



Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement

Report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement on the first part of its first session, held in Bonn from 16 to 26 May 2016

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I. Opening of the session

(Agenda item 1)

1. The first part of the first session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement (APA) was held at the World Conference Center Bonn in Bonn, Germany, from 16 to 26 May 2016.
2. Ms. Laurence Tubiana, acting on behalf of the President of the Conference of the Parties (COP) at its twenty-first session and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP) at its eleventh session, opened the session and welcomed all Parties and observers.

II. Organizational matters

(Agenda item 2)

A. Election of officers

(Agenda sub-item 2(a))

3. The APA considered this agenda sub-item at its 1st and 5th meetings, held on 17 and 26 May respectively.
4. At the 1st meeting, on a proposal by Ms. Tubiana, acting on behalf of the President of COP 21 and CMP 11, the APA elected Ms. Sarah Baashan (non-Annex I Parties) and Ms. Jo Tyndall (Annex I Parties) as its Co-Chairs.
5. Statements were made by 14 Parties, including on behalf of the African Group, the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS), the Arab Group, the Bolivarian Alliance for the Peoples of Our America (ALBA), the Coalition of Rainforest Nations, the Environmental Integrity Group (EIG), the European Union and its member States, the Group of 77 and China, the Independent Association of Latin America and the Caribbean (AILAC), the least developed countries (LDCs) and the Umbrella Group. Statements were also made on behalf of business and industry non-governmental organizations (NGOs), environmental NGOs, indigenous peoples organizations, trade union NGOs, women and gender NGOs and youth NGOs.
6. At its 5th meeting, the APA elected Ms. Anna Serzysko (Annex I Parties) as its Rapporteur.

B. Adoption of the agenda

(Agenda sub-item 2(b))

7. The APA considered this agenda sub-item at its 1st meeting, as well as at its 2nd meeting, on 20 May.
8. At its 1st meeting, the APA considered a note by the Executive Secretary containing the provisional agenda and annotations (FCCC/APA/2016/1). At the same meeting, it agreed to the Co-Chairs' proposal that they would conduct consultations on the provisional agenda and report back on progress made.
9. At the 2nd meeting, the Co-Chairs reported back on their consultations on the provisional agenda and presented document FCCC/APA/2016/L.1 reflecting the outcome

of the consultations. On a proposal by the Co-Chairs, the APA adopted the agenda contained in that document, as follows:

1. Opening of the session.
 2. Organizational matters:
 - (a) Election of officers;
 - (b) Adoption of the agenda;
 - (c) Organization of the work of the session.
 3. Further guidance in relation to the mitigation section of decision 1/CP.21 on:
 - (a) Features of nationally determined contributions, as specified in paragraph 26;
 - (b) Information to facilitate clarity, transparency and understanding of nationally determined contributions, as specified in paragraph 28;
 - (c) Accounting for Parties' nationally determined contributions, as specified in paragraph 31.
 4. Further guidance in relation to the adaptation communication, including, inter alia, as a component of nationally determined contributions, referred to in Article 7, paragraphs 10 and 11, of the Paris Agreement.
 5. Modalities, procedures and guidelines for the transparency framework for action and support referred to in Article 13 of the Paris Agreement.
 6. Matters relating to the global stocktake referred to in Article 14 of the Paris Agreement:
 - (a) Identification of the sources of input for the global stocktake;
 - (b) Development of the modalities of the global stocktake.
 7. Modalities and procedures for the effective operation of the committee to facilitate implementation and promote compliance referred to in Article 15, paragraph 2, of the Paris Agreement.
 8. Further matters related to implementation of the Paris Agreement:
 - (a) Preparing for the entry into force of the Paris Agreement;
 - (b) Preparing for the convening of the first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement;
 - (c) Taking stock of progress made by the subsidiary and constituted bodies in relation to their mandated work under the Paris Agreement and section III of decision 1/CP.21, in order to promote and facilitate coordination and coherence in the implementation of the work programme, and, if appropriate, take action, which may include recommendations.
 9. Other matters.
 10. Closure of and report on the session.
10. A representative of the President of COP 22 and CMP 12 made a statement to inform Parties that informal consultations would be convened by representatives of the

President of COP 21 and CMP 11 and the President of COP 22 and CMP 12 on options for facilitating inclusiveness in the development of the Paris Agreement rule book in the event of the early entry into force of the Paris Agreement.

