

Submission by Japan

Information, views and proposals on matters related to the work of Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action (ADP)

Workstream 1

(14 May 2014)

I. Basic Structure of the 2015 agreement

1. Japan welcomes the opportunity to submit its views and proposals on basic structure and elements of the post-2020 framework (Workstream1). Japan fully supports Co-Chairs and continues to contribute constructively for the 2015 agreement.
2. The 2015 agreement should be durable by appropriately reflecting current and future evolutions of the international community. Therefore, the principle of common but differentiated responsibility and respective capabilities (CBDR-RC) in Article 3.1 of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (hereinafter referred to as “the Convention”) has to be interpreted in a dynamic context. Also, in the 2015 agreement, it is important to take into account a long-term perspective in pursuit of the ultimate objective of the Convention as well as the latest scientific findings including the IPCC 5th Assessment Report.
3. The legal nature of the 2015 agreement should be reflected taking into consideration universal participation and encouragement of ambitious actions. The 2015 agreement should consist of two parts, a simple core agreement and relevant COP decisions.
4. The simple core agreement should be durable. The main elements of the simple core agreement are as follows:
 - a) Each party is obliged to submit its intended nationally determined contribution (NDC);
 - b) Each Party is subject to an effective transparency mechanism namely “Ex-ante consultation” and “Ex-post international evaluation and review of the performance”;
 - c) Each Party is encouraged to integrate adaptation into its national planning and development processes.

II. Elements to be included in the 2015 agreement

(1) Mitigation and transparency

1. Mitigation should be put at the center of NDC, since all Parties should contribute to the global emission reduction of GHGs. All Parties should have the same international obligation to submit their intended NDCs in a common timeframe and in a way that allows comparing, evaluating and

reviewing the performance and efforts of each Party and evaluating aggregated contributions to global emission reductions.

2. With an effective transparency mechanism for ex-ante consultation as well as ex-post international evaluation and review of the performance, each Party is subject to an international review in a comparable manner which allows other Parties to estimate the progress in global emission reduction. Ex-ante consultation and ex-post international evaluation and review can be implemented in the following way, for example, as Japan proposed in its submission in September 2013.

(1) Ex-ante consultation

Ex-ante consultation can be implemented in the following way, for example;

- Each Party submits its initial commitment to the Secretariat several months before an official submission. This would be open to the public on the UNFCCC website.
- Interested actors such as Parties, international organizations, private sectors, NGOs, make submissions in the form of questions or opinions to presented commitments on the UNFCCC website.
- Each Party examines its initial commitment, taking account of questions and opinions by others, and then decides its official commitment to submit to the Secretariat.

(2) Ex-post international evaluation and review of the performance

Effective and efficient international evaluation and review of each Party's performance should be established based on experiences of and lessons from the existing MRV process introduced under the Cancun agreement, with a view to facilitating each Party's fulfillment of its commitment. It can be implemented in the following way, for example;

- Each Party submits a regular report. The format of the report is expected to be simple and internationally common, taking into consideration lessons from BR/BUR and IAR/ICA processes. A technical assessment such as consistency with the format would be useful in order to facilitate the process. The regular report is open to the public on the UNFCCC website.
- Interested actors such as Parties, international organizations, private sectors, NGOs, can send questions or opinions on the performance and other information included in the above report.
- Review sessions are to be held at occasions including SBs to discuss performance and efforts of each Party in line with its commitment and its potential for emission reduction by making the best use of expertise and objective analysis by relevant experts outside UNFCCC (ex. international organizations (ex. IEA, IPEEC, IRENA), international private organizations (ex. World Steel Association, ISO), international think-tanks, private sectors, NGOs). Frequency and depth of the ex-post international evaluation and review should be effective and equitable taking into consideration the impacts of GHG emissions of each Party on global warming.

On the occasion of revising commitments for the next phase, each Party is subject to an ex-ante consultation, taking into account the results of the previous international evaluation and review.

3. The information that Parties will provide when putting forward their NDCs should be as follows, but the details should be decided in the COP decisions, not in the simple core agreement;

Up-front information

- The information to be provided should vary depending on the types of NDCs such as economy-wide emission reduction target, intensity target (emissions per capita, per GDP), deviation from business-as-usual, and actions. Each Party should provide necessary and sufficient information to explain and justify its NDC in a manner that facilitates clarity and transparency and to promote understanding of the NDCs. It is desirable to use a common and simple template. Each Party should be accountable for how it contributes to global emission reduction. In order to effectively deal with climate change, major economies are highly expected to present quantified economy-wide emission reduction target, which ensures a fair level playing field, while avoiding categorization of Parties.
- It is critical for each Party to put forward key information that constitute its NDCs, such as base year, target year(s), gases and sectors covered, assumptions and various policy measures. To cover serious efforts for mitigation, main gases or sectors accounting for the majority of total anthropogenic GHG emissions should be put forward with its NDC.
- Each Party that will make use of market mechanisms and land sector to achieve its NDC should describe its methodology for identifying the amount of greenhouse gas emission reductions or removals.
 - ✧ The accounting rules on the land sector should be flexible and inclusive enough to give incentives for actions of each Party and to be able to reflect national circumstances. Also, the relevant discussion on more comprehensive accounting of LULUCF under the SBSTA needs to be taken into account, as more comprehensive accounting is envisaged to be put into practice after the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol.
 - ✧ Provisions regarding certain aspects of accounting for market mechanisms, including how to avoid double counting, should be developed internationally.

