

The 2013 – 2015 Review

Submission by the Environmental Integrity Group EIG

- In Cancun, at the occasion of COP 16, the international community set the goal to limit global warming below 2 degrees Celsius with regard to pre-industrial levels.
- It is crucial that the progress toward implementing that goal is thoroughly documented and reviewed; this includes – and in line with COP-decisions – considering the necessity to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius.
- The relevant decisions approved in Cancun (COP 16), Durban (COP 17) and Doha (COP 18) provide clear guidance for the 2013-2015 Review.
- The EIG welcomes the progress of the work on the Review, in particular through the Structured Expert Dialogue SED.
- The EIG equally welcomes the publication of the Working Group I, II and III Reports as contributions to the IPCC Fifth Assessment Report (AR5). They provide a comprehensive assessment of the physical science and the impacts of climate change.

- EIG-member countries are grateful to the Co-facilitators of the SED for moving forward the work on the Review and for organizing, with the valuable help of the UNFCCC-Secretariat, opportunities at the UNFCCC meetings for an exchange with a number of key scientists involved in the IPCC AR5. We equally value the availability of these scientists.
- We count on the SED, under the able guidance of the Co-facilitators, to continue offering such opportunities for exchange with the scientific community and for the provision of indispensable insights at all the upcoming meetings throughout the year, i.e. both at meetings of the SBs and the ADP, as well as at the COP, thus ensuring a Review that is guided by and relies on the latest available science.
- With the work under the ADP taking its course, it is crucial for all results drawn from the SED to be made available to all the Parties in an expeditious way. We thank the UNFCCC-Secretariat, which has already promised to do so, for its valued commitment in that regard.

- The relevant decisions referred to above clearly determine the focus of the Review: With the global goal specified, and based on the most recent scientific knowledge, the international community shall seek to assess (a) if the global goal set at below 2 degrees Celsius is indeed sufficient to reach the ultimate objective of the Convention [adequacy of the global goal] and (b) if the international community is on track to reach the global goal and which recommendations are to be formulated for both pre-2020 mitigation and the content of the 2015 Agreement.
- To do so – and with the help of the UNFCCC Secretariat – it will be necessary to take into account the information communicated by Parties on their GHG inventories, their policies and measures as well as their pledges for future reductions. This information will allow a better understanding of past, present and future mitigation efforts by Parties in view of reaching the global goal.
- COP 16 adopted the target to limit global temperature increase without determining quantified reduction targets and pathways. The AR5 has provided valuable information on the relationship between cumulative emissions and global temperature increase. This information, which is highly relevant to the implementation of article 2 of the Convention, has to be taken into account in the 2013-2015 Review.
- Furthermore, Decision 1/CP.18, para. 79 (b) refers to overall progress made towards achieving this long-term global goal, including a consideration of the implementation of the commitments under the Convention. The EIG countries are keen to address these aspects, as appropriate, in the corresponding implementing bodies of the Convention. Experiences gained by Parties in the process of implementation, and introduced in these bodies, will further add to the wealth of knowledge benefitting the Review. These bodies shall inform the Review process in due course.
- The EIG looks forward to fully engaging with all other Parties in a well-directed and successful Review process that shall ultimately guide the international community to reach the ultimate [overall] objective under the Convention.