



Fact sheet: The UN Climate Change Talks Bonn – June 2009

Background information

The UN Climate Change Talks Bonn – June 2009 (1 June to 12 June) constitute the second in a series of six major UN negotiating sessions this year, designed to culminate in an ambitious and effective international climate change deal in Copenhagen in December.

The Copenhagen outcome is to follow on the first phase of the Kyoto Protocol, which expires at the end of 2012. The international community decided 2007 in Bali to conclude negotiations on the agreed outcome in Copenhagen.

This second round of UN climate talks this year in Bonn will be attended by more than 3,000 participants, including government delegates, representatives from business and industry, environmental organisations and research institutions.

The talks comprise the 6th session of the Ad hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention (AWG-LCA 6) and the 8th session of the Ad hoc Working Group on Further Commitments for Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol (AWG-KP), and the 30th sessions of the UNFCCC Convention subsidiary bodies SBSTA and SBI (see below).

Parties meeting under the Convention in Bonn will discuss key negotiating texts which incorporate areas of convergence in the ideas and proposals from Parties, explore options for dealing with areas of divergence, and identify any gaps that need to be filled to reach an ambitious and effective outcome.

Work under the AWG-LCA

The “Ad hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention” was launched in Bali in 2007 with the mandate to negotiate an agreed outcome by the end of 2009. The AWG-LCA comprises all 192 Parties to the UNFCCC. Draft negotiating text for consideration by the AWG-LCA concern issues of a shared vision for long-term cooperative action, enhanced action on adaptation, mitigation and finance, technology and capacity-building.

Work under the AWG-KP

The “Ad hoc Working Group on Further Commitments for Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol” comprises all 184 Parties to the Kyoto Protocol. The group will focus on amendments to the treaty relating to emission reduction commitments of 37 industrialized countries for the second phase of the protocol (so post-2012). The AWG-KP began its work in Montreal in 2005 and is set to conclude its negotiations in December of this year. Other issues intended for discussion under the protocol in Bonn are how to improve emissions trading, coverage of emissions credits, the Kyoto Protocol’s so-called “project-based mechanisms” and on options for the treatment of and use, land-use change and forestry.

**Work under SBSTA**

The SBSTA - “Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice” serves as the interface between the political process under the UNFCCC and the scientific community. This working group will take forward work on the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change. Other issues will be the development and transfer of technologies, reducing emissions from deforestation in developing countries and methodological issues under the Kyoto Protocol such as common metrics to calculate the CO₂ equivalence of greenhouse gases.

Work under SBI

SBI stands for “Subsidiary Body for Implementation” - both of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and its Kyoto Protocol. Like its sister body SBSTA, SBI not only deals with issues relevant to a post-2012 agreed outcome, but with issues of implementation before that 2012. As in SBSTA, a focus of SBI’s work in Bonn will be the development and transfer of technologies. In addition, capacity-building for developing countries will be a central issue.

The road to Copenhagen

Further meetings scheduled under the UNFCCC for the rest of the year are:

Intersessional informal consultations (Bonn Climate Change Talks)

Monday 10 August to Friday 14 August
Bonn, Germany

Ninth session of the AWG-KP and Seventh session of the AWG-LCA (Bangkok Climate Change Talks)

Monday 28 September to Friday 9 October 2009
United Nations Conference Centre (UNCC) of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP),
Bangkok, Thailand

Resumed Ninth session of the AWG-KP and resumed Seventh session of the AWG-LCA

Monday 2 November to Friday 6 November 2009
Venue to be determined

COP 15 and CMP 5 (UN Climate Change Conference - Copenhagen, 2009)

Monday 7 December to Friday 18 December 2009,
Bella Center
Copenhagen, Denmark

All of the major UNFCCC gatherings will be open to the press

For updates on meetings, please refer to <http://unfccc.int/meetings/items/2654.php>.