

Special Event with observers at the second session of the ADP
Thursday, 2 May 2013
1.15 to 2.45 p.m.
(Wasserwerk)

INFORMATION NOTE

26 April 2013

Background and objective

Building on the successful experience of the Special Event held in Doha,¹ the Co-Chairs of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action (ADP) will convene another special event with observers at the [second session](#) of the ADP in April/May.² As outlined by the Co-Chairs in their [informal note](#) on the second session,³ the special event is intended to provide observers with an opportunity to present and exchange views contributing to the substantive discussions under the ADP. The exchange is expected to cover both workstreams currently being carried out under the ADP – workstream 1 on the 2015 agreement and workstream 2 on pre-2020 ambition.⁴

Approach and timing

The event will be held on Thursday, 2 May 2013, from 1.15 to 2.45 p.m. in the Wasserwerk. By that time, participants will have benefited from participating in the three [workshops](#) envisaged for the session⁵ as well as several [round-table](#) discussions. Therefore, the event will not include additional expert presentations. Instead, observers will be invited to respond to the points raised in the expert presentations and during the subsequent panel discussions and the open exchange at the workshops and the round tables. It is also the intention of the Co-Chairs to follow-up on the exchange at this special event through further engagement with observers at the June session of the ADP.

Questions

In line with the Doha conclusions of the ADP, the Co-Chairs have set out focused questions, which are intended to guide and stimulate the discussions at the workshops and round tables of the second session (contained in the annex to the informal note). These questions remain relevant for the discussions at the special event and may serve observers in their preparations for the event.⁶

Overall, the Co-Chairs will seek reactions and contributions from the participants on the two following two guiding questions, corresponding to the two workstreams under the ADP:

1. What are the central elements and key design aspects for an ambitious, fair, durable and effective 2015 agreement that mobilizes national action?
2. How to catalyze action and how to build a practical results-based approach to increasing pre-2020 ambition?

¹ For a summary see: ADP.2012.8.InformalSummary, available at <unfccc.int/7055>.

² The second session of the ADP is held from 29 April to 3 May 2013, in Bonn Germany.

³ ADP.2013.1.InformalNote (4 April 2013), available at <<http://unfccc.int/7387>>.

⁴ See FCCC/ADP/2012/3, paragraphs 28 and 30.

⁵ Workshop on scope, structure and design of the 2015 agreement (workstream 1, 29 April, 2013); workshop on low-emission development opportunities (workstream 2, 30 April); and workshop on opportunities for mitigation and adaptation related to land use (workstream 2, 1 May). Relevant information is being made available at <http://unfccc.int/meetings/bonn_apr_2013/session/7387/php/view/workshops.php>.

⁶ See <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2013/adp2/eng/1infnot.pdf> (annex).

Format

The Special Event will open with welcoming remarking by the UNFCCC Executive Secretary and a brief introduction by the ADP Co-Chairs. The discussion will then be opened, recalling the above focus questions for workstream 1 and workstream 2.

The open exchange will be initiated by inviting representatives across the various observer constituencies to react to the questions and to provide their views on:

- the central elements and key design aspects of the 2015 agreement, as well as
- how to catalyze action and to build a practical results-based approach to increasing pre-2020 ambition.

Participants are encouraged to engage in an open and freely flowing debate, taking into account the discussions at the workshops and roundtables preceding this event. The exchange is envisaged as interactive, with participants reacting to points raised by others and to any follow-up questions and aspects that the Co-Chairs may pose or highlight. It thereby differs from a usual briefing where Co-Chairs provide answers to questions from the audience.

While not strictly divided into two separate parts, the discussion will be structured along the two ADP workstreams, with the focus being placed at the beginning primarily on aspects of the 2015 agreement, and subsequently on questions surrounding pre-2020 ambition.

Towards the end of the event there will be a window for inputs from virtual participation (see below),⁷ the event will close with brief remarks by the Co-Chairs.

Virtual participation

Virtual participation will be provided, including the use of social media (Twitter). Participants outside the conference venue will be able to both watch the event online via webcast and provide reactions, views or questions as input to the discussion via Twitter. Further details are provided on the UNFCCC website.⁸

Additional note

Parties are very much encouraged to attend the Special Event. Representatives from IGOs are equally invited to attend.⁹

⁷ Up to 2 of the most common comments per workstream/main question (see questions 1 and 2 on page 1) will be presented to the participants in the room.

⁸ http://unfccc.int/press/twitter_chats/items/7536.php

⁹ Due to the time constraint, and in light of the fact that a meeting with IGOs will be convened by the Executive Secretary on Tuesday, 30 April, IGOs will have the opportunity to comment and contribute to the discussion from the floor but will not have a designated speaking slot.