

Panel 2

**Ambition of the pledges by
developed country parties
and related assumptions and conditions**

Ambition of pledges

- IPCC AR4 stated that in order to realistically achieve an atmospheric stabilization level around 450 ppm CO₂ eq, Annex I Parties would need to reduce emissions by 25 to 40 % by 2020 compared to 1990.
- Current emission reduction targets by developed country Parties according to FCCC/TP/2012/5:
 - Low pledges approximately 12% (excluding LULUCF)
 - High pledges approximately 18% (excluding LULUCF)
- Ambition gap is evident – options for filling it and implications for targets by 2020, if it is not filled

Assumptions and conditions related to ambition

- Targets communicated by Parties do not generally present a single unconditional value, but either ranges or conditional values
- A number of Parties have low targets as unconditional and high targets with conditions.
- Conditions cover a range of issues:
 - Comprehensive global and comprehensive agreement with 2 degree goal
 - Agreement on comparable mitigation efforts by developed countries
 - Developing countries contribute according to their differentiated responsibilities and respective capacities
 - Major emitting developing countries take action fully commensurate with their respective capabilities
 - Bunker fuels as part of global emission reductions
 - Technical conditions
 - Effective set of rules for LULUCF
 - Full range of broad and efficient international carbon markets

Questions for Panel 2

- How to assess whether the assumptions and conditions associated with the targets are met?
- How to encourage Parties to move to the upper range of their targets?
- How the ambition of the pledges could be enhanced?

What have we learned about the feasibility of comparing mitigation efforts

- Comparing efforts is limited to three metrics
 - Absolute and relative changes in GHG emissions over different periods of time and reference years
 - Absolute and relative changes in per capita GHG emissions over different periods
 - GHG emission intensity in relation to economic output in terms of GDP

What have we learned about the feasibility of comparing mitigation efforts

- The choice of a reference year affects how efforts are viewed – historical efforts may differ from projected efforts for 2020
- Differing population growth rates can affect perceptions of national efforts
- Aggregate reductions in emission intensity between 1990 and 2020 may mask significant differences among countries

Different assumptions, methods and national circumstances make it difficult to compare efforts by Parties

- Methods for estimating (and the use of) GHG emissions from international offsets
- Methods for estimating the contribution of the LULUCF sector
- Coverage of sectors and gases
- No single metric captures national circumstances

Questions for Panel 2

- How to enable the understanding and enhance the comparability of mitigation efforts by developed country Parties?
- Can consideration of comparability of mitigation efforts facilitate consideration of options to raise the level of ambition?
- What are the option for accounting and reporting tools that can help compare mitigation efforts?