

Submission of Views on the Work of the ADP

Coalition for Rainforest Nations

The following countries have endorsed this submission:

Bangladesh, Belize, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Fiji, Gabon, Guyana, Honduras, Kenya, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Congo, Togo, and Uganda

2 June 2014

1. As highlighted in the Co-Chairs' reflection note issued on 17 April 2014 on progress made at ADP 2-4¹, 2014 is going to be a crucial year for the definition of the **form and content of the 2015 climate change agreement**. The Coalition for Rainforest Nations (CfRN or Coalition), and in particular the countries above that have endorsed this submission of views, are fully committed to achieving a fair and ambitious climate change global agreement and determined to make COP-21 in Paris a success.
2. To make this happen, it is critical that Parties under the ADP agree on the contents of a **draft negotiating** text by COP-20 in Lima. This text should be based on inputs provided by Parties through the usual channels. The draft negotiating text should be very focused and concise to avoid unmanageability and redundancy and should be narrow and clear. Options and proposals by Parties should be adequately reflected together with key political issues to be unlocked by Parties at a high level meeting during 2015. Critically important also is that the agreement must be crafted to be legally binding on all Parties, with differentiation reflected for LDC's and SIDS.
3. The Coalition for Rainforest Nations considered issues related to the above, in particular where to focus our work in 2014, and prepared this submission of views.

Elements of the 2015 agreement

4. Parties should continue to elaborate on all the elements of the 2015 agreement in more concrete terms. The Coalition welcomes the decision taken at ADP 2-4 to establish a **contact group** to carry out work on item 3 of the ADP agenda.
5. The 2015 agreement should be based on the elaboration of all **six core elements** identified in decision 1/CP.17: mitigation/nationally determined contributions (NDCs), adaptation, finance, technology development and transfer, transparency of action and support, and capacity-building.
6. The 2015 agreement should be founded on the **principles of the Convention**, in particular the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, including historical responsibilities, and equity, and should reflect **national circumstances** and allow for **special circumstances** of SIDS and LDCs.
7. The latest scientific information, including the findings of the IPCC Fifth Assessment Report

¹ ADP.2014.3.InformalNote.

(AR5), should be taken into consideration and the global greenhouse gas emissions commitment to be set at a level that would maintain global temperature well below 1.5C. We note that the summary for policy makers (SPM) of AR5 carries a dangerous implication that severe impacts may only be associated with 4 degrees warming, and so the findings of AR5 must be taken from the substantive chapters, and not the SPM.

8. The Coalition is of the view that by COP20 a **clear timeline** should be adopted so that the work in 2015 is properly planned, including the form and scope of any additional session.

National contributions

9. While decision 1/CP.19 invited all Parties to initiate or intensify domestic preparations for their intended nationally determined contributions towards achieving the objective of the Convention set out in Article 2, information **guidance on national contributions** should be clarified as early as possible, preferably by the June session in 2014.

10. Developed countries should demonstrate **leadership** in the reduction of global greenhouse gas emissions.

11. Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) should be submitted by all Parties and include greenhouse gas emissions reduction efforts of all **major emitters**.

12. NDCs should be **legally binding and applicable to all**, and distinguish between Annex I and non-Annex I Parties.

13. **Support** should be provided by Annex I Parties to non-Annex I Parties to prepare their NDCs and developing countries' contributions/mitigation efforts should be **conditional to support received** from developed countries.

14. A robust and transparent **measuring, reporting and verification system for finance, technology and capacity building** should be established.

15. A **common methodological framework** for reporting of achieved mitigation goals should be included in the 2015 agreement and be based on good practices as per **IPCC guidelines**.

16. A **review process** should be considered to allow increasing ambition over time.

17. The **conservation of sinks and reservoirs** should be promoted.

18. A **robust and solid compliance mechanism** should be established.

REDD+ in the 2015 agreement

19. REDD+ should be fully integrated in the 2015 agreement as one of the its **key elements** and the outcome of the ADP should be adequately informed by the work of other subsidiary bodies under the Convention, and build upon important results achieved through past COP decisions. The Warsaw REDD+ Framework should therefore be at the foundation of a REDD+ mechanism in the 2015 agreement, including both the methodological, financial and institutional elements.

