

Additional Inputs from India on the work of the Ad-hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action

1. The Government of India welcomes the opportunity to submit additional inputs on the work of Ad-hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action (ADP) in Doha and beyond, in response to the invitation from the Co-Chairs of the AWG-DP vide UNFCCC Secretariat information note HT/AHI/ADP dated September 24, 2012 and note on reflections on the Bangkok session dated October 5, 2012.
2. These inputs are in continuation of India's earlier submissions on the work of Ad-hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform (AWG-DP) for Enhanced Action dated February 28, 2012, April 24, 2012 and August 3, 2012.
3. India welcomes the progress made in the work of ADP during the Bangkok session in August-Sept, 2012. While there is no doubt that demonstrable progress on ADP will also be an important element of work in Doha, this needs to be seen in light of the work we are able to complete in the two other working groups. While it will be important to enhance clarity on ADP's work in 2013, a calendar of activities for 2013 need not be interpreted as a goal in itself or as a work-plan with specific timelines or milestones. Specific timelines for further work should be considered only after completing a thorough discussion of the scope of ADP. We have to plan our work and identify the elements in a way that avoids being over-prescriptive.
4. The roundtable format for discussions in the two work-streams has been immensely useful. It has enabled an interactive exchange of views on substantive issues. There is merit in following a similar format in Doha with focused discussions that may be organized around key substantive issues. This will allow continuation of discussions initiated in Bangkok and provide necessary space to Parties to put forward their perspectives on specific issues. Ministerial roundtables, if organized at Doha, should be comprehensive in nature and should not focus on a particular issue to the exclusion of issues in other Working Groups.
5. In planning our work, we should be guided by the inputs referred to in paragraph 6 of ADP. The legal form of the arrangement under ADP need not be a part of the planning of work at this stage. The form would be determined later after substantive issues are negotiated. We need to continue this discussion in Doha in a flexible manner.
6. On the possibility of capturing agreements and common understanding through a set of ADP conclusions accompanied by draft COP decision (referred to in para 11 of the Co-chairs note dated Oct 5, 2012), it is felt that while ADP conclusions or a Chairs summary is a welcome step, it is difficult to envisage a COP decision at this stage when the discussions are still at a very conceptual level. A draft COP decision that prejudices options and prejudice positions of Parties on substantive issues will not foster confidence in the process.
7. While we support the idea of holding open-ended in-session workshops and roundtables, further submissions and technical papers in 2013, we do not support inter-sessional meetings in 2013.
8. We feel that the formation of a Contact Group may be premature at this stage as the substantive issues for discussion and the scope for work are yet to be finalized by parties. As such, it may be premature to freeze the format of the negotiations in Doha a priori. While all the options remain on the table, a final view on the formation of the Contact Group needs to be taken during the stocktaking plenary at Doha.

9. India looks forward to constructively engaging in inclusive, open and transparent discussions to take the work under these work-streams forward and leading to a balanced and successful outcome of the Durban Platform.
