

## ***Oral report to the Contact Group***

### **A shared vision for long-term cooperative action (agenda item 3(a))**

*Contact group meeting, 24 May 2012*

#### *Framing elements of the discussion*

- Parties agreed in Durban, South Africa, to continue to work towards identifying a global goal for substantially reducing global emissions by 2050 and a time frame for global peaking of greenhouse gas emissions, and to consider these at the eighteenth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP). They also agreed that the discussion on the global goal and global peaking cannot be undertaken in the abstract and will necessarily involve matters related to the specific context;
- In addition to the relevant decisions (1/CP.13, 1/CP.16 and 2/CP.17) and Parties' views from COP 17 reflected in document FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/CRP.39, the presentations and discussions at the workshop on equitable access to sustainable development could be considered.

#### *Issues discussed*

- Two informal consultations were held on the agenda item of a shared vision for long-term cooperative action. At the first meeting, Parties provided their views on a shared vision, which can be summarized by the following three options:
  - (i) Specific numbers for goals with context;
  - (ii) A range of numbers for goals with context;
  - (iii) A process or mechanism with which to work on specific numbers or a range of numbers for goals mentioned above;
- The discussion underlined the urgency of identifying these goals and sought to identify the common ground and possible overlapping areas in Parties' positions among the above-mentioned options and identify good options for further consideration;
- The workshop on equitable access to sustainable development provided a good opportunity for a rich exchange of views on the matter, which led to an increased understanding of Parties' views. The main points raised at the workshop could be grouped into the following categories: context for equity and equitable access to sustainable development; definition of equity; and application of the equity principle. The summary by the chair of the workshop is available on the UNFCCC website,<sup>1</sup> which also suggests the possible next steps, including to hold another workshop focusing on specific issues;
- Regarding the context:
  - While many Parties supported discussion of the context for identifying the goals, their views are divided on the nature of the context. One view is that the qualitative context should be discussed, in a similar manner to that in decision 1/CP.16, paragraphs 4–6. Another view is that the quantitative context has to be identified, which includes the means of implementation as well as the historical contribution of Parties (e.g. link numbers for global goals on finance, technology, capacity-building and adaptation to the global goals for mitigation);
  - A view was that the principle of equity is central to the discussions as it combines all the elements needed for discussing the numbers: contributions, capabilities and circumstances;
  - The issues of trade, response measures and intellectual property rights have also been mentioned as possible elements of the context;
- Regarding a global goal for substantially reducing global emissions by 2050 and a time frame for global peaking of greenhouse gas emissions:
  - Views expressed by Parties included that these goals should be flexible and updatable and burden sharing might not be possible until the burden is agreed upon;
  - One view was that the identification of the goals pertains to the shared vision discussion, and that their implementation is discussed elsewhere. Other views were to emphasize the link between those goals and a means of implementation;
  - The context should be concise and should lead to identification of specific numbers for a global goal and global peaking.

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<sup>1</sup> <[http://unfccc.int/files/bodies/awg-lca/application/pdf/20120524\\_equity\\_1130.pdf](http://unfccc.int/files/bodies/awg-lca/application/pdf/20120524_equity_1130.pdf)>.