



## Framework Convention on Climate Change

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### Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention

Thirteenth session

Cancun, 29 November 2010—\*

Item 2 (b) of the provisional agenda

**Organizational matters**

**Organization of the work of the session**

### Scenario note on the thirteenth session

Note by the Chair\*\*

#### I. Introduction

1. The thirteenth session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention (AWG-LCA) will be held in conjunction with the sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP) in Cancun, Mexico.<sup>1</sup> The secretariat has issued a note containing the provisional agenda and annotations for the session.<sup>2</sup>

2. Given that six bodies are meeting at the Cancun conference, the time available for each one of them, including the AWG-LCA, will be very limited. As stated by the Chair in the closing plenary of the twelfth session of the AWG-LCA in Tianjin, Parties need to focus, in order to achieve a balanced package in Cancun, on the issues on which the AWG-LCA has not made much progress during the twelfth session.

#### II. Outcome of the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention

3. Throughout the year, the AWG-LCA has made progress in negotiating the outcome to be presented to the COP at its sixteenth session, as requested by the COP at its fifteenth session. It has also advanced in a shared understanding on what the form of this outcome should be, and on the elements that it should contain.

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\* To continue for as long as necessary, as per document FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/3, paragraph 25.

\*\* This document was submitted after the due date owing to the short interval between the twelfth and the thirteenth sessions of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention.

<sup>1</sup> FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/3, paragraph 25.

<sup>2</sup> FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/16.

4. At AWG-LCA 12, Parties considered the negotiating text contained in document FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/14. This text remains on the table for consideration at AWG-LCA 13. In addition, the draft texts reflecting progress made by the drafting groups on elements of the negotiating text, as well as notes by the facilitators<sup>3</sup>, which were made available to Parties during the twelfth session, have been compiled into document FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/INF.1.

5. During AWG-LCA 12 the Chair consulted Parties on their expectations for the Cancun outcome and its elements. These consultations revealed that there is a shared desire for an outcome that is balanced in that it respects the two-track approach (balance between the AWG-LCA and the Ad Hoc Working Group on Further Commitments for Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol), across all elements of the Bali Action Plan<sup>4</sup> (balance within the AWG-LCA), and among the individual elements of the Bali Action Plan (in terms of a comparable level of detail). The consultations also revealed a common understanding among Parties that the Cancun outcome should not prejudge prospects for, or the content of, a legally binding outcome in the future.

6. After reflecting on the form of the outcome and in light of progress at the twelfth session of the AWG-LCA in Tianjin, the Chair's assessment is that the appropriate way for the AWG-LCA to present its outcome to the COP at its sixteenth session would be through one draft decision that encompasses the full scope of the AWG-LCA outcome. The Chair believes that working on one decision would facilitate efforts to achieve a balanced outcome.

7. This decision will need to be comprehensive but not exhaustive, recognizing that the AWG-LCA will not be able to conclude on all aspects of its work this year, while securing incremental progress in a balanced manner. Any remaining work would need to be carried forward. The Chair believes that the contours of a balanced and comprehensive package are emerging and agreement on it at Cancun is within reach.

8. Encouraged by the consultations at AWG-LCA 12 and by the Parties' call for the Chair to lead and guide the work of the AWG-LCA, the Chair is committed to help Parties in resolving outstanding difficult issues and to offer ways forward by presenting elements of the outcome in a more elaborate form.

### **III. Organization of the work of the session**

9. The opening plenary of the AWG-LCA will be held on 29 November 2010. Given the limited time available, it is essential to resume the work on the outcome as expeditiously as possible. For that reason, the Chair proposes that, as at AWG-LCA 12, only groups of Parties make brief opening remarks and that individual Parties refrain from requesting the floor.

10. A contact group, to be established, will hold a brief organizational meeting immediately following the opening plenary. This contact group will be chaired by the Chair of the AWG-LCA. The Chair proposes the continuation of four drafting groups, as at past sessions of the AWG-LCA.

11. The Chair will seek assistance from delegates to facilitate the work of the drafting groups through exploring solutions to the remaining unresolved issues.

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<sup>3</sup> These notes have no formal status in the negotiations and are made available to Parties for their information.

<sup>4</sup> Decision 1/CP.13.

12. The Chair remains fully committed to the objective of presenting a comprehensive and balanced outcome and to assisting Parties in reaching agreement. In pursuit of this objective, the Chair will work closely together with the President of COP 16, in a manner that ensures transparency, inclusiveness, comprehensiveness and coherence of the negotiations.

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