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

Report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention on the third and fourth parts of its fourteenth session, held in Panama City from 1 to 7 October 2011, and Durban from 29 November to 10 December 2011

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I. Opening of the session
(Agenda item 1)

1. The fourteenth session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention (AWG-LCA) was opened in Bangkok, Thailand, on 5 April 2011, and resumed in Bonn, Germany, on 7 June 2011, as reflected in the report on the first two parts of the session, contained in document FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/9.

A. Host Government welcoming ceremony

2. On Saturday, 1 October 2011, a welcoming ceremony organized by the Government of Panama was held in Panama City, Panama, to mark the opening of the third part of the fourteenth session of the AWG-LCA and the third part of the sixteenth session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Further Commitments for Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol.

3. Statements were made by Ms. Christiana Figueres, Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC, and Mr. Roberto C. Henriquez, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Panama.

B. Opening and resumption of the session

4. The third part of the fourteenth session of the AWG-LCA was held at the ATLAPA Conference Centre in Panama City from 1 to 7 October 2011. The Chair of the AWG-LCA, Mr. Daniel A. Reifsnyder (United States of America), opened the third part of the session on 1 October and welcomed all Parties and observers, as well as the Vice-Chair of the AWG-LCA, Ms. Margaret Mukahanana-Sangarwe (Zimbabwe), to the 5th meeting of the AWG-LCA.

5. At the same meeting, the Chair invited the Executive Secretary to provide delegates with a brief overview of the activities of the Transitional Committee, launched in Cancun, Mexico, to design the Green Climate Fund, and to inform delegates of recent activities of the Technology Executive Committee, established in Cancun as part of the Technology Mechanism. The Executive Secretary provided delegates with information on the activities of these two bodies.

6. The Chair drew the attention of delegates to document FCCC/CP/2011/INF.1, containing information submitted by Parties on fast-start finance, and to an information event on the same topic organized during the third part of the session.

7. The Chair invited Parties to present the outcomes of initiatives taken by Parties that are of direct relevance to the negotiations under the AWG-LCA. Two Parties provided information on relevant initiatives, including South Africa, in its capacity as incoming Presidency of the seventeenth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP) and the seventh session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol. The Chair welcomed the intention of South Africa to continue holding the open-ended informal consultations started during the June session on the expectations of Parties and observers for the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Durban, South Africa.

8. At the same meeting, statements were made by representatives of 12 Parties, including statements on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, the Environmental Integrity Group (EIG), six Parties from the Bolivarian Alliance for the Peoples of Our America – Peoples’ Trade Treaty, the African States, the European Union and its member States, the
Umbrella Group, the League of Arab States, the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS), 32 Parties from the Coalition for Rainforest Nations, the Central American Integration System, the least developed countries (LDCs) and four Parties undergoing the process of transition to a market economy.

9. At the opening of the 6th meeting, the Chair recalled the passing away on 25 September 2011 of Ms. Wangari Maathai, winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, and invited Ms. Christiana Figueres and a representative of the Government of Kenya to address the plenary in tribute. In honour of her memory, the Chair invited all delegates to observe a minute of silence.

10. The session was suspended on 7 October and was resumed at the International Convention Centre and Durban Exhibition Centre in Durban, from 29 November to 10 December 2011.

11. The Chair of the AWG-LCA opened the fourth part of the fourteenth session of the AWG-LCA on 29 November and welcomed all Parties and observers to the 7th plenary meeting of the session. The Chair expressed his appreciation to the Government of South Africa for the excellent arrangements made for the session.

12. The Chair recalled decision 1/CP.16, which extended the AWG-LCA for one year in order for it to continue its work with a view to carrying out the undertakings contained in the decision and to present the results to the COP for consideration at its seventeenth session. The Chair underlined that the work conducted by the AWG-LCA in 2011 contributed to clarifying the elements of the outcome and encouraged Parties to continue to work in a focused manner towards a comprehensive, balanced and robust outcome to be presented to the COP.