C. Organization of the work of the session

(Agenda sub-item 2(c))

11. The APA considered this agenda sub-item at its 2nd meeting, as well as at its 3rd meeting, on 23 May. At its 2nd meeting the APA agreed to the Co-Chairs' proposal that they would conduct consultations on the organization of the work of the session and report back on progress made.

12. Statements were made by representatives of 16 Parties, including on behalf of the African Group, AILAC, AOSIS, the Arab Group, EIG, the European Union and its member States, the Group of 77 and China, the LDCs, the Like-minded Developing Countries (LMDCs) and the Umbrella Group.

13. At its 3rd meeting the Co-Chairs reported back on their consultations on the organization of the work of the session. The APA agreed to the organization of work as proposed by the Co-Chairs. A contact group was set up to consider agenda items 3 to 8 in a single setting. This contact group launched individual informal consultations on the respective agenda items. The contact group meetings and informal consultations were both facilitated by the APA Co-Chairs.

III. Report on agenda items 3 to 8

(Agenda items 3 to 8)¹

1. Proceedings

14. The APA considered these agenda items jointly at its 3rd and 5th meetings. At its 5th meeting it considered and adopted the conclusions below.²

2. Conclusions

15. The APA noted that it had successfully launched its work and had set out modalities for the organization of its work for all substantive items on the APA agenda.

16. The APA invited its Co-Chairs to prepare a scenario note setting out their proposed approach for the resumed first session.

17. The APA welcomed the signature of the Paris Agreement by 177 Parties to the Convention and the ratification of the Paris Agreement by 17 Parties to the Convention.

18. The APA encouraged Parties that have not yet signed the Paris Agreement to do so as soon as possible, and also encouraged Parties to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval with the Depositary, recognizing that Parties need to undertake their legislative and/or constitutional procedures necessary to allow for depositing such instruments.

19. The APA noted that there is a need to ensure that all relevant rules and modalities are in place for the completion of the work programme under the Paris Agreement and that this is particularly important in view of the possible early entry into force of the Paris Agreement. It welcomed the consultations being undertaken by the Presidency of COP 21

¹ See paragraph 9 above for the agenda items.

² Draft conclusions presented in document FCCC/APA/2016/L.3.

and the incoming Presidency of COP 22 on options for ensuring that all Parties to the Convention can continue to participate fully in the development of the work programme under the Paris Agreement.

20. The APA took note of the presentation made by the secretariat on procedural, institutional and administrative requirements for the convening of the first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement.

21. The APA agreed on the following modalities for the organization of its work at its resumed first session:

(a) The APA will continue working in a single contact group on agenda items 3 to 8;

(b) The contact group will meet at least three times, as follows: at an opening meeting to set the direction of work; at a mid-session meeting to assess progress and adjust guidance, if needed; and at a closing meeting to assess the results of the session and adopt conclusions;

(c) The mid-session meeting of the contact group will take an overarching view of all items on the APA agenda, including cross-cutting issues, and the direction of technical work will be adjusted as needed;

(d) The contact group will conduct technical work for each of the six substantive agenda items through informal consultations, each to be facilitated by two co-facilitators. The APA Co-Chairs will announce the team of facilitators in a communication to Parties well in advance of the resumed first session. The APA Co-Chairs will facilitate the informal consultations on agenda item 8;

(e) Efforts will be made to ensure that no more than two informal consultations referred to in paragraph 21(d) above take place at the same time; conducting consultations at the same time on two agenda items with substantive linkages between them should be avoided;

(f) The APA Co-Chairs will provide, through the contact group meeting, a clear mandate and guidance to the co-facilitators on the direction of the work and the expected outcomes. As the work evolves, the guidance will be reassessed and, if needed, adjusted through the mid-session meeting of the contact group. This mode of work will allow conclusions and other outcomes, as relevant, to be developed for each substantive agenda item;

(g) At the closing contact group meeting, the APA will consider the organization of work for its next session and may change the organizational approach, if necessary.

22. The APA invited Parties to submit,³ by 30 September 2016, their views on the following items on the APA agenda, in order to focus the work of the APA:

(a) Item 3, “Further guidance in relation to the mitigation section of decision 1/CP.21 on: (a) features of nationally determined contributions, as specified in paragraph 26; (b) information to facilitate clarity, transparency and understanding of nationally determined contributions, as specified in paragraph 28; and (c) accounting for Parties’ nationally determined contributions, as specified in paragraph 31”;

(b) Item 4, “Further guidance in relation to the adaptation communication, including, inter alia, as a component of nationally determined contributions, referred to in Article 7, paragraphs 10 and 11, of the Paris Agreement”;

³ Parties should submit their views via the submission portal at <<http://www.unfccc.int/5900>>.

