

to know how accurate the measurements are or other secondary causes. International community said the temperature should be kept below 2 degrees and to do this you need to stop the growth of global greenhouse gas emissions by 2020 by at least half of 1990 levels of the middle of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

### **Actions to limit carbon dioxide emissions- the need for international cooperation**

The atmosphere has no national boundaries and the activities of one country affect all but are not agreed by all countries. This is to reduce the carbon dioxide or other greenhouse gases. The Kyoto Protocol is an international treaty signed by 180 countries to reduce carbon dioxide emissions between 2008 and 2010

### **Timeline**

1992- UN conference on the environment and Development held in Rio de Janeiro to result in the Framework Convention on Climate Change

1995- Parties of the UNFCCC meet in Berlin to outline specific targets on emissions

1997- December was when the parties conclude the Kyoto Protocol in Japan and agreed to the broad outlines of emissions targets.

2002- Russia and Canada ratify the Kyoto Protocol to the UNFCCC so the treaty was brought to effect on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2005

2011- Canada is the first signatory to announce its withdrawal from the Kyoto Protocol

2012- 31<sup>st</sup> December the Protocol expires

**Principles of the Kyoto Protocol-** Each country signs agreement and commit to reducing greenhouse gases to 8% lower.

Poorer countries felt these targets would be unfair as richer countries had developed industries/economies without reducing carbon dioxide emissions. The carbon credit was introduced which is a licence to emit 1 tonne equivalent of carbon dioxide and credits were gained if countries emitted less than this and if credits exceeded then they could purchase credits from other countries. Poorer countries were never going to reach this limit. Canada withdrew from the participation in 2011. Three of the worlds largest countries (China, India and the USA) have said they will not enter into any legally binding agreement but are open to voluntary reduction measures and there is some positive outcome.

### **Communication and validation of evidence by scientists**

Scientific journals contain full details of methodology, original data and analysis of findings. They are available to scientists all over the world to read others work and look at the latest developments in their field.

Peer review by senior scientists who are experts in the same field and they check the details of the method, data collected and validity of conclusions and ask about those details or revision. This is a strict process to ensure only reliable data is published.