13. At the same meeting, the Chair invited Parties to present the outcomes of initiatives taken that are of direct relevance to the negotiations under the AWG-LCA. Three Parties provided information on relevant initiatives.

14. Statements were made by representatives of 13 Parties, including statements on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, the European Union and its member States, the Umbrella Group, the EIG, three Parties, the League of Arab States, four Parties undergoing the process of transition to a market economy, 32 Parties from the Coalition of Rainforest Nations, AOSIS, the African States, the LDCs, six Parties from the Bolivarian Alliance for the Peoples of Our America – Peoples’ Trade Treaty, and the Central American Integration System.

II. Organizational matters
(Agenda item 2)

A. Adoption of the agenda
(Agenda item 2(a))

15. The agenda for the fourteenth session of the AWG-LCA was adopted by the AWG-LCA at its 2nd meeting, on 8 April.2

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1 Decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 143.
B. Organization of the work of the session  
(Agenda item 2(b))

16. The AWG-LCA considered this sub-item at its 5th and 7th meetings, on 1 October and 29 November, respectively. It had before it documents FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/10 and FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/13, respectively.

17. As agreed at the 4th meeting of the AWG-LCA, the contact group on agenda items 3, 4, 5 and 6, established at the 3rd meeting and chaired by the Chair of the AWG-LCA, resumed its work on all substantive items and sub-items of the agenda at the third part of the session. The contact group also held regular meetings to allow Parties and observer organizations to be informed of the work undertaken and to have an overview of the progress made.

18. The AWG-LCA, at its 6th meeting, agreed to a proposal by the Chair that the fourteenth session be suspended at the end of its 7th meeting and be resumed at its next meeting, with the same organization of the work as applied in the second and third parts of the session.

19. At its 7th meeting, the AWG-LCA confirmed that the contact group on agenda items 3, 4, 5 and 6, established at the 3rd meeting, would resume its work on all substantive items and sub-items of the agenda. The AWG-LCA further agreed that regular meetings of the contact group would be held throughout the fourth part of the session in order to provide delegates and observer organizations with an overview of the work being undertaken in the informal groups on the various items and sub-items of the AWG-LCA agenda.

20. The Chair referred to the overview of a possible structure and substantive elements of the outcome of the AWG-LCA presented in the annex to his scenario note on the fourth part of the fourteenth session. The Chair then outlined his proposed sequence of work for the session, including the issuance of an amalgamation of the draft texts emerging from the informal groups, the expected meetings of the contact group as well as a meeting of the plenary of the AWG-LCA to take place on 5 December. A statement was made by a representative of one Party.

21. At the same meeting, the Chair confirmed that the first and last meetings of the informal groups working under the contact group would be opened to observer organizations, as agreed by the contact group at the third part of the session and in accordance with the recommendation of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation regarding the participation of observer organizations in informal sessions.

3 FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/9, paragraph 16.
4 FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/9, paragraph 15.
5 See paragraphs 17 and 18 above.
7 FCCC/SBI/2011/7, paragraph 167.
III. Preparation of a comprehensive and balanced outcome to be presented to the Conference of the Parties for adoption at its seventeenth session to enable the full, effective and sustained implementation of the Convention through long-term cooperative action now, up to and beyond 2012, pursuant to the results of the thirteenth and sixteenth sessions of the Conference of the Parties and recognizing that the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention includes both implementation tasks and issues that are still to be concluded
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Review: further definition of its scope and development of its modalities
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Continued discussion of legal options with the aim of completing an agreed outcome based on decision 1/CP.13, the work done at the sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties and proposals made by Parties under Article 17 of the Convention
(Agenda item 5)

Other matters
(Agenda item 6)

1. Proceedings

22. The AWG-LCA considered these items jointly at its 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th meetings, on 1 October, 7 October, 29 November, 5 December and 10 December, respectively.


