



AUSTRALIA

Submission under the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action | November 2012

Response to the Joint Message from the Co-Chairs of the ADP dated 24 September 2012

I. Overview

Australia welcomes the opportunity to respond to the Joint Message from the Co-Chairs of the Ad-hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action (ADP) on means to advance the ADP's work in Doha and beyond. In summary:

- The Doha outcome must include a clear signal that the ADP has started work as called for in Durban, and is working to deliver a new legally binding climate change agreement applicable to all Parties by 2015, and to identify practical options to enhance mitigation ambition in the period before 2020;
- Work in Doha as well as the organisation of work for 2013 and beyond must continue Bangkok's focus on substance: providing opportunity for high-level political engagement through Ministerial roundtables at Doha, and opportunity during 2013 for Parties to further develop options for delivering the ADP's work.

II. Work in Doha

With an extensive negotiating agenda and limited time available, the organisation of work at Doha should ensure adequate time to progress all elements of the Durban/Doha package, and must focus on substance. The following ADP organisation of work can support this:

- Conducting work through roundtables under both workstreams in the same format used in Bangkok, with additional informal consultations as necessary. These could be convened under a Contact Group for each workstream, although Contact Groups would not be essential.
- Focusing roundtables on themes set out in the reflections of the ADP Co-Chairs, dated 5 October 2012.
- Organising Ministerial roundtables for each workstream. These would be a critical opportunity for Ministers to provide guidance, and ensure sustained high-level political engagement in the ADP process.
- The ADP Co-Chairs continuing consultations with Parties and groups to identify a broader organisation of work for the ADP, and in particular next steps for work in 2013.
- Allowing work to continue through to next year under the current agreed agenda and two agreed workstreams – by suspending rather than closing the ADP at the end of Doha.



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III. Outcomes and outputs from Doha

At Doha, the world will expect the ADP to provide a clear signal that it has started work as called for at Durban. This signal should be expressed through a Doha outcome that covers four critical areas:

- Re-acknowledging as the basis for the ADP's work the clear mandate set out in Decision 1/CP.17, including timeframes set out in that mandate;
- Capturing the progressive and substantive discussions of the ADP under both workstreams in 2012, including discussions at Ministerial roundtables to be held in Doha;
- Guidance on organisation of the workstream on the new agreement, focused on 2013 and looking forward to 2015, that shows the ADP is on track to deliver the new legally binding agreement applicable to all Parties by 2015;
- Guidance on progressing the workstream on enhancing mitigation ambition, promoting the further development in 2013 of practical options to enhance pre-2020 mitigation ambition.

Potential options for capturing these outcomes include the ADP's report, ADP conclusions, or a COP decision. Australia supports fully the ADP Co-Chairs continuing to guide the ADP discussions, and encourages the Co-Chairs to develop the ADP outputs for Doha, in close consultation with Parties. These outcomes should bear in mind that on the new agreement in particular, we are engaged in a multi-year negotiating process and sessional outcomes should support this longer-term focus. Australia's views on specific outputs for each workstream are set out in Appendix I (new agreement) and Appendix II (enhancing mitigation ambition).

Australia anticipates that the COP will take a short procedural decision under COP agenda item 5, to recognise work done by the ADP in advancing Decision 1/CP.17 during 2012 and confirm necessary governance arrangements – this is also in line with the practice of other AWGs in their early stages (for example Decision 1/CP.14 and Decision 3/CMP.4). This short COP decision would:

- Recognise the mandate set out in Decision 1/CP.17;
- Welcome the ADP's progress in 2012, taking note of ADP's report/conclusions and organisation of work; and
- Endorse the chairing arrangements for the ADP as agreed in Bonn.



Appendix I: Outputs for the workstream on the new agreement

- A summary of the ADP's progress on conceptualising the new agreement during 2012, including key themes and characteristics discussed in officials' and Ministerial roundtables;
 - Such as the need for the new agreement to be climate effective, applicable to all and incentivise broad and ambitious participation in mitigation, take into account countries' different national circumstances, be dynamic and respond to contemporary realities, be fair, and strengthen the multilateral rules-based regime.
- Organisation of work for 2013 and beyond that:
 - Calls for submissions by late March 2013 on how the ADP can progress more detailed elaboration of the elements and characteristics of the new agreement in 2013.
 - Allows enough time before the first session of 2013 for Parties to develop thinking on how to design the new agreement to demonstrate the characteristics discussed in 2012.
 - Sets aside time at the June 2013 Bonn session for a series of focused roundtables allowing Parties to explore in greater depth aspects of the new agreement, including (themes should be practical and developed by the Co-Chairs based on Parties' input):
 - : Architecture: How do we design the agreement to be applicable to all and climate effective, including how can we design differentiated commitments under a common legal platform, taking national circumstances and changes over time into account?
 - : Incentives: How can we incentivise full and ambitious participation in mitigation commitments and ensure their effective implementation, promoting low carbon growth and development?
 - : Adaptation: What role can the new agreement play in advancing coordinated action on adaptation and its effective implementation?
 - : Regime building: What aspects of the existing international regime and work being undertaken under the Convention and Kyoto Protocol can the new agreement build upon, and where is new work most needed?
 - Requests the ADP to take account of the IPCC AR5 Reports and rolling results of the 2013-15 Review as they become available, and be informed by the latest science and analysis.
 - Encourages high level political engagement through the ADP process, as well as engagement with civil society and business.
 - Asks the Co-Chairs to guide Parties in developing a draft outcome text by COP20 to give adequate time for circulation and consideration in accordance with the 6 month rule.
 - Affirms Parties' commitment to deliver a new agreement applicable to all by 2015.



Appendix II: Outputs for the workstream on enhancing mitigation ambition

- A summary of the progress made by the ADP under the ambition roundtables in exploring options for increasing mitigation ambition during 2012.
- Recognition of the ambition gap and the need to stimulate and catalyse mitigation actions at all levels and through all possible channels
 - Further work to identify the emission reduction potentials of different types of measures / suites of measures.
- Recognition of the importance of countries' mitigation pledges;
 - Recognising any new pledges made by Parties, and urging countries, covering 20 per cent of global emissions, that have not made a pledge to do so;
 - Encouraging Parties to enhance existing pledges; with
 - Further work to better understand the constraints to making new or enhanced pledges, and what conditions would allow Parties' to increase ambition.
- Recognition of the role that can be played by experience-sharing and transparency in building the confidence and capacity to raise ambition.
 - Further work to develop understanding of the actions being taken by countries at home and the impact of these actions towards or in addition to pledges, including successful examples of developing low carbon pathways.
 - Encouraging countries to share updates of their implementation of pledges.
- Recognition of the role that can be played by complementary international co-operative initiatives in (i) capturing potential emission reductions in addition to countries' pledges and (ii) building confidence and capacity to catalyse increased ambition within countries.
 - Further work to explore how the UNFCCC can contribute to international complementary initiatives and understand the impact of these initiatives.
- Provision for ongoing high-level political engagement in the ADP process on enhancing mitigation ambition.
- A call for submissions by February 2013 on how the ADP can progress more detailed exploration and practical work on options for enhancing mitigation ambition in 2013.

