

LMDC Opening Statement

ADP 2.8 Geneva

8 February 2015

The Plurinational State of Bolivia has the pleasure of delivering this opening statement on behalf of the Like-Minded Developing Countries (LMDC).

We fully associate ourselves with the statement made by South Africa on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

We congratulate you, Co-Chairs, on your assumption of your tasks.

We look forward to working with you in crafting a Party-driven outcome in Paris that allows the global community to cooperate and effectively address climate change in a manner that is fully under the Convention and enhances its full, effective and sustained implementation. The global interest must be kept supreme as we also urgently need to protect the integrity of Mother Earth.

Just a few weeks after Lima, we wish to highlight that the Lima Call for Climate Action represents and reflects the existence of consensus among the Parties on many aspects of our work under the ADP.

In this regard, the elements text needs to be made consistent with the agreements reached in Lima, as in COP20 there was no opportunity to update the Annex after the adoption of the Lima decision. The outcome under the ADP must reflect these agreements, without backsliding or reopening the consensus achieved in that decision, such as:

1. Our work is under the Convention and guided by its principles, provisions, and structure, including the differentiated commitments in accordance with Article 4 of the Convention;
2. The Paris outcome shall reflect the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities as it is under the Convention. Concepts or approaches such as “evolving CBDR” or “Parties in a position to do so” are not consistent with the Convention and are not acceptable. There has been consensus among Parties in Lima that such concepts shall be removed from the outcomes of the COP;
3. It must address in a balanced manner all elements of paragraph 5 of the Durban decision 1/CP.17 – mitigation, adaptation, finance, technology development and transfer and capacity building, and transparency of action and support;
4. It shall strengthen adaptation action to address the particular vulnerabilities of developing countries, duly taking into account the relationship between poverty eradication and adaptation actions;
5. Reaffirm the COP's decisions on the Warsaw International Mechanism on Loss and Damage and make these operational;
6. Developed country Parties shall provide financial, technology transfer and capacity building support consistent with their obligations under the Convention to developing country Parties for ambitious mitigation and adaptation actions before and after 2020, especially to Parties that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change;

7. There will be no ex ante review. Parties should address pre-2020 ambition as matter of priority through accelerating the implementation of paragraph 3 and 4 of the Warsaw decision.

We stress that increasing the level of ambition on pre-2020 mitigation and pre-2020 finance, technology transfer and capacity building support by developed country Parties must be fully implemented and operationalized as essential components of the Paris 2015 outcome.

We want to express our concern that since the adoption of Doha Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol, only two developed country Parties have ratified the amendment. Evidently, there is a lack of ambition on the part of developed country Parties. This will have direct effects on the necessary relationship between pre and post 2020 commitments. Therefore we call upon the Annex I Parties to the Kyoto Protocol to advance the legal process of ratification to ensure the continuation of the multilateral legally binding effect of their mitigation commitments under the Kyoto Protocol.

Three of every four of the world's poor who are particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change live in the countries that are members of the LMDC. This is a feature that we share with other developing countries of the G77, reaffirming that social and economic development and poverty eradication are the first and overriding priorities.

The pursuit of sustainable development and economic diversification are therefore important to developing countries in fighting climate change. Full consideration must be given to what actions are necessary to meet the specific needs and concerns of developing country Parties arising from the impact of the implementation of response measures. In this regard, there is also a need for the Paris outcome to address policy issues of concern such as unilateral measures.

Going to our process this week, the negotiating text we produce should reflect Parties' various views in a balanced, objective and comprehensive manner. Any streamlining should be achieved through real Party-driven, transparent and consensus-building negotiations.

We look forward to working constructively and progressively with you and our partners this year under your chairmanship.

Thank you.