

Informal note by the Co-Chairs on the second part of the first session of the ADP

5 November 2012

Introduction

1. The first session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action (ADP) will resume for its second part in Doha, Qatar, on 27 November 2012. It will be held in conjunction with the eighteenth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP) and the eighth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP), which will close on 7 December 2012.

2. Through this note, we seek to assist delegates in preparing for the upcoming session by outlining our suggested goals for the session, and by sharing our ideas and proposals on how to organize the work of the ADP.

Status of negotiations

3. The COP, by decision 1/CP.17, established the ADP. During the first part of its first session, held in Bonn, Germany, on 17–25 May 2012, the ADP agreed on its Bureau arrangements for 2012–2015, adopted its agenda and initiated two workstreams – one addressing matters related to decision 1/CP.17, paragraphs 2–6, and another addressing matters related to paragraphs 7–8 of that decision.

4. During an informal additional session held in Bangkok, Thailand, on 30 August to 5 September 2012, Parties indeed made progress through roundtable discussions on both workstreams. They also provided guidance to us on next steps during an informal consultation at the end of the session.

5. Following the session, we prepared summaries of the two roundtable discussions and issued a note reflecting upon the session as a whole with a view to Doha and beyond.¹ In our ‘reflections note’, we identified upcoming challenges and substantive points for Parties to consider in Doha. In addition, we issued a joint letter to Parties that extended an invitation to them to provide additional inputs on how best to advance the work of the ADP in Doha and beyond. We also extended an open invitation to observer organizations, which encouraged them to share the results of their relevant research efforts, in particular on matters identified by Parties during the roundtable discussions.

6. Parties have expressed strong support for the continuation of substantive discussions under the ADP in Doha, keeping in mind that the ADP is meeting in parallel with six other bodies, two of which intend to conclude their work there. Allocation of time for meetings will therefore be a challenge. Parties are therefore strongly encouraged to use the time efficiently.

Preparations for Doha

7. In Doha, we hope that Parties will continue to engage with each other in the constructive, amicable and cooperative spirit, which was demonstrated in Bangkok, and to build upon the positive substantive progress achieved, further focusing the work of the ADP and clearly defining next steps.

8. Our goals for the session could therefore be as follows:

- To continue planning the work of the ADP for 2013, in the context of a broader vision, indicating major reference points for this work up to 2015;

¹ The summaries of the roundtable discussions, reflections note and letters to Parties and observer organizations can be found at <http://unfccc.int/meetings/doha_nov_2012/session/7055.php>.

- To advance our substantive work on bridging the current mitigation gap and delivering a new agreement by 2015.

9. By achieving these goals, Parties will also send a clear signal to the world that the work of the ADP on both workstreams is on track and that the ADP has a clear path forward.

Proposed approach to the work of the session

10. The ADP will open the second part of its first session on Tuesday, 27 November with a plenary meeting. The work of the session will be conducted in accordance with the agenda of the ADP under its two workstreams and will build upon the momentum of Bangkok, with the aim of initiating our substantive work on Wednesday, 28 November. We are of the view that informal consultations and roundtable discussions under each workstream will provide the most efficient and flexible way to advance our work, taking into account the scheduling challenges in Doha. However, to ensure the transparency of our work and reduce the need for plenary meetings, we are considering the establishment of a contact group that can take stock of the work of the ADP at regular intervals during the session. We intend to discuss this matter during the pre-session consultations in Doha.

11. In Bangkok, the roundtable format fulfilled its purpose and enabled valuable discussions among Parties on both substance and next steps. We would therefore like to continue this approach in Doha, with the aim of building upon and advancing our discussions under both workstreams. We propose to focus the discussions on the topics specified in paragraphs 4 and 8 of our reflections note. In addition, we would also like to encourage more interaction between Parties and therefore intend to actively moderate the discussions. As we did for Bangkok, we will prepare summaries of the roundtable discussions under our own responsibility as soon as possible after the completion of part two of the session and will make these publicly available on the UNFCCC website.

12. During the first week of the session, we also plan on holding informal consultations to seek views from Parties on the outcome of the session, taking into account the requirements of each workstream. The consultations will include discussions on the planning of work and possible next steps for the ADP, the arrangements for activities and meetings that could be undertaken in 2013, and how these should be reflected in conclusions and decisions in Doha to allow arrangements for such activities or meetings to be made in time. We believe that it will be important to capture the discussions among Parties in the informal consultations in the form of a draft text before the end of the first week.

13. We envisage a stocktaking opportunity in the contact group under consideration in the middle of the session to provide an overview of the status of negotiations and to focus the work for the remainder of the session.

14. During the second week, we will continue our consultations on the ADP outcome for the session. The timing for the conclusion of the work of the ADP in Doha will be coordinated with the closure of the other negotiating bodies.

15. As we did in Bangkok, we would also like to maintain our 'open door' policy and to hold focused bilateral consultations² throughout the session with groups of Parties and, time permitting, with individual Parties.

16. We welcome any further input from Parties in preparation for the Doha session and eagerly anticipate a robust exchange of ideas in Doha that will provide a solid foundation for the work of the ADP in future years.

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Groups of Parties are requested to contact the secretariat to arrange bilateral meetings at the following e-mail address: <secretariat@unfccc.int>.