4. In line with the paragraph 2(d) of 1/CP19, Japan has provided and will continue to provide technical and financial support for the establishment and implementation of NAMAs by developing countries, especially in the Asia-Pacific region¹. Japan is pleased to contribute to the

¹ Examples of Japan's support include;

-Nation-wide support (establishment of national communication and NAMA for 13 countries and capacity development in the field of NAMA/MRV for 27 countries)

-Subnational level support for 7 local governments (establishment of scenario toward low-carbon society(AIM Model))

-Sectoral support (energy, waste management, transport etc.)

establishment of their NDCs based on its experiences and resources.

(2) Adaptation

1. Adaptation is a global challenge, and an important component of the 2015 agreement. Countries have already conducted adaptation actions to the adverse effects of climate change, taking into consideration circumstances and priorities at each local level. To reduce countries' vulnerability and strengthen their resilience to climate change impacts, the 2015 agreement should encourage all Parties, to integrate adaptation into national planning and development processes, to develop national adaptation strategies and plans, and to prioritize adaptation actions at the local level in view of vulnerable conditions.
2. The 2015 agreement should emphasize the importance of enhancing international cooperation among all Parties to share information and knowledge regarding the experience, lessons and good practices, including on integrating adaptation into national development strategies and plans as well as facilitating mobilization of support to developing country Parties, especially those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, with a view to strengthening resilience and adaptive capacity. It is also important to strengthen and promote synergy with relevant institutions outside the Convention which have experience and knowledge relating adaptation projects, programs and policies. In addition, the 2015 agreement should encourage all Parties to review and improve the adaptation part in their national communications in order to further enhance the development process of national adaptation plans, and implementation and prioritization of adaptation actions.
3. The 2015 agreement should include the element for all Parties to monitor and report their effectiveness of adaptation efforts in the preparation and implementation of adaptation actions to climate change impacts, particularly regarding national adaptation strategies and plans, and international cooperation in a simple and cost-effective manner, as well as share such experience and lessons of the preparation and implementation of adaptation actions.

(3) Means of implementation (MoI) including Finance

1. Means of implementation, namely Finance, Technology Development and Transfer and Capacity-building, are important components of the 2015 agreement. However, provisions of MOI should not be stipulated as legal obligations, because of its nature.
2. In order to ensure the continuity and avoid duplication of actions, the existing arrangements and institutions (Green Climate Fund(GCF), SCF, TEC, CTCN, Durban Forum on Capacity-building

etc.) should be effectively utilized in the 2015 agreement taking into consideration the discussions and development within these bodies. Especially in terms of GCF, the experiences and input from the business world could be useful in realizing effective and efficient finance mechanisms.

3. In terms of climate finance, developed countries remain committed to and are making efforts toward the goal of mobilizing USD 100 billion per year by 2020. In addition, taking into account the magnitude of climate change which requires the efforts of all Parties, it is important to encourage all responsible and capable Parties to provide financial support. Particularly, scaled-up finance should be mobilized to better address the needs of the most vulnerable countries, such as SIDs(Small Island Developing States), African countries and LDCs, with a broader donor base in line with changing capabilities of the Parties since the inception of the Convention. What is needed is for all parties to prioritize low carbon growth and climate-resilient development in their development strategy.
4. It is crucial to further mobilize private finance for scaling up climate finance toward USD 100 billion per year by 2020. Both donor countries and recipient countries need to work together to achieve the goal. Donor countries should mitigate risk of the private sector by public intervention such as offering risk insurance and guarantee. Recipient countries should make efforts to improve their enabling environments to attract investments through such measures as policy formulation and development and implementation of laws with the cooperation of donor countries.
5. With those efforts, in the post 2020 world, climate finance will be mobilized more efficiently and effectively. Japan has made its utmost effort to play its part in the commitment promised by developed countries to provide USD 30 billion to developing countries in three years from 2010 to 2012 as fast-start finance. Japan has provided USD 16.8 billion of public and private finance, among which public finance amounted to USD 13.5 billion. Japan announced a new commitment to provide a total of 1,600 billion yen (approx. 16 billion USD) of public and private finance during the 3-year period between 2013 and 2015 last November. On the basis of its significant contribution stated above, Japan assures that finance will continue to flow.

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