
President's informal stocktaking plenary

Statement by H.E. Mr. Abdullah Bin Hamad Al-Attiyah, COP 18/CMP 8 President

5 December 2012

I welcome you to this informal gathering. As of this moment, we have less than 48 hours until the closing of the Doha conference on Friday.

Due to time constraints, I have called the meeting today for only 30 minutes in order to provide an information update on the status of work. I am committed to be open and transparent. I also want to ensure that there are no delays to ongoing negotiations. After updates from the Chairs and co-Chairs of the bodies, I will ask Ministers to report on the results of their outreach on Kyoto Protocol issues to date.

I am pleased to inform you that work under the COP and the CMP is moving smoothly. Many issues have been finalized. There are just a few outstanding issues to conclude. I thank you all for your hard work and I urge the facilitators to do your best to conclude remaining issues.

As you may recall, in response to a request by the Chair of the AWG-KP, I invited H.E. Mr. Luiz Machado from Brazil and H.E. Mr. Bard Vegar Solhjell from Norway to conduct ministerial outreach with an initial focus on the following two issues: access to the mechanisms by Kyoto Protocol Parties who will not be taking commitments in the CP2, and extending the share of proceeds to other Kyoto Protocol mechanisms.

I have heard the reports of the Chairs and I see that some of the issues continue to be difficult. The Chairs have also identified issues that require ministerial outreach. Consequently, I have requested some additional ministers to assist me. For finance, I have asked Her Excellency Ms. Mariyam Shakeela from Maldives, and His Excellency Mr. Bruno Oberle from Switzerland to assist in the form of ministerial outreach on key finance issues that cut across bodies – the COP and the AWG-LCA. These outreach efforts will not duplicate the work taking place by the AWG-LCA Chair and the finance co-chairs under the COP.

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For issues related to reporting guidelines, I have asked for assistance from Her Excellency Ms. Fatou Gaye from Gambia and His Excellency Mark Dreyfus from Australia. For Loss and Damage issues I count on the assistance of Her Excellency Minister Edna Molewa from South Africa. I have also asked Her Excellency, Ambassador Maria Socorro from Mexico, to assist with remaining issues relating to the composition of the advisory board of the Climate Technology Centre and Network. Finally, I have requested the two Ministers who are dealing with Kyoto Protocol issues, Bard and Luis, to also take on the related item of Reporting and Review by Annex I Parties under Articles 5, 7, 8 and to facilitate resolution of any outstanding issues related to item 4 on the agenda of the CMP as the need arises.

I would like to thank them all for accepting to take on these responsibilities. I count on them to help bring the Parties together on these important issues, and expect to hear their reports on their contacts at our next informal plenary.

There is very little time left. I urge you all to be bold in your thinking in order to address the global threat of climate change. You must increase your efforts to find common ground. We must use the next 48 hours to find solutions. Following this meeting, the AWG-KP will hold its closing meeting this evening. On Thursday, the AWG-LCA and the ADP will also close. I urge you all to conclude your work with the goodwill that has been with us over the last 8 days. Your efforts have shown that it is possible to push through and reach common ground here in Doha. I will continue to closely monitor the state of progress and I propose further steps to help ensure that conference closes on time. The next informal stocktaking plenary will be held tomorrow. I thank you all very much for your support. This brings us to the end of our meeting.