

INFORMAL SUMMARY OF THE AWG-LCA WORKSHOP

Workshop on assumptions and conditions related to the attainment of quantified economy-wide emission reduction targets by developed country Parties, as requested by decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 38

Summary by the Co-Chairs of issues raised by participants

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Presentations made by:

Alliance of Small Island States, Plurinational State of Bolivia, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, European Union, Ireland, Switzerland, , United States of America. UNFCCC secretariat (FCCC/TP/2011/1). Observer organizations: Climate Action Network, United Nations Environment Programme (“Gap report”).

Substantive points

- Acknowledgement that there is an “ambition gap” relative to a long-term global goal ; this needs to be reduced.
- Various ways and options were presented to reduce this gap, with differences regarding the appropriate time frame and space to address it.
- Emission targets addressed through actions in a range of sectors and through a variety of policy instruments and incentives.
- Emission targets towards 2020 placed in a long-term context, emphasizing the benefits related to a low-carbon development strategy.
- The importance of accounting, including aspects such as the relationship to the Kyoto Protocol; land use, land-use change and forestry; market mechanisms; carry-over of assigned amount units; and target year or of the period.
- Progress in operationalizing targets in domestic law and regulation, including domestic policy challenges.
- Perspectives on how an international framework for measurement, reporting and verification and international assessment and review can underpin domestic action.
- The relationship between domestic efforts and the use of international offsets; the environmental integrity of offsets.
- Possible effects on developing countries of mitigation actions by developed countries, for example, with regard to trade and tourism.
- A variety of ways of formulating conditions. Targets are often linked to the level of ambition of other Parties and certainty about implementation. Concern that conditionalities may lead to a lowest common denominator.
- Approaches to the comparability of developed country targets, and whether common accounting rules should apply.

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- Reference to the work by international organizations such as the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the United Nations Environment Programme, and the International Energy Agency.
- Presentation of a technical paper (TP) by the secretariat on the assumptions and conditions related to the attainment of emission reduction targets and a comparison of the level of emission reduction efforts.

Way forward

- Calls for continued work in a workshop format. Further work on the current TP and TPs on mitigation potential, and financial flows, as well as on a work programme, new and updated TPs and expert inputs.
- Suggestions for a technical paper by the secretariat based on the existing INF document with submitted NAMAs, with reminders that parameters should be distinct from the TP prepared for developed countries.
- Proposals to encourage more structure to presentations and questions.
- Calls for a written report to be made available to Parties after the workshop to inform negotiations.
- Calls for updates of TPs: FCCC/TP/2011/1, FCCC/TP/2008/8, FCCC/TP/2008/2 and FCCC/TP/2008/7.