

WORK OF THE AWG-LCA CONTACT GROUP

Agenda item 3.2.2

Nationally appropriate mitigation actions by developing country Parties

Summary by co-facilitators of issues raised by participants on biennial update reports

version of 17 June 2011 @ 10:57

Opening of meeting by Co-Facilitator

- Requested Parties to focus their intervention on scope and content of the biennial update reports and on the process moving forward.

Summary of the discussion

- Some Parties emphasized that adoption of guidelines for preparation of biennial update reports (BURs) was a key part of the overall Durban package, and that it was critical for these reports to feed into the 2013-2015 review;
- Some Parties highlighted the need for what they refer to as “major emitters” to submit in the first round of biennial reports and emphasised the fact that support would be provided for developing countries for the preparation of these reports. Some Parties objected to the usage of term “major emitters”, and highlighted that any differentiation between developing country parties would not be acceptable;
- Parties emphasised that early flows and technical support were essential in addressing capacity needs and the scale up of support, and expressed a need to know what was available in terms of finance for reporting, as well as the requirements for consistent and sustained support;
- A number of Parties stressed the point that BUR are not independent reports but rather update of information submitted in national communications, and that there is no mandate to revise the guidelines for preparation of national communications by NAI Parties;
- Parties spoke of the need for flexibility in reporting to respect countries capabilities, with options of a tiered reporting or layered approach, as well as a differential timetable. The need to provide prompt technical and financial support to all developing countries for enhanced reporting, and the process of continual improvement through learning by doing were highlighted as integral of the process;
- Some Parties made the point that the biennial reports for developing countries should be less onerous both in terms of content, and frequency, than biennial reports of developed countries;

- Some Parties pointed out that preparation and submission of BURs are voluntary and dependent on provision of support and respective capabilities;
- Some Parties stated that guidelines for BUR would be based on existing guidelines for preparation of national communication by non-Annex I Parties, and that UNFCCC GHG software, which incorporates the IPCC 1996 Guidelines and IPCC 2003 Good Practice Guidance should continue to be encouraged for use in the preparation of the biennial update reports;
- Most Parties stated that the content and structure of BUR would be as indicated in 1/CP.16 paragraph 60 (c), including updates of national GHG inventories, information on mitigation actions, needs, and support received. Other Parties referred to paragraph 64 as providing further elaboration of the content of biennial reports.

Summary of the ideas on the way forward

- A number of Parties called for submissions from Parties to feed into the technical expert meeting between now and fall session (if there is one) or between now and Durban;
 - A number of Parties requested the AWG-LCA to recommend to the COP to invite the GEF to provide a report outlining ways in which support could be provided for preparation of BURs and ways in which support could be delivered;
 - Some Parties requested the secretariat to prepare a technical paper on future financing options for the preparation of BURs;
 - Some Parties requested the secretariat to prepare a technical paper outlining the gaps in current guidelines for NA I parties compared to reporting requirements for NAI under the Cancun Agreements.
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