24. The Chair confirmed that, as agreed under item 2(b), these items would be taken up by the contact group referred to in paragraph 17 above.

25. At the 6th meeting, the Chair drew the attention of delegates to documents FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/MISC.6/Add.4, FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/MISC.7/Add.5 and 6 and FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/CRP.14–32, issued during the third part of the session.
26. The Chair informed Parties that the material related to the work of the AWG-LCA at the third part of its fourteenth session was available on the UNFCCC website.8

27. At the same meeting, the Chair invited a representative of South Africa to report on the results of the consultations referred to in paragraph 7 above.


29. The secretariat informed delegates that the material prepared prior to the fourth part of the session, including the revisions of draft texts and co-facilitators’ summaries prepared at the request of Parties during the third part of the session, was available on the UNFCCC website.9

30. At the same meeting, the AWG-LCA agreed that the contact group referred to in paragraph 17 above would resume work on these items.

31. At its 8th meeting, the AWG-LCA had before it document FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/CRP.37 and Add.1.10

32. The Chair expressed his appreciation for the constructive work and the considerable progress made during the first week of the fourth part of the session. The Chair drew the attention of delegates to the document referred to in paragraph 31 above containing an amalgamation of draft texts in preparation of a comprehensive and balanced outcome to be presented to the COP for its consideration and adoption. The purpose of the document was to bring together the various texts emerging from the work of the informal groups under the AWG-LCA and to provide an overview of progress made.

33. The Chair shared his views on the way to move forward the work of the AWG-LCA in order to achieve an outcome to be presented to the COP for its consideration and adoption. He highlighted the need to produce an update of the amalgamation of the draft texts by 7 December, including suggestions on how to address any issues that remain outstanding.11

34. The Chair then invited Parties to exchange views on how to focus and complete the work of the AWG-LCA.

35. Statements were made by representatives of 25 Parties, including statements on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, the European Union and its member States, AOSIS and the LDCs.

36. At the same meeting, the Chair informed delegates that the President of the COP had offered to support the work of the AWG-LCA in difficult areas as necessary and urged the AWG-LCA to resolve as many issues as possible for the President to be able to continue her efforts to find balance across all the elements of the Durban outcome.

37. At its 9th meeting, the AWG-LCA had before it documents FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/L.4 and FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/CRP.39.

8 <http://unfccc.int/6189>.

9 <http://unfccc.int/6560>.

10 The AWG-LCA also had before it document FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/CRP.36, issued subsequently to the 7th meeting.

11 The update of the amalgamation of draft texts was issued as document FCCC/AWGLCA/CRP.38.
38. The Chair introduced the draft conclusions on the outcome of the work of the AWG-LCA to be presented to the COP for consideration and adoption at its seventeenth session contained in document FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/L.4.

39. The Chair also presented the AWG-LCA with amendments to document FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/L.4, which were proposed in order to address inaccuracies that occurred while preparing the document in the limited time available.

40. The Chair drew the attention of delegates to document FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/CRP.39, which contains texts reflecting the work undertaken at the fourth part of the fourteenth session of the AWG-LCA in order to carry forward ideas and proposals in areas in which continued discussions were envisaged in 2012.

41. The Chair expressed his appreciation to the President of the COP and her team for their efforts, support and guidance during the fourteenth session of the AWG-LCA.

42. The Chair also expressed his appreciation to the ministers who were involved in resolving a number of outstanding key political issues on the AWG-LCA agenda for their commitment and hard work. The Chair thanked the Vice-Chair of the AWG-LCA for her support and the delegates who facilitated the work of the informal groups.

43. The Chair underlined that the outcome of the AWG-LCA was only one component of the work carried out at the conference in Durban and expressed his hope that Parties would be able to adopt a comprehensive outcome, including the draft decision stemming from the work of the AWG-LCA.

