

**Submission to the Ad-hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative  
Action under the Convention (AWG-LCA) Pursuant to Paragraph 93 of  
Dec. 1/CP 16**

**Submission from Singapore**

1 This submission provides Singapore's views on principles that should guide the work outlined in Paragraph 93 of Dec. 1/CP16.

2 In Cancun, Parties decided to provide a forum to discuss the impacts of response measures. The Chairs of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) were requested to convene such a forum at their respective thirty-fourth and thirty-fifth sessions to develop a work programme under the subsidiary bodies to address these impacts, with a view to adopt modalities for the operationalization of the work programme and a possible forum on response measures at the seventeenth session of the Conference of the Parties.

**Principles to Guide the Work of the Forum**

3 We propose the following principles to guide the work outlined in Paragraph 93 of Dec.1/CP16:

- The work programme should be consistent with the principles and provisions of the Convention.
- Parties should take into consideration the national circumstances of developing country Parties identified in Articles 4.8, 4.9 and 4.10 of the Convention, particularly those that are least-developed, alternative-energy disadvantaged<sup>1</sup> and small island developing countries.
- The work of the forum and its outcome should respect Parties' rights and obligations in other international agreements. While Parties may discuss the impacts of response measures at the UNFCCC, it should be recognised that the UNFCCC process should not conflict with the

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<sup>1</sup> In the submission FCCC/AWGLCA/2009/MISC.4 (Part II), Singapore proposed that the agreed outcome of the AWG-LCA must give full consideration to the national circumstances of Parties. A key factor determining Parties' ability to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions is their access to renewables and other non-fossil alternatives. Based on the preliminary study found in Annex A of Singapore's submission, such access is a function of size and location, with smaller countries facing greater limitations in accessing alternative energy. In this regard, the serious difficulties faced by Parties, particularly small countries, in switching from fossil fuels to alternatives must be quantified and taken into account in their efforts to reduce emissions.

ongoing work in other international fora, such as the World Trade Organisation – the appropriate body to deal with trade-related response measures.

- Recognising that the Convention provides flexibility to Parties in the choice of domestic policies in accordance with their national circumstances, discussions at the forum should not impinge on a Party's sovereign right to implement mitigation actions that are appropriate to its national circumstances.
- The forum is an avenue for the discussion of the impacts of response measures. It is not intended to serve as a basis for the interpretation or enforcement of specific provisions of the Convention or to impose new commitments on Parties.
- The forum should be conducted in the spirit of mutual respect aimed at promoting better understanding and information sharing on the response measures of Parties. The confidentiality of information, especially commercially sensitive information, must be protected and respected.

### **Next Steps**

4 In addition to the abovementioned principles, as a practical next step, Singapore suggests that Parties leverage on work already done in the SBSTA and SBI. In this connection, it will be useful if the Secretariat prepares a background paper summarising discussions that have taken place on response measures prior to the thirty-fourth and thirty-fifth sessions of the SBSTA and SBI. This avoids duplicating the extensive existing work on response measures.

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