

AWG-LCA expert workshop on Technology Mechanism

4 – 5 April 2011, Conference room 1, UNCC Bangkok, Thailand

Oral Report by the Facilitator to the AWG-LCA Plenary

Distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen, dear colleagues.

- It gives me great pleasure to report to you on the results of what was an excellent workshop on the Technology Mechanism which was established in Cancun.
- The workshop was very practical and dynamic with participants presenting their ideas and exchanging views on how to achieve a fully operational Technology Mechanism by 2012. What this means is that we will need to work hard this year to define:
 - the terms of reference and governance structure for the Climate Technology Centre and Network
 - the criteria and selection procedure for the host of the Climate Technology Centre and Network
 - the relationship between the Technology Executive Committee and the Climate Technology Centre and Network to ensure coherence, and the reporting lines of these two bodies within the Convention
 - how we are going to finance the Technology Mechanism
 - how the Technology Mechanism is going to interact with other parts of the international climate change architecture in the most efficient and effective way
- Consistent with the information note provided by the AWG-LCA Chair, the workshop was organized in a brainstorming mode to deepen understanding among Parties and generate ideas in dialogue with stakeholders, experts and relevant organizations.
- What struck me about the workshop was the high level of convergence among Parties on many aspects of the design of the Climate Technology Centre and Network. The workshop also helped to identify those issues where further dialogue among Parties is needed in order to achieve an agreed outcome in Durban.
- Many participants emphasised the need for a prompt start to Technology Mechanism. Participants suggested that the CTCN could start small and be flexible so that it can grow over time in response to the needs from developing countries.
- All participants emphasised that the Technology Mechanism must engage the private sector at many levels, and leverage its expertise and resources to accelerate and scale up technology development and transfer. The representatives of the private sector that participated in the workshop made specific suggestions on how it could contribute to the Technology Mechanism.

On the Governance and Terms of Reference of the CTCN

- Participants generated many ideas on how to achieve both accountability and a flexible and innovative CTCN that is responsive to the needs of Parties and responsible to the Convention. From the discussion many possible elements of the Terms of Reference for the Climate Technology Centre and Network were identified.
- Another key point was the role of national institutions in relation to the CTCN to ensure a country driven approach and to build in-country capacity over the long term.

On the selection process for the host

- Regarding the procedure for call for proposals for the host of the CTCN, participants emphasised the need for transparency and for a well defined set of criteria. Participants suggested specific ideas for a list of criteria that will be useful as we begin our discussions in the more formal setting of the AWG-LCA.

On the relationship between the Technology Executive Committee and the Climate Technology Centre and Network

- There were different views on the role of the Technology Executive Committee in guiding or governing the Climate Technology Centre and Network. Participants emphasised the importance of achieving a coherent Technology Mechanism.

On the issue of financing the Technology Mechanism

- All participants emphasised the need to ensure adequate and stable financial support for the operations of the Technology Mechanism, including for the services that would be provided by the Climate Technology Centre and Network.
- There is a need to identify sources of finance in the short term for the prompt start of the Mechanism, as well as long term sources that will allow it to grow and develop in response to the needs of Parties. The question of whether a specific funding window for technology development and transfer was discussed.

On the links between the Technology Mechanism and other parts of the UNFCCC climate change architecture

- Participants were of the view that the Technology Mechanism would be an important part of the international climate change architecture that would need to interact with all other components, particularly the bodies supporting adaptation, mitigation and finance. The focus should be on efficient and direct linkages that do not create additional layers of complexity.
- Participants were of the view that the Technology Mechanism would have a key role in assisting Parties, at their request, in developing technology initiatives, and in preparing and implementing Low Emission Development Strategies, Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions and National Adaptation Plans and actions.

Road map to Durban

- Many participants emphasised the importance of having a clear road map on the way to Durban that would enable a decision to make the Technology Mechanism fully operational in 2012. Participants had specific suggestions on the process, sequencing of discussions, and technical inputs from the secretariat and Parties that would be required. It was proposed that Parties focus on the road map for Durban here in Bangkok.
- The workshop demonstrated how we can use video conferencing to bring experts from around the world to participate in the workshop, while saving money and avoiding greenhouse gas emissions. Further consideration could be given to how we can use video conferencing to reduce the carbon footprint of our process.
- I would like to thank all those who participated in the workshop, particularly those Parties that made presentations and actively engaged in the discussion. I would also like to thank the intergovernmental organizations, stakeholders and international experts that made presentations and contributed to the panel discussion.