44. The Chair proposed that the AWG-LCA recommend the draft decision contained in document FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/L.4 as orally amended by the Chair to the COP for its consideration and adoption.

45. Statements were made by representatives of 26 Parties, including one on behalf of the LDCs and one on behalf of the European Union and its member States.

46. A representative of Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) stated that it should be placed on the record that Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) did not believe that document FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/L.4 could be the basis for a future legally binding regime.

47. A representative of Bolivia (Plurinational State of) raised concerns with regard to the content of document FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/L.4 and stated that the document should not be adopted as it was, but could be considered as part of the discussions in 2012.

2. Conclusions

48. The Chair, in the light of the discussion held at the 9th meeting of the AWG-LCA, concluded that the AWG-LCA was not able to recommend the draft decision contained in FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/L.4 as orally amended by the Chair to the COP for its consideration and adoption. Nevertheless, he informed the AWG-LCA that, because there were too many positive aspects of the decision that should not be lost, he would present under his own authority the draft decision contained in document FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/L.4 as orally amended by the Chair to the COP for its consideration and adoption.

IV. Additional matters

(Agenda item 7)

49. The AWG-LCA considered this item at its 5th and 7th meetings. No additional matters were raised.
V. Report on the third and fourth parts of the session
(Agenda item 8)

50. At its closing meeting, on 10 December 2011, the AWG-LCA authorized the Chair to complete the report on the third and fourth parts of the session, with the assistance of the secretariat. At the same meeting, the AWG-LCA considered and adopted the draft report on the third and fourth parts of the session as orally amended in the course of the meeting.12

VI. Suspension and closure of the session

51. At its 6th meeting, the AWG-LCA agreed to the proposal by the Chair to suspend the fourteenth session.

52. The Chair thanked Parties for their submissions and the facilitators for their support. The Chair expressed his appreciation to the Government of Panama for the excellent arrangements made for the third part of the fourteenth session of the AWG-LCA.

53. Statements were made by representatives of 14 Parties, including statements on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, the Umbrella Group, the European Union and its member States, the EIG, six Parties from the Bolivarian Alliance for the Peoples of Our America – Peoples’ Trade Treaty, the League of Arab States, the Central American Integration System, AOSIS, the LDCs, 31 Parties from the Coalition of Rainforest Nations, the African States, five Parties, and four Parties undergoing the process of transition to a market economy. In addition, statements were made on behalf of indigenous peoples’ organizations, trade union non-governmental organizations (NGOs), women and gender NGOs and youth NGOs and by two representatives of environmental NGOs.

54. At the same meeting, the Chair declared the session suspended.

55. At the 9th meeting, the Chair expressed his appreciation to Parties for their work as well as to the ministers involved in the resolution of key outstanding political issues and the facilitators for their support of the work of the AWG-LCA.

56. A statement was made by a representative of one Party.

57. The Chair declared the fourteenth session of the AWG-LCA closed.

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Annex

Documents before the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention at its fourteenth session

Documents prepared for the session

FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/1 and Add.1–5  Provisional agenda and annotations. Note by the Executive Secretary

FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/2  Scenario note on the fourteenth session. Note by the Chair

FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/3  Synthesis report on the composition of, and modalities and procedures for, the Adaptation Committee, including linkages with other relevant institutional arrangements. Note by the secretariat

FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/4  Synthesis report on information on various approaches in enhancing the cost-effectiveness of, and promoting, mitigation actions. Note by the secretariat

FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/5  Agenda and annotations. Note by the Executive Secretary

FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/6  Scenario note on the second part of the fourteenth session. Note by the Chair

FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/7  Workshop on assumptions and conditions related to the attainment of quantified economy-wide emission reduction targets by developed country Parties, as requested by decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 38. Report by the Co-Chairs of the workshop

FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/8  Workshop on nationally appropriate mitigation actions submitted by developing country Parties, underlying assumptions, and any support needed for implementation of these actions, as requested by decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 51. Report by the co-chairs of the workshop

