one-world government or de facto government. 3. Any ideology or aspiration promoted by a militant [fossil fuel free](#) sect, or ‘champion of the Earth’, such as [UNEP](#). 4. Any radical group intending to behead, disembowel, or otherwise degrade Western economies with the two-edged sword of wealth redistribution (aka ‘climate reparations’) and ‘decarbonisation’, while reciting mantras about sustainability, slow-onset events and saving the planet. Also known as [Agenda 21](#).*

Last week’s unscheduled arrival of the [US Great Again](#) train has, however, upset the Programme. It was arguably a [black swan event](#)— “the biggest FU in human history”, according to Michael Moore (video [here](#)).

As the news reverberated around the world, the climate establishment was shocked to discover that not all swans are white and female. So perhaps it also could be the case that not all “extreme weather events”, or global temperature fluctuations, have much to do with a few hundred parts per million of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, if anything.

For many COP22 delegates, the clock of catastrophe suddenly shifted much closer to midnight. “A third of the people here are walking around like zombies, like the walking dead, not sure what to do,” said UC Berkeley Professor Daniel Kammen, speaking from Morocco. Many believe [the honeymoon is over](#).

Shock and disbelief marked Bab Ighli, the venue of the UN-sponsored climate meet. Even as delegates sought to retain an air of normalcy virtually every conversation turned to Trump,

and what the elevation of a climate denier to the White House meant for the global efforts to tackle climate change. ([GWPF](#))

That sound you can hear is not only the gnashing of teeth and blowing of pot-smoke. It is also the scurrying hither and thither of thousands of bureaucrats in a race against time. They are on an earnest mission to capture the chaos and complexity of the planet's climate in a net of jargon so opaque it will bamboozle even the most erudite disciple of truth and transparency.

UNFCCC's language is designed to give an appearance of solidity to nebulous "climate change". But in a way that is bound to ensure the West is liable for all "loss and damage" – yet undefined – from *any* meteorological event that disrupts life in the developing world.

A recent addition to the UN's Orwellian climate lexicon is the "slow-onset event". It is bound to be useful to those involved with COP19's [Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage](#) associated with Climate Change Impacts; "the main vehicle under the Convention to promote the implementation of approaches to address loss and damage in a comprehensive, integrated and coherent manner."

Meanwhile, spare a thought for Senator John Kerry, one of the architects of last year's Paris Agreement, as he tries to salvage something from the wreckage. With the political ground shifting under him, Kerry appeared – not in Marrakech but – [tweeting from Antarctica](#), presumably a welcome change from the heat in Washington.

Here in [#Antarctica](#) w/ some of the world's top researchers. The science is clear: [#climatechange](#) is real, and we ignore it at our own peril. (November 13, 2016)

Climate change directly impacts everyone across all seven continents. We all must do our part to [#ActOnClimate](#)." (November 11, 2016)

Headed to [#Antarctica](#) to see firsthand some of the drastic effects of [#climatechange](#). Many thanks to [@NSF](#) for making this trip possible. (November 10, 2016)

Today the [#ParisAgreement](#) goes into effect. Proud of this step taken by the int'l community & energized to keep up work on [#climatechange](#). (November 4, 2016)

For those who came in late, the UN is chasing climate-dollars through *two* channels, the Korean-based UNFCCC [Green Climate Fund](#) and Nairobi-based UNEP. With regard to the former, as Tony Thomas explained last week [here](#):

Trump has pledged not only to rip up the Paris deal, but to withdraw all US climate funding to the UN. The UN climate fund is supposed to build to \$100b a year for Third World mendicants. Obama has given \$500m so far and pledged \$3 billion to the UN Green Climate Fund, but Trump will divert those billions to domestic environmental projects such as the Florida Everglades.

The sheer scale of UNEP's ambition and activities are even more significant, as I explained [here](#). In the weird world of environmental politics, the UN sees no conflict of interest in one powerful body and its agencies being responsible for collecting data, [concocting 'projections' and 'storylines'](#) and developing policy; while simultaneously funding and encouraging advocacy groups to pressure governments to design or modify renewable energy (RE) and carbon-pricing regulations in its favour. Why not? Well, the ultimate beneficiaries,

surely, are humankind and the planet – *not* huge ticket-clipping pension funds (some with significant RE sector exposure) and career climate-bureaucrats.

Perhaps it is just as well an entity that claims to have the power to induce a global Goldilocks climate and manipulate the planet’s thermostat is protected by [legal immunity](#) under the *1946 Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations*; especially if its ‘best available science’ cannot make genuine predictions.

The UN’s latest initiatives are instructive in this context. On October 7 this year, Bank of Mexico Governor, Agustín Carstens, and UNFCCC Chief, Patricia Espinosa, posted an editorial in the agency’s Climate Change Newsroom: “Paris will soon enter into force, now we need to move the money.” Some of the US\$90 trillion they want to move by 2030 could be from your pension fund.

The cost of making the transition to a low-carbon future is measured in trillions. This quickly takes us far beyond the realm of public funds since no government – no matter how rich – can finance climate action through taxation and borrowing alone. One estimate suggests that around US \$90 trillion will need to be invested by 2030 in infrastructure, agriculture and energy systems, to accomplish the Paris Agreement.

This won’t happen without private capital and underlines why aligning the world’s financial system with the needs of climate action and sustainable development is every bit as important as emission reduction pathways and removing fossil fuel subsidies. Moreover, set against the US\$300 trillion of assets – held by banks, the capital markets and institutional investors – we’re faced with a problem of allocation rather than outright scarcity.

As for UNEP, it just released its [annual “emissions gap” report](#) at COP22. Comparing the goals of Paris 2015 to signatory pledges, it uses all the alarmist rhetoric one would expect from an agency that is the 43-year-old brainchild of the late [Maurice Strong](#). Unless reductions in “carbon pollution from the energy sector are reduced swiftly and steeply”, UNEP claims that it will be nearly impossible to keep warming below 2 degrees, let alone to the 1.5 degree aspiration.

According to UNEP the need for urgent, immediate action to confront the “climate crisis” is “indisputable.” And yes, you guessed it. We are all drinking in the Last Chance Saloon.

It is likely the last chance to keep the option of limiting global warming to 1.5 degrees C in 2100 open, as all available scenarios consistent with the 1.5 degree C goal imply that global greenhouse gases peak before 2020.

As to the source of UNEP’s 2-degree threshold, it remains a mystery, at least to me. Is it a best-guess algorithm from a flawed computer model, or the emphatic conclusion of a new law of nature? Perhaps that is why more and more climate scientists seem to be emoting like [tearful Cassandras](#). Alternatively, they may be merely desperate to be acknowledged as champions of the earth too. Expressing one’s *feelings about the future* in public, however, does not in any way validate DAGW or DACC. Anyway, [folk in northern Russia](#) would welcome some extra warmth right now.

Last week’s collision between the Trump Train and Marrakech Express should slow down – maybe even derail – the UN’s relentless two-decade climate scare campaign. If it does the

latter, there may not be enough hens on the planet to lay all the eggs required to go on the faces of all the folk who promulgated this narrative with such sanctimonious certainty.

Perhaps there is a god or goddess after all. If so, one of His or Her ninety-nine names just might be – if not *Veritas*, then – *Serpens Oleum*. Let us pray.