

Norway

Views on the plan of work for ADP: Workstream on the 2015 Agreement and workstream on enhanced mitigation ambition

Dear Co-chairs,

This submission responds to the invitation in your letter of 24 September to provide input on the ADP process prior to Doha. Moreover, we thank you for the very useful summaries of the roundtable discussions held in Bangkok under the ADP, and your notes of 5 October and 5 November.

Through its decision 1/CP.17, the COP established the ADP and gave it an ambitious mandate. Given the urgency of the matter, and the need for a balanced outcome in Doha, progress on the ADP at Doha is essential. Our further work should reflect that we are fully committed to making progress on the Durban platform negotiations and will deliver in time.

The two workstreams of the ADP have different characteristics, and the planning of work under the ADP should take into account these differences between the two workstreams.

Suggestions for the organization of work in Doha and beyond are given for the two workstreams below. At Doha, we would prefer to continue working in an informal format, with focused discussions. Progress at Doha should guide the plan of work for 2013, including identifying main issues for more in-depth work. We trust you as co-chairs to reflect on all Parties' views regarding how to take the ADP forward. The plan of work for 2013 can take the form of an ADP Co-Chairs' summary or report to the COP summarizing the discussions and progress made in 2012, and laying out a clear plan for organization of work, with a focus on practical activities in 2013.

Workstream 1 – by 2015, developing a protocol, another legal instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force

Regarding workstream 1 on developing a new agreement that is applicable to all, we believe it is crucial that this work delivers a sustainable, long term and ambitious response to the climate challenge. The plan of work for this issue must reflect the need for more in-depth discussions in order to develop an agreement that can capture a range of commitments that can both deliver sufficient ambition, and allow development over time. It is important that we keep the timeline and complete the work by 2015. The next steps must put us on track to achieve this.

Norway is of the opinion that the discussions should have a particular focus on the need to incentivize full and ambitious participation, and how the principles of the Convention should be applied in the new agreement. We see the need for an explorative phase at this stage, that will provide for a better informed discussion on how to integrate and operationalise the principles of the Convention, while at the same time fulfilling its overall objective.

Organization of work at Doha

Norway supports the proposal to focus at Doha on the issues listed in para 4 of your letter of 5 October. With respect to the working mode, we would be in favour of an informal dialogue in a roundtable format at Doha. Roundtables should be structured around specific questions that increase our understanding of the scope and nature of commitments in a new agreement, important aspects of countries' national circumstances and how they can guide the design of a new agreement and how we can combine necessary flexibility and bottom-up approaches, with delivering an ambitious agreement that is an effective response to the climate challenge.

At Doha, we see merits in organizing a ministerial roundtable on workstream 1, building on informal roundtable discussions at officials level. This is important to give political guidance and momentum to future work, and is also important to give a clear signal that we are making progress on this very important issue. The ministerial discussion could take place at the beginning of the second week. Substantial input from the roundtables should be captured in reports from Co-chairs.

Next steps, work to be undertaken in 2013

For the first half of 2013, we suggest the following activities:

- A call for submissions from Parties on the main substantive issues under discussion, building on the Co-Chairs summary from Doha.
- Secretariat to develop a synthesis of submissions before the next negotiation meeting of the ADP
- Organizing thematic workshops for more in-depth discussions, where also experts outside the UNFCCC are invited to participate. Themes should build on discussion at Doha, but could include:
 - Sharing experiences and examples from other international environmental agreements
 - How to develop a mitigation architecture that incentivizes full and effective participation
 - Understanding the main drivers, concerns and opportunities for mitigation action at the national level
 - How to take adaptation forward at the international level after 2020

Given that the time frame is ambitious, Norway is of the opinion that the Parties need to shift to a more focused and result-oriented negotiation mode during the second part of 2013. At the meeting in Bonn in June, discussions during the first half of 2013 should be summarized and next steps be planned. At this stage, our work should become more structured and contact groups or spinoff groups could be established.

At COP19, the plan of work should be revised and further elaborated. A clear outline of the steps needed to develop a draft agreement text before COP21 should be considered.

Workstream 2 – enhancing mitigation ambition

Workstream 2 on enhanced mitigation ambition is clearly of an urgent nature. Norway considers it crucial that we can show rapid progress in the work on enhancing mitigation ambition. The workplan for enhanced mitigation ambition should explore options that can

close the emissions gap between the aggregate effect of Parties' current mitigation pledges, and the emissions pathways that are consistent with a likely chance of holding global temperature increase below 2°/1,5°C. This calls for a practical approach, as further mitigation actions must be implemented before 2020. The plan of work for 2013, and beyond, must reflect this.

Organisation of work at Doha

At Doha, we suggest to continue informal discussions, but with more specific topics. A roundtable format would be useful.

Discussions should address the main elements of a comprehensive approach to delivering enhanced mitigation actions:

- Encouraging Parties that have pledged a range, to increase their ambition to be in line with scientific recommendations.
- Encouraging Parties that have not submitted a pledge for mitigation actions, to do so.
- Presentation of possible complementary actions through collaborative international initiatives, respecting the roles and responsibilities of other UN bodies.

The conditions Parties have for increasing their mitigation pledges should be further explored. On complementary international and national actions, a number of concrete initiatives and suggestions have been put forward. Discussions under the ADP should be practical and focus on those initiatives and efforts with a large mitigation potential, and where possibilities for enhanced implementation or scaling-up can be identified. More information should be provided on the scope of actions to be addressed, the effect on emissions and how they would be implemented. Interested Parties as well as relevant international organizations and initiatives should be given the opportunity to present information on ongoing activities and further plans.

A ministerial roundtable discussion on this workstream should be organized. This would provide political guidance on future work under this workstream.

A summary of the discussions and information provided under this workstream should be prepared by the Co-Chairs after Doha.

Next steps, further work to be undertaken in 2013

In the first half of 2013, we should have more in-depth exploration of the main approaches for delivering further mitigation actions mentioned above. Concrete and practical discussions should be based on more information.

In the first half of 2013, we suggest the following activities:

- Call for submissions from Parties on how to remove conditionalities and increase the ambition in pledges
- Workshops on how to enhance implementation of mitigation pledges
- Submissions from international collaborative initiatives for mitigation action, to solicit further information on their scope and impact
- Secretariat to develop technical paper on complementary actions; scope and potentials

At the meeting in Bonn in June, we should identify next steps based on key areas where urgent action is needed for mitigation pre 2020.