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<td>Second workshop on assumptions and conditions related to the attainment of quantified economy-wide emission reduction targets by developed country Parties, as requested by decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 38. Report by the co-chairs of the workshop</td>
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FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/CRP.23 Submission by the Plurinational State of Bolivia

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FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/CRP.26/Rev.1 Revised submission by Switzerland

FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/CRP.27 Submission by China, India, Malaysia, Philippines, and Thailand

FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/CRP.28 Submission by Switzerland

FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/CRP.29 Submission by India, Argentina, China, Iran, the Arab Group (Algeria, Bahrain, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine) and member States of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (Algeria, Angola, Ecuador, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Kuwait, Libya, Nigeria, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)) on the economic and social consequences of response measures

FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/CRP.30 Submission by Singapore on the economic and social consequences of response measures

FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/CRP.31 Submission by the European Union on long-term finance

FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/CRP.32 Submission by Australia, Canada and Japan on long-term financing

FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/CRP.33 Submission by the Gambia on behalf of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group on long-term finance

FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/CRP.34 Submission by Lebanon

FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/CRP.35 Submission by the United States of America on long-term finance

FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/CRP.36 Submission from the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS)

FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/CRP.37 and Add.1 Amalgamation of draft texts in preparation of a comprehensive and balanced outcome to be presented to the Conference of the Parties for adoption at its seventeenth session. Note by the Chair
FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/CRP.38 Update of the amalgamation of draft texts in preparation of a comprehensive and balanced outcome to be presented to the Conference of the Parties for adoption at its seventeenth session. Note by the Chair

FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/CRP.39 Work undertaken in the informal groups in the preparation of a comprehensive and balanced outcome to be presented to the Conference of the Parties for adoption at its seventeenth session. Note by the Chair

FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/L.1 Provisional agenda. Proposal by the Chair


FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/L.3 Draft report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention on the third and fourth parts of its fourteenth session held in Panama from 1 to 7 October 2011 and in Durban from 29 November to 10 December 2011

FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/L.4 Outcome of the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention to be presented to the Conference of the Parties for adoption at its seventeenth session. Draft conclusions proposed by the Chair

Other documents before the session


FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/14 Negotiating text. Note by the secretariat

FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/INF.1 In-session draft texts and notes by the facilitators prepared at the twelfth session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention. Note by the secretariat
FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/MISC.8 Preparation of an outcome to be presented to the Conference of the Parties for adoption at its sixteenth session to enable the full, effective and sustained implementation of the Convention through long-term cooperative action now, up to and beyond 2012. Submissions from Parties.

FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/MISC.6/Add.2 Preparation of an outcome to be presented to the Conference of the Parties for adoption at its sixteenth session to enable the full, effective and sustained implementation of the Convention through long-term cooperative action now, up to and beyond 2012. Submissions from Parties. Addendum.

FCCC/SB/2011/INF.1/Rev.1 Compilation of economy-wide emission reduction targets to be implemented by Parties included in Annex I to the Convention. Revised note by the secretariat.


FCCC/CP/2010/3 Proposed protocol to the Convention submitted by Grenada for adoption at the sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties. Note by the secretariat.


FCCC/CP/2009/7 Draft implementing agreement under the Convention prepared by the Government of the United States of America for adoption at the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties. Note by the secretariat.

FCCC/CP/2009/6 Draft protocol to the Convention prepared by the Government of Costa Rica to be adopted at the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties. Note by the secretariat.

FCCC/CP/2009/5 Draft protocol to the Convention prepared by the Government of Australia for adoption at the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties. Note by the secretariat.


FCCC/CP/2009/3 Draft protocol to the Convention prepared by the Government of Japan for adoption at the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties. Note by the secretariat.
FCCC/CP/2007/6 and Add.1 Report of the Conference of the Parties on its thirteenth session, held in Bali from 3 to 15 December 2007