

Tenth meeting of the Technology Executive Committee

United Nations Campus (AHH), Bonn, Germany
9-12 March 2015

Background note

Main outcomes of the Geneva climate change conference (ADP 2.8)

I. Introduction

A. Background

1. The eighth part of the second session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action (ADP 2.8) took place from 8 to 13 February 2015 in Geneva, Switzerland (Geneva climate change conference). It was the first session of the ADP since the Lima climate change conference held in Peru in December 2014, and it delivered important outcomes on both workstream 1 and workstream 2 for the work of the ADP in 2015.
2. The TEC Chair and Vice-Chair were also invited to attend a dedicated meeting organized under workstream 2 with active participation of Parties, UNFCCC institutions and international organizations, to exchange ideas on ways and means to advance the technical examination process in 2015.

B. Scope of the note

3. This background note presents the main outcomes of the Geneva climate change conference. It is prepared by the secretariat to facilitate the discussion within the TEC on possible implications on its work in 2015 and beyond.

C. Possible action by the Technology Executive Committee

4. The TEC may wish to take into account this note in its consideration of whether and how to organize its work in 2015 that could be of relevance as possible contribution to the on-going work under the ADP.

II. Main outcomes of the conference

A. Workstream 1

5. In Lima, Parties adopted the Lima Call for Climate Action contained in decision 1/CP.20, in which Parties acknowledged the progress made in Lima in elaborating the elements for a draft negotiating text as contained in the annex to the decision (hereinafter referred to as Lima text). In accordance with paragraph 6 of the same decision, Parties requested the ADP to intensify its work, with a view to making available a negotiating text for a protocol, another legal instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force under the Convention applicable to all Parties before May 2015.



6. As the last session to be held this year before May 2015, the objective of the Geneva climate change conference was to deliver this negotiating text at the conclusion of this session.¹

7. In the contact group, Parties were invited to identify issues that were considered missing from the Lima text and to provide the textual proposals to be inserted in the text. Further, Parties were asked to ensure that their inputs and textual submissions had been correctly reflected in the subsequent revisions, which were made available on the UNFCCC website in an open and transparent manner.

8. On 12 February 2015 an advanced unedited version of Negotiating Text was published in the UNFCCC website. After editing and translation to the five other official United Nations languages, this negotiating text will be communicated by the secretariat to all Parties as requested in paragraph 7 of decision 1/CP.20, and in accordance with provisions of the Convention and the applied rules of procedure.

9. Section H of this document contains elements relating to Technology development and transfer.² This section is structured around four sub-sections:

- (a) Long-term technology goal;
- (b) General, containing Parties' views for strengthening cooperative action to promote and enhance technology development and transfer and a placeholder for a framework for scaling up technology development and transfer;
- (c) Commitments, containing Parties' views for options on commitments related to technology development and transfer, including on:
 - (i) Establishing and strengthening enabling environments and addressing barriers;
 - (ii) Technology needs assessments;
 - (iii) Global collaboration on research, development, and demonstration of technology;
 - (iv) Implementation of nationally determined contributions;
- (d) Institutional arrangements, containing Parties' views on:
 - (i) How the technology institutions will support Parties in the Agreement (and how institutions may be anchored in the Agreement);
 - (ii) Strengthening and/or further guidance to the technology institutions.

10. The sub-section on institutional arrangements is particularly relevant to the Technology Mechanism, as Parties have expressed their specific views on how the TEC and the CTCN could support the implementation of the Agreement. These include:

- (a) How the TEC and the CTCN can support the operationalization and delivery of the commitments related to technology development and transfer in the Agreement;
- (b) How the Technology Mechanism can enhance cooperation and synergy with other institutional arrangements and enhance coherence and effectiveness of technology action and initiatives under the Convention;
- (c) How to periodically assess the effectiveness and adequacy of the Technology Mechanism in supporting the Agreement.

11. During this session Parties also had the opportunity to exchange views on a number of issues, including the structure of the agreement, time frames and process related to commitments/contributions, market/non-market mechanisms, and the approach to the ADP work for June session.

12. The Co-Chairs at the closing plenary mentioned that they will issue a scenario note outlining the proposed organization of work in advance to facilitate Parties preparations for the June session. They

¹ As highlighted by the Co-Chairs of the ADP in their scenario note issued on 29 January 2015, available at: <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2015/adp2/eng/01infnot.pdf>

² http://unfccc.int/files/bodies/awg/application/pdf/negotiating_text_12022015@2200.pdf

also announced two additional sessions of the ADP in the second half of 2015, to be held in Bonn, Germany, on: 31 August to 4 September 2015 and 19 to 23 October 2015.

B. Workstream 2

13. A dedicated meeting on workstream 2 took place on 10 February 2015 to discuss and identify ways and means to advance and strengthen the technical examination process (TEP) in 2015. The meeting was in line with decision 1/CP.20 where the COP decided to continue the technical examination of opportunities with high mitigation potential.

14. The meeting allowed participants to reflect on the results achieved in 2014, and to gather concrete ideas and suggestions for the process in 2015 in order to contribute to enhancing pre-2020 mitigation action, including those with adaptation, health and sustainable development co-benefits.

15. An important part of the meeting was a session where UNFCCC institutions and relevant international organisations were invited to update participants on their actions undertaken in 2014 in relation to the TEP, and inform about their relevant planned activities in 2015. The TEC was one of the UNFCCC institutions invited, along with the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN), the Executive Board of the clean development mechanism (CDM), the Durban Forum on Capacity-building, the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and the Global Environment Facility (GEF). Twelve international organizations were also invited, including those that were lead organizations involved in the technical expert meetings in 2014.

16. Following the interventions by these institutions and organisations, participants discussed the opportunities and ways for those to contribute more effectively to the TEP in 2015 and beyond, including opportunities to further enhance collaboration and synergies, and proposals for supporting accelerated implementation of policy options and enhanced mitigation action.

17. Some of the views expressed by Parties were to:

- (a) Reiterate the critical importance of means of implementation and role of UNFCCC institutions in facilitating enhanced pre-2020 mitigation action on the ground;
- (b) Request UNFCCC institutions to reflect the sense of urgency of action in workstream 2 in the development and implementation of their work plans;
- (c) Emphasize the need for enhanced collaboration between and synergy among UNFCCC institutions, and international organizations, in order to better meet Parties' finance, technology and capacity building needs.

18. A public summary of the dedicated meeting will be made publicly available on the UNFCCC website prior to TEC 10.

19. Another meeting on workstream 2 was held in the contact group of the ADP on 12 February. It further enabled Parties to express and exchange views on workstream 2, including on the expectations on the outcomes from this process in 2015 and beyond.