



High-level Ministerial Dialogue on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action

Friday, 6 June 2014

Statement by the ADP Co-Chairs

Mr. Kishan Kumarsingh and Mr. Artur Runge-Metzger

Introduction

- Honorable Ministers and Distinguished Delegates, we are delighted to participate in this High-Level Ministerial Dialogue on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action.
- We cannot stress this enough - continued high-level and active engagement at all levels in this process is pivotal to success in Lima and Paris.

Context - Responding to the Science

- The findings of the IPCC AR5 Report released after the last session of the ADP have brought home to us, in ever more stark and daunting terms, the magnitude and urgency of the choices that need to be made.
- This most comprehensive and policy relevant report in the history of the Convention will inject a renewed sense of urgency to our work.
- The negotiations under the Durban Platform on Enhanced Action we have the honor to facilitate are designed to respond to the science. We know, and are grateful, that all Parties stand ready to make a meaningful contribution to the achievement of the objective of the Convention.
- It is becoming clear that some questions that we have been grappling with in the Durban Platform process merit immediate attention so as to assist us in fulfilling our mandate for Lima and catalyzing progress towards the 2015 Paris agreement.

Issues that merit immediate attention by Ministers

Timely Submission of INDCs

- In Warsaw, Parties were invited to prepare their intended nationally determined contributions and to communicate them well in advance of the Paris meeting, and by the first quarter of 2015 for those Parties ready to do so. It is critical that Parties submit their intended nationally determined contributions well in advance of the Paris meeting as this will build confidence and generate political momentum towards Paris.

- Nationally determined contributions form the centerpiece of the 2015 agreement. Early submission of ambitious nationally determined contributions will encourage others to follow suit as well as allow us to consider if we are collectively taking adequate action to reach the goals we have set for ourselves.
- We urge Parties that are in a position to do so to provide support for the preparation of intended nationally determined contributions to ensure universal participation. We are encouraged by the response so far to the call by the Conference of Parties in Warsaw.

Information Decision

- In Warsaw, the Conference of Parties also tasked the ADP with identifying the information that Parties will provide while communicating their intended nationally determined contributions. This is a clear deliverable for Lima. Since Warsaw Parties have offered numerous thoughtful suggestions for the information that must accompany such contributions. In keeping with our leadership role, and as is common practice for Co-Chairs, we have taken the initiative to table a draft decision to facilitate convergence on both the information and the process to consider the contributions.
- We need your active support and guidance to finalize this decision by Lima. In particular, we would appreciate your guidance in addressing the scope of intended nationally determined contributions as this has implications for information requirements.

Broader Political Issues Relating to the 2015 Agreement

- In addition to these issues that need to be resolved by Lima, there are some political issues that will require Ministerial engagement if we are to reach an effective and equitable 2015 agreement.

Differentiation

- The first of these is the issue of differentiation. On this issue, we start from the common base that all Parties are supportive of the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities. However, Parties differ in their interpretation and application of this principle. In particular Parties have differing views on the nature and extent of differentiation in the 2015 agreement.
- Parties have made several useful submissions offering a range of options for this, but we have yet to engage in an open and constructive solution-oriented discussion on this issue.
- Finding a constructive solution to this polarizing issue will catalyze progress across the elements of the Durban Platform. We urge Parties to think through this issue carefully in the lead up to Paris and approach the issue of differentiation in the spirit of openness, and with a will to find an effective and mutually satisfactory way forward.

Legal Form

- Another issue that will assume ever-increasing salience in the lead up to Paris, and indeed even at Lima, is the issue of Legal Form. The Durban Platform on Enhanced Action launched a process towards a 'Protocol, another legal instrument or agreed outcome with legal force under the Convention.' This formulation leaves open the precise legal form of the 2015 agreement.
- Parties will need to decide the legal form that the 2015 agreement will assume, and the legal character of particular obligations within it. Parties will also need to decide which of the full gamut of issues that are currently under consideration need to be captured in the legal agreement, and which issues are best addressed in complementary decisions of the Conference of Parties.
- We urge Parties to devote attention to this issue. Clarity on legal form will enable Parties to appropriately draft and tailor the negotiating text/s, thereby enhancing the efficacy and pace of the ongoing negotiations.

Workstream 2

- The ADP has made considerable progress in identifying opportunities to deliver significant mitigation outcomes before 2020.
- Parties have been engaged in the process of identifying options to unlock and seize this huge untapped mitigation potential.
- The challenge now is to consider how to capture what we have accomplished thus far and catalyze and support further uptake of policies and actions that have been identified under the ADP. In particular we seek your guidance on how cooperative and enhanced climate action by all actors and at all levels can be most effectively stimulated and accelerated.
- Parties need to decide how the practical efforts of the ADP to help unlock mitigation opportunities should be enhanced beyond Lima. And, given the ADP will expire in Paris, what action should be taken toward establishing longer-term arrangements for enhancing ambition.

Beyond the ADP

- Honorable Ministers, finally, we would like to underscore that the totality of our work under the Durban Platform – both in relation to pre-2020 ambition and the 2015 agreement - is built on the foundation of existing commitments.
- Honorable Ministers, in Warsaw you emphasized the urgent need for full implementation of existing commitments and decisions so that resources needed to scale up action in line with the science can be mobilized.
- Honorable Ministers, we urge you today to take this forward. It is critical that existing commitments, in particular on finance, are fully implemented, in letter and spirit, so that we can provide the necessary support to enable action, and build trust and confidence in each other. It is also essential that 2020 mitigation pledges and commitments are fully implemented. This will enable us to make the necessary

progress towards the 2015 agreement, and reach an effective and equitable solution to the climate challenge.

- Honorable Ministers, it is crucial that Parties find as much common ground as possible this year and your guidance will be central to this process. Success in Paris hinges on success in Lima. Parties can arrive at a cohesive elements text in Lima containing a limited number of politically significant options to be resolved next year. This will set the stage for an inclusive outcome in Paris.