20. While REDD+ is mature and some rainforest nations are already implementing REDD+ actions on the ground, REDD+ in the 2015 agreement should be fully supported by a wide broad variety of financing sources, primarily from developed country Parties. Those sources should include:

- Public: Green Climate Fund, international financial institutions and bilateral funding
- Private
 - Market
 - New market based mechanism including REDD+ in the 2015 climate agreement
 - Units earned under agreed national reference emission level, national MRV, environmental integrity
 - Link between the KP and the Convention
 - Market Linked: Public finance generated through markets, such as the auctioning of allowances
- Non market

21. In order to achieve coherence, the REDD+ mechanism in the 2015 agreement should guide and eventually absorb and replace some existing multilateral initiatives on REDD+ outside the UNFCCC such as UN-REDD, FCPF, FIP, Interim REDD+ Partnership.

Coastal and marine ecosystems

22. In addition to the above, as recently recognized by the work of the SBSTA, mangroves and other coastal marine ecosystems (CMEs) are considered as high priorities in climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies throughout the world. The ADP should be informed by the results of the “Workshop on technical and scientific aspects of ecosystems with high-carbon reservoirs not covered by other agenda items under the Convention” held on 24 and 25 October 2013 in Bonn, following the request of the SBSTA 37 (FCCC/SBSTA/2012/5 paragraph 50).

23. Wetlands are, together with forests, the most important Carbon sink and reservoirs that can be managed, in the short-term, for mitigating and adapting to climate change. The recent publication of the IPCC on guidance to estimate anthropogenic emissions and removals from Wetlands (Supplement to the 2006 Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories: Wetlands), testifies that scientific and technical knowledge is mature for accounting anthropogenic GHG emissions and CO₂ removals from wetlands and coastal marine ecosystems as well as the impact on such ecosystems of mitigation actions. In light with the above, the Coalition invites the ADP to start considering at its next session a framework for incentivizing mitigation actions of these ecosystems.

Raising pre-2020 ambition

24. Decision 1/CP.19 calls for important action to be taken to **increase pre-2020 ambition** and Parties agreed to intensify technical work to assess and identify significant opportunities to raise the pre-2020 ambition.

25. REDD+ provides for a significant contribution to GHG emissions reduction and net carbon sequestration to significantly narrow the existing mitigation ambition gap in the pre-2020 phase and it is proven to be one of the **most cost effective solutions** to combat climate change. The IPCC recently confirmed in the Fifth Assessment Report that tropical deforestation and forest degradation represent ‘**the largest and most variable single contributor**’ to emissions from land use change²

² IPCC. (2013). Climate Change 2013: The Physical Science Basis. *Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change*. (Vol. I). Cambridge, New York: Cambridge University Press, p. 50.

and that the 'AFOLU (Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use) sector accounts for about a quarter (~10-2GtCO₂eq/yr) of net anthropogenic GHG emissions mainly from deforestation, agricultural emissions from soil and nutrient management and livestock'.³ As reported in both the Technical Paper on 'Investment and financial flows to address climate change: an update' FCCC/TP/2008/7 and the UNEP 'Emissions Gap 2012' report, the mitigation potential in the forestry sector by 2020 in developing countries is equivalent to approximately **4.2 Gt CO₂ annually**. In addition, as highlighted by Houghton "no other processes or procedures alone have the potential for stopping and reversing the accumulation of CO₂ in the atmosphere at the speed necessary to stabilize concentrations at 450 ppm or less."⁴

26. The results of the technical expert meetings and the contributions by Parties in their submission of views should be **captured in a technical paper** on options to increase the mitigation ambition focusing on opportunities, barriers and mitigation potential of the various actions. Those results should therefore be captured at COP-20 in Lima so that key sectors such as REDD+, can contribute to raising the level of mitigation ambition in the pre-2020 phase and offer a unique opportunity to reduce greenhouse gas emissions after 2020.

Way forward

27. In Lima Parties should therefore agree on:

- successful kick off and launch of coordination of support (decision 10/CP.19)
- REDD+ and CMEs included in the 2015 agreement with reference to supporting decisions (e.g. Warsaw REDD+ Framework)
- Call for opening REDD+ window in the GCF

28. In reference to the above considerations the Coalition is hereby proposing the following **roadmap**:

- Collect views and options and identify the main elements of the 2015 agreement (June 2014)
- Commence work on draft negotiating text, including reference to REDD+ (October 2014)
- Capture the results of the different TEMs (October 2014)
- Draft negotiating text adopted by COP20 in Lima (December 2014)
- Consider broader AFOLU sector contribution to climate change mitigation as of 2020 (start discussion in 2016)

³ IPCC. (2014). Climate Change 2014: Mitigation of Climate Change *Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change*. (Vol. III). Cambridge, New York: Cambridge University Press, p. 27.

⁴ Houghton, R. A. (2012). Carbon emissions and the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation in the tropics. *Current Opinion in Environmental Sustainability*, 4(6), p. 601.