



Ad Hoc Working Group on Further Commitments for Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol

Seventeenth session

Bonn, 15–24 May 2012

Agenda item 2(b)

Organizational matters

Organization of the work of the session

Scenario note on the seventeenth session

Note by the Chair

I. Introduction

1. The seventeenth session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Further Commitments for Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol (AWG-KP) will be held in Bonn, Germany, from 15 to 24 May 2012. The provisional agenda for the session and its annotations are available.¹
2. The purpose of this note is to share with delegations the Chair's views on the organization of the work for this session.

II. Status of the negotiations

3. The seventh session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP), held in Durban, South Africa, adopted several key decisions relating to the completion of the work of the AWG-KP. These include decisions that provide for the adoption of amendments to Annex B to the Kyoto Protocol at CMP 8 and that the second commitment period under the Kyoto Protocol is to commence on 1 January 2013.² Decisions relating to the methodological and accounting rules to be used in the second commitment period were also adopted.³
4. The CMP also decided to forward a significant amount of technical work to the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) for further consideration. The SBSTA was requested to:

¹ FCCC/KP/AWG/2012/1.

² Decision 1/CMP.7, paragraph 1.

³ Decisions 2/CMP.7, 3/CMP.7, 4/CMP.7 and 5/CMP.7.

(a) Assess and address the implications of the implementation of the decisions taken on methodological issues and accounting rules on previous decisions on methodological issues related to the Kyoto Protocol adopted by the CMP, with a view to preparing relevant draft decisions for consideration and adoption by the CMP at its eighth session;⁴

(b) Initiate a work programme to explore more comprehensive accounting of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removal by sinks from land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF), including through a more inclusive activity-based approach or a land-based approach, and to report to the CMP at its ninth session on the outcomes of that work programme;⁵

(c) Initiate a work programme to consider and, as appropriate, develop and recommend modalities and procedures for possible additional LULUCF activities under the clean development mechanism (CDM), with a view to forwarding a draft decision to the CMP at its ninth session;⁶

(d) Initiate a work programme to consider and, as appropriate, develop and recommend modalities and procedures for alternative approaches to addressing the risk of non-permanence under the CDM, with a view to forwarding a draft decision to the CMP at its ninth session;⁷

(e) Following completion of methodological work by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), consider any supplementary methodologies related to the annex of decision 2/CMP.7, with a view to forwarding a draft decision on this issue to the CMP at its tenth session;⁸

(f) Initiate a work programme to develop and recommend modalities and procedures for applying the concept of additionality, with a view to forwarding a draft decision to the CMP at its ninth session;⁹

(g) Conduct an assessment, to be initiated no later than 2015, based on the work of, inter alia, the IPCC, of the implications of the choice of metrics used to calculate the carbon dioxide equivalence of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of the greenhouse gases listed in Annex A to the Kyoto Protocol for the third and subsequent commitment periods and to present to the CMP its recommendations on the most appropriate metric and related values to be used by Parties, with a view to the CMP adopting a decision on the metrics and related values.^{10, 11}

5. The SBI was requested to consider the matter of the design of the revision of the commitment period reserve for the subsequent commitment period at its thirty-sixth session, with a view to recommending draft decisions for adoption by the CMP at its eighth session.¹²

⁴ Decision 1/CMP.7, paragraph 9.

⁵ Decision 2/CMP.7, paragraph 5.

⁶ Decision 2/CMP.7, paragraph 6.

⁷ Decision 2/CMP.7, paragraph 7.

⁸ Decision 2/CMP.7, paragraph 9.

⁹ Decision 2/CMP.7, paragraph 10.

¹⁰ Decision 4/CMP.7, paragraph 10.

¹¹ Decision 4/CMP.7, paragraph 11.

¹² Decision 3/CMP.7, paragraph 3.

III. Outstanding issues

6. Despite the large number of issues either resolved in Durban or forwarded to the SBSTA and the SBI for further consideration, the AWG-KP still has several major issues to consider in order to have its work completed in accordance with its mandate.¹³ The Chair sees the following as the outstanding work of the AWG-KP that needs to be completed in order to fulfil its mandate by the eighth session of the CMP:

(a) **Quantified emission limitation or reduction objectives (QELROs) for the second commitment period.** Decision 1/CMP.7, paragraph 5, invited Parties included in Annex I listed in annex 1 to that decision to submit information on their QELROs for the second commitment period under the Kyoto Protocol by 1 May 2012 for consideration by the AWG-KP at its seventeenth session. The AWG-KP needs to deliver the results of its work on QELROs to the CMP at its eighth session for adoption of these QELROs as amendments to Annex B to the Kyoto Protocol, while ensuring coherence with decision 2/CP.17;

(b) **Carry-over of assigned amount units (AAUs).** Decision 1/CMP.7 requested the AWG-KP to assess the implications of the carry-over of AAUs to the second commitment period on the scale of emission reductions to be achieved by Parties included in Annex I in aggregate for the second commitment period with a view to completing this work at its seventeenth session. The AWG-KP will need to recommend appropriate actions in accordance with the results of the assessment to address such implications in time for the CMP to consider these recommendations at its eighth session;

(c) **Proposed amendments to the Kyoto Protocol, including the length of the second commitment period.** The AWG-KP is also expected to finalize proposed amendments to the Kyoto Protocol as contained in annex 3 to decision 1/CMP.7, such as the end date of the second commitment period and the amendment to Article 3, paragraph 1, of the Kyoto Protocol, which addresses the aggregate percentage of emission reductions relative to 1990 levels in the second commitment period. The CMP decided¹⁴ that the second commitment period under the Kyoto Protocol shall begin on 1 January 2013. However, the decision on whether the period ends on 31 December 2017 or on 31 December 2020 still needs to be made by the AWG-KP at its seventeenth session. The Chair wishes to encourage Parties to reach agreement on the length of the second commitment period as soon as possible because an early agreement on this issue may facilitate resolution of other pending issues under the AWG-KP.

IV. Organization of the work

7. The AWG-KP will convene two plenaries during the session, an opening plenary on 15 May and a closing plenary on 24 May. In line with established practice, at the opening plenary meeting the Chair will propose the establishment of a contact group on item 3 of the provisional agenda, "Consideration of further commitments for Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol". The Chair encourages Parties to use this contact group to address procedural issues, to reflect on the outcomes of the Durban session and to determine how the group can advance at the current session so that it can successfully complete its work by CMP 8 in Doha, Qatar.

8. Depending on the discussion in the contact group, and in an effort to facilitate completion of the outstanding work, the Chair may propose to convene a spin-off group or

¹³ Decision 1/CMP.1.

¹⁴ As footnote 2 above.

groups to consider QELROs, the issue of carry-over and the proposed amendments to the text of the Kyoto Protocol as presented in annex 3 to decision 1/CMP.7, which includes the length of the second commitment period and the aggregate level of ambition.

9. If spin-off groups are convened, they will be required to report back to the contact group. Spin-off groups will also be encouraged to forward any issues to the contact group if it is felt that political or policy guidance is required on an issue.

10. The Chair encourages active and constructive participation by observer organizations and intends to allow such organizations to make statements at the opening and closing plenary meetings if time allows. During meetings of the contact group, the Chair will seek to allow focused contributions to the discussion by observer organizations.

11. The Chair will undertake pre-sessional consultations with Parties in order to discuss their views on how the group can complete the required tasks at its seventeenth session and complete its work in 2012. All groups and Parties are invited to contact the secretariat if they would like to schedule a meeting with the Chair and the Vice-Chair. Groups and Parties are also welcome to contact the Chair and the Vice-Chair directly on any matter.
