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Boer hopeful on accord

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Feb. 4: UNFCCC chief Yvo de Boer adopted an optimistic position on the Copenhagen Accord saying that 56 countries had pledged to take action on emission cuts and had met the January 31 deadline, while another 26 had indicated they would be submitting their enforceable targets shortly.

Those nations which failed to prepare their national action plans and meet the UNFCCC deadline had asked for extensions, said Mr Boer, who was in the city to participate in TERI's Delhi Sustainable Development Conference.

The Copenhagen Accord, he admitted, was a broad political statement which had been crafted by a powerful group of countries who were responsible for 80 per cent of the global emissions. But he also warned



Boer

that the accord should not be overplayed, "as a key political issues differences had still to be ironed out".

Clarifying details on what its status was, Mr Boer said, "The Copenhagen Accord was not a separate track, but a tool to advance formal negotiations under the UNFCCC."

The Accord had been criticised by several countries who were not happy with the way it had come about. "Several G-77 countries were critical of how this small group of countries had come together," he said.