

Business groups disappointed with Copenhagen outcome

(EXTRACT)

Sue Lannin reported this story on [Monday, December 21, 2009](#) 08:11:00

TONY EASTLEY: Business groups say they're disappointed with the outcome in Copenhagen.

The Australian Industry Group says while it is a step forward, the agreement fell well short of expectations.

SUE LANNIN: The Australian Industry Group is one of the country's major business groups.

Chief executive, Heather Ridout, says the Copenhagen Accord is a step forward but only just.

HEATHER RIDOUT: Look, I think the best that can be said is that it's kept momentum for action going forward into the future and I think the accord as such is a useful mechanism in the absence of more binding commitments, which were always unlikely out of Copenhagen.

So it's useful, but it really does fall well short, I'm sure, of expectations.

SUE LANNIN: Treasurer Wayne Swan has signalled the Government will press ahead with plans to reintroduce the emissions trading scheme legislation.

Heather Ridout says she will support any move.

HEATHER RIDOUT: AI group was supportive of the legislation going through, the amended legislation. We saw it as giving more support to the trade-exposed industries which - and that has been highlighted as being so important as a result of what's happened over the last couple of weeks.

We are committed to an emissions trading scheme as the way forward to deal with emissions. The world is going to have to reduce its use of energy and reduce its emissions, and we have to be part of it.