

Oral report to the Contact Group

Nationally appropriate mitigation commitments or actions by developed country Parties (agenda item 3(b)(i))

Contact group meeting, 24 May 2012

Substantive issues

- All Parties agreed that the continuation of the process to clarify developed country Parties' quantified economy-wide emission reduction targets is essential to enable the following:
 - The understanding of assumptions and conditions associated with the targets;
 - The understanding of accounting approaches and how Parties use them to measure the progress made towards their targets;
 - The understanding of comparability between developed country Parties' mitigation efforts;
 - The increase in the level of ambition of developed country Parties mitigation efforts.
- Parties raised a number of other issues and there were divergent views around them and on the way how to take them forward. These issues include the following:
 - The comparability of efforts by all developed country Parties as outlined in the Bali Action Plan (decision 1/CP.13);
 - The need for common accounting rules, including those on land use, land-use change and forestry and the use of carbon credits from mechanisms and programmes;
 - The need to express the targets in tonnes of emissions over a period of time to achieve a better understanding of the actual emission reductions;
 - A compliance regime for meeting the targets under the Convention and linkages to MRV requirements;
 - How and where the ambition gap should be addressed, in the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperation under the Convention, the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action or other bodies under the Convention.

Suggestions for the way forward

- On the way forward, the group agreed to continue the work on the clarification of targets in workshops, but in a more rigorous way including as follows:
 - To structure the workshops around thematic fields as outlined in decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 5;
 - To have a more interactive approach, for example with panellists, a facilitator and a rapporteur;
 - To organize the discussion around specific questions that are provided in advance.
- There was also agreement in the group on the usefulness of updating technical paper, document FCCC/TP/2012/2, to incorporate additional information provided by Parties.
 - In this context, Parties that have not yet done so were especially encouraged, to make submissions in accordance with decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 5(a).

- Differences remained among Parties' views on the following:
 - Whether the update of the technical paper should be preceded by further submissions from developed country Parties in the form of an agreed and updated common template;
 - What should be the next steps in and after Doha, including if the process of clarification of targets should continue, and if specific work should be carried out under the subsidiary bodies.