



Plurinational State of Bolivia

**“EQUITY” TO ADDRESS THE CLIMATE
CHANGE CRISIS**

**AN APPROACH BASED ON
RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS**

OBJECTIVES OF THE CONVENTION (environmental imperative and development imperative)

To achieve stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system.

- Such a level should be achieved within a time frame sufficient to allow ecosystems to adapt naturally to climate change (*environmental imperative*).
- To enable economic development to proceed in a sustainable manner (*developmental imperative*).

PRINCIPLES OF THE UNFCCC (equity imperative)

- ART. 1:** **Equity** and in accordance with their **common but differentiated responsibilities** and respective capabilities.
- ART. 2:** The specific **needs and special circumstances of developing country Parties**, especially those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change.
- Art. 3:** The Parties should take precautionary measures to anticipate, prevent or minimize the causes of climate change and mitigate its adverse effects.
- ART. 4:** The Parties have **a right to, and should, promote sustainable development.**
- ART. 5:** The Parties should cooperate to promote a supportive and open international economic system that would lead to **sustainable economic growth and development in all Parties.**

THE FACTUAL DATA

A temperature rise to within 2 degrees in 2010-2050 must be kept to below **750 Gton** and to below **400-450 Gton** for 1.5 degrees (67% of probability) .

Period 1850-2008	Annex I	Non Annex I
Total CO2	878 Gton (72%)	336 Gton (28%)
Share of population	25%	75%
Fair share	310 Gton	904 Gton

Carbon debt owed: 568 Gton

Period 2010-2050	Annex I	Non Annex I
Share of population	16%	84 %
Fair share	120 Gton	630 Gton
Carbon debt	- 448 Gton	1198 Gton

THE EQUITY PRINCIPLE IN THE UNFCCC

Equitable sharing of the atmospheric space and of the development space

The equity principle:

1. Developed countries take the lead in emission reduction (historical responsibility and climate debt).
2. Developing countries have developmental imperatives, and their ability to undertake climate actions depend on the extent of support they receive from the developed countries.
3. This should be fulfilled according to a setting of rights and obligations.

EQUITY IN CLIMATE CHANGE: DEVELOPMENT IN HARMONY AND BALANCE WITH MOTHER EARTH

Rights complementary

- The right to development (Art. 4 and 5 UNFCCC).
- The rights of Mother Earth (In light of the UNFCCC objective).
- The rights of indigenous people (United Nation Declaration, 2007).
- The right of people to overcome poverty (In light of Art. 2 UNFCCC).

Obligations

- Mitigation efforts in developed countries while developing countries are supported in their efforts by support (finance and technology transfer).
- The historical cumulative emissions debt of developed countries.

SHARING THE REMAINING CARBON SPACE (2010-2050) WITH EQUITY

Global warming below 1.5 degrees = 400/450 Gton

Global warming below 2 degrees = 750 Gton

Concepts

1. The allocation of carbon space as according to rights and obligations.
2. The actual carbon budget (and related physical emissions reduction schedule) that countries eventually put forward as what they can physically undertake.

Implications

- Carbon space must be shared equitably including by immediate “reductions to zero” by developed countries (going into negative emissions), enabling developing countries to have more atmospheric space (more realistic and gradual curbing of their emissions).
- Mechanism of compensatory payment to developing countries. The debt has to be repaid in terms of finance and technology transfers to developing countries, plus ensuring no new debt is being created from now onwards.

THE WAY FORWARD

EQUITY as a principle is key to solving the climate crisis by linking RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS.

This principle must be operationalized in our negotiations and outcomes in all aspects, and since it is not adequately treated in our negotiations, Bolivia proposes that a work programme with a concrete road map be established.

The work programme must be long-term and not just a series of workshops, and it must permeate into all the negotiations and bodies of UNFCCC, including the AWG-LCA but also the SBI, SBSTA, KP, Durban Platform process and the COP itself.

Inclusion of this proposal should be one of the major summaries or outcomes of this workshop