(c) Item 5, “Modalities, procedures and guidelines for the transparency framework for action and support referred to in Article 13 of the Paris Agreement”;

(d) Item 6, “Matters relating to the global stocktake referred to in Article 14 of the Paris Agreement: (a) identification of the sources of input for the global stocktake; and (b) development of the modalities of the global stocktake”, noting the work under agenda sub-item 6(b) of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) at its forty-fourth session, “Matters relating to science and review: advice on how the assessments of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change can inform the global stocktake referred to in Article 14 of the Paris Agreement”.⁴

23. The APA also invited Parties and admitted observer organizations⁵ to provide information, views and proposals on any work of the APA before each of its sessions.

24. The APA requested the secretariat to compile, by 7 October 2016, the submissions of Parties’ views referred to in paragraph 22 above into information documents, with views on each item of the APA agenda to be compiled in a separate information document.

25. The APA also requested its Co-Chairs to prepare, by 30 August 2016, a set of guiding questions to assist Parties in further developing their conceptual thinking on features and elements of the committee to facilitate implementation and promote compliance.⁶

IV. Other matters

(Agenda item 9)

26. No other matters were raised or considered.

V. Closure of and report on the session

(Agenda item 10)

1. Administrative and budgetary implications

27. At its 5th meeting, the APA Co-Chairs informed Parties, in accordance with rule 15 of the draft rules of procedure being applied, that the conclusions adopted at the session had no administrative or budgetary implications.

2. Closure of and report on the session

28. On 26 May, the APA convened a meeting jointly with the SBSTA and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation to bid farewell to Ms. Christiana Figueres, the outgoing Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC. Representatives of the current and incoming Presidencies of the COP, the presiding officers of the three subsidiary bodies as well as Ms. Patricia Espinosa, Executive Secretary designate, thanked her for the services provided during her time in office.

29. Ms. Figueres recalled her first address to Parties in 2010, in which she invited all governments to rise to the challenge posed by the scale and urgency of the threat of climate change, and the subsequent six years characterized by the tireless efforts Parties made to respond to climate change. She thanked Parties for their hard work, national aspirations,

⁴ See document FCCC/SBSTA/2016/2.

⁵ Parties should submit their information, views and proposals via the submission portal at <<http://www.unfccc.int/5900>>. Observer organizations should e-mail their submissions to <secretariat@unfccc.int>.

⁶ Article 15, paragraph 2, of the Paris Agreement (see FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1).

cooperation with one another and collective ambition. She underlined the crucial role played by non-Party actors and civil society, and thanked subnational governments, corporations, financial institutions and civil society at large for their support of the climate change process. Ms. Figueres further expressed her appreciation to United Nations organizations and extended her deeply felt gratitude to the staff of the UNFCCC secretariat for their unwavering commitment, tireless dedication and collective wisdom.⁷

30. Fourteen Parties made statements, including on behalf the African Group, AILAC, AOSIS, the Caribbean Community, the EIG, the European Union and its member States, Group of 77 and China, the LDCs, and the Umbrella Group.

31. At its 5th meeting, the APA considered and adopted the draft report⁸ on the session and authorized the Rapporteur to complete the report on the session with the assistance of the secretariat and under the guidance of the Co-Chairs.

32. A representative of the President of COP 22 and CMP 12 made a statement to inform Parties of the outcome of the informal consultations on options for facilitating inclusiveness in the development of the Paris Agreement rule book in the event of the early entry into force of the Paris Agreement, referred to in paragraph 10 above.

33. At the 5th meeting statements were made by 14 Parties, including on behalf of the African Group, AOSIS, ALBA, the Arab Group, EIG, the European Union and its member States, the Group of 77 and China, AILAC, the LDCs, the LMDCs and the Umbrella Group. Statements were also made on behalf of business and industry NGOs, environmental NGOs, farmers NGOs, indigenous peoples organizations, women and gender NGOs and youth NGOs.

34. At the same meeting, the APA agreed to the proposal of the Co-Chairs to suspend the session on an exceptional basis and resume it at the United Nations Climate Change Conference to be held in Marrakech, Morocco, so as to allow the APA to start substantive work immediately at the resumed session.

⁷ See <<http://newsroom.unfccc.int/unfccc-newsroom/christiana-figueres-farewell-address-to-delegates/>>.

⁸ FCCC/APA/2016/L.3.