WORK OF THE AWG-LCA CONTACT GROUP

Agenda item 3.2.6

Enhanced action on mitigation: Economic and social consequences of response measures

Note by the Facilitator: summary of issues presented at the informal consultations

Summary of issues discussed

General

- All Parties consider the issue of Economic and social consequences of response measures as important. It is part of the Convention, the Bali Action Plan and decision 1/CP.16. Some Parties expressed the need to keep discussions under the AWG LCA, and the view that it should be part of the forthcoming Durban outcome.
- A variety of views and concerns were expressed on the following issues: international trade, including unilateral trade measures, and imposition of unilateral trade measures by developed country Parties in the name of climate change; divergeant views on whether to consider this under the UNFCCC or other fora such as the WTO; the need for an open international economic system; support to affected developing country Parties (technical and financial assistance, capacity building); general parameters of economic development (i.e. ensuring that mitigation response measures taken by developed countries do not compromise the economic development in developing countries); just transition of the work force and economies; alternatives for energy-disadvantaged countries, and the establishment of a possible forum on response measures (as referred to in paragraph 93 in 1/CP.16).
- Some Parties noted that the efforts to address the impacts of response measures should not constrain or hinder progress in addressing climate change. Other Parties noted that response measures should not hinder economic growth and the eradication of poverty.

Response measures-related discussions under other bodies

• Parties acknowledged the usefulness of the special event in the context of the Joint SBI/SBSTA forum on the impact of the implementation of response measures.

Summary of ideas on the way forward

- Parties considered building upon and further elaborating on decision 1/CP.16 as a basis for further discussion to fulfil the Bali Action Plan, with some Parties pointing out that additional and unresolved issues need to be further discussed (see above).
- Some Parties believe it is important to keep discussions under the LCA distinct from discussions undertaken under other bodies. Other Parties suggested mainstreaming the different workstreams related to response measures, and work to be undertaken under the Joint SBI/SBSTA forum under the subsidiary bodies, informing the work under the LCA. Some Parties believe that the political discussion should be under the LCA. One Party suggested to look at the issue in a manner which allows for a more efficient approach.

Additional information

• Several submissions have been received, as posted at <www.unfccc.int>.