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MESSAGE TO PARTIES

Communication of intended nationally determined contributions

I would like to draw the attention of all Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to the process of communication of intended nationally determined contributions (INDCs).

The Conference of the Parties (COP), by its decision 1/CP.19, invited all Parties to initiate or intensify domestic preparations for their INDCs towards achieving the objective of the Convention as set out in its Article 2, without prejudice to the legal nature of the contributions, in the context of adopting a protocol, another legal instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force under the Convention applicable to all Parties.

The COP, by its decisions 1/CP.19 and 1/CP.20, invited all Parties to communicate to the secretariat their INDCs well in advance of COP 21 (by the first quarter of 2015 by those Parties ready to do so) in a manner that facilitates the clarity, transparency and understanding of the INDCs.

In decision 1/CP.20 it is further specified that in order to facilitate clarity, transparency and understanding, the information provided by Parties communicating their INDC may include, as appropriate, the following, inter alia:

- Quantifiable information on the reference point (including, as appropriate, a base year);
- Time frames and/or periods for implementation;
- Scope and coverage;
- Planning processes;
- Assumptions and methodological approaches including those for estimating and accounting for anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions and, as appropriate, removals; and
- How the Party considers that its INDC is fair and ambitious, in light of its national circumstances, and how it contributes towards achieving the objective of the Convention as set out in its Article 2.

Distribution: This notification is being sent to all Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). It is addressed to their national focal points for climate change.



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In the same decision, the COP requested the secretariat to publish on the UNFCCC website the INDCs as communicated.

In order to facilitate the communication of INDCs and their publication, the secretariat has made arrangements within the existing UNFCCC submission portal, which can be accessed at the following web address:

<<https://process.unfccc.int/sites/submissions/indc/Submission%20Pages/MySubmissions.aspx>>.

All INDCs, as communicated by Parties, will be published on the UNFCCC website at the following web address:

<www4.unfccc.int/submissions/indc>.

Parties are invited to access the web page given above to communicate their INDCs to the secretariat. The UNFCCC submission portal is publicly accessible; however, access rights are required for Parties to communicate their INDCs and manage related documentation. The procedure for obtaining such rights and login credentials is the same as for the UNFCCC submission portal. Please note that no new application is required for Parties that have already obtained these access rights and credentials. To request access rights and credentials, national focal points can obtain them by contacting the secretariat at <INDCs@unfccc.int>. Parties can also use this e-mail address to contact the secretariat in case they encounter difficulties with the communication of their INDC through the UNFCCC submission portal.

Additional information on INDCs is available on the INDC web page:

<<http://unfccc.int/8766.php>>.

The secretariat prepared this notification with a view to assisting Parties in communicating their INDCs in a manner that facilitates their clarity, transparency and understanding, in accordance with the relevant decisions of the COP. The annex contains an overview of provisions relevant to the communication and publication of INDCs, as well as further information on the INDC web page. Any questions or requests for clarification can be addressed directly to the secretariat at <INDCs@unfccc.int>.

The preparation and communication of INDCs by all Parties constitutes a major step in the process of adopting a protocol, another legal instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force under the Convention applicable to all Parties at COP 21, at the end of this year in Paris. The secretariat is committed to supporting Parties as they implement their decisions and communicate their INDCs.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed by John Kilani for)

Christiana Figueres



Annex

I. Overview of provisions relevant to intended nationally determined contributions

This annex contains an overview of the provisions of decisions of the COP related to INDCs, as well as of those provisions that are specific to the communication and publication of INDCs.

Overview of provisions on INDCs

Decision 1/CP.19

In paragraph 2(b), the COP invited all Parties to initiate or intensify domestic preparations for their INDCs and to communicate them well in advance of COP 21 (by the first quarter of 2015 by those Parties ready to do so) in a manner that facilitates the clarity, transparency and understanding of the INDCs.

In paragraph 2(c), the COP requested the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action to identify, by COP 20, the information that Parties will provide when putting forward their contributions, without prejudice to the legal nature of the contributions referred to in paragraph 2(b) of this decision.

In paragraph 2(d), the COP urged and requested developed country Parties, the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism and any other organizations in a position to do so to provide support for the activities referred to in paragraphs 2(b) and (c) of this decision as early as possible in 2014.

Decision 1/CP.20

In paragraph 8, the COP noted that the arrangements specified in this decision in relation to INDCs are without prejudice to the legal nature and content of the INDCs of Parties or to the content of the protocol, another legal instrument or agreed outcome with legal force under the Convention applicable to all Parties.

In paragraph 9, the COP reiterated its invitation to each Party to communicate to the secretariat its INDCs towards achieving the objective of the Convention as set out in its Article 2.

In paragraph 10, the COP agreed that each Party's INDC towards achieving the objective of the Convention as set out in its Article 2 will represent a progression beyond the current undertaking of that Party.

In paragraph 11, the COP also agreed that the least developed countries and Small Island developing States may communicate information on strategies, plans and actions for low greenhouse gas emission development reflecting their special circumstances in the context of INDCs.

In paragraph 12, the COP invited all Parties to consider communicating their undertakings in adaptation planning or consider including an adaptation component in their INDCs.

In paragraph 13, the COP reiterated its invitation to all Parties to communicate their INDCs well in advance of COP 21 (by the first quarter of 2015 by those Parties ready to do so) in a manner that facilitates the clarity, transparency and understanding of the INDCs.



In paragraph 14, the COP agreed that the information to be provided by Parties communicating their INDCs, in order to facilitate clarity, transparency and understanding, may include, as appropriate, inter alia:

- Quantifiable information on the reference point (including, as appropriate, a base year);
- Time frames and/or periods for implementation;
- Scope and coverage;
- Planning processes;
- Assumptions and methodological approaches including those for estimating and accounting for anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions and, as appropriate, removals; and
- Information on how the Party considers that its INDC is fair and ambitious, in light of its national circumstances, and how it contributes towards achieving the objective of the Convention as set out in its Article 2.

In paragraph 15, the COP reiterated its call to developed country Parties, the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism and any other organizations in a position to do so to provide support for the preparation and communication of the INDCs of Parties that may need such support.

In paragraph 16, the COP requested the secretariat to:

- Publish on the UNFCCC website the INDCs as communicated;
- Prepare by 1 November 2015 a synthesis report on the aggregate effect of the INDCs communicated by Parties by 1 October 2015.

Provisions on the communication and publication of INDCs

Decision 1/CP.19

In paragraph 2(b), the COP invited all Parties to communicate their INDCs well in advance of COP 21 (by the first quarter of 2015 by those Parties ready to do so) in a manner that facilitates the clarity, transparency and understanding of the intended contributions, without prejudice to the legal nature of the contributions.

Decision 1/CP.20

In paragraph 9, the COP reiterated its invitation to each Party to communicate to the secretariat its INDC towards achieving the objective of the Convention as set out in its Article 2.

In paragraph 13, the COP reiterated its invitation to all Parties to communicate INDCs well in advance of COP 21 (by the first quarter of 2015 by those Parties ready to do so) in a manner that facilitates the clarity, transparency and understanding of the INDCs.

In paragraph 16(a), the COP requested the secretariat to publish on the UNFCCC website the INDCs as communicated.



II. How to navigate the INDC web page

STEP 1: Go to UNFCCC home page <<http://unfccc.int/2860.php>>



STEP 2: Upload your INDCs via online submission portal



STEP 3: View all submitted INDCs by Parties

