



UNITED
NATIONS



Framework Convention
on Climate Change

Distr.
GENERAL

FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/5
17 May 2010

Original: ENGLISH

**AD HOC WORKING GROUP ON LONG-TERM COOPERATIVE ACTION
UNDER THE CONVENTION**

Tenth session

Bonn, 1–11 June 2010

Item 2 (b) of the provisional agenda

Organizational matters

Organization of the work of the session

Scenario note on the tenth session

Note by the Chair*

I. Introduction

1. At its fifteenth session, the Conference of the Parties (COP) decided to extend the mandate of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention (AWG-LCA) to enable it to continue its work with a view to presenting the outcome of its work to the COP for adoption at its sixteenth session.¹

2. The tenth session of the AWG-LCA will be held in Bonn, Germany, from 1 to 11 June 2010. The secretariat has issued annotations to the provisional agenda for the session.² Through this note, the Chair of the AWG-LCA wishes to share with delegations some initial ideas on the objective and the organization of the work of the tenth session and to propose an indicative road map as requested by the AWG-LCA at its ninth session.³

II. Overview and organizational matters

A. Documents prepared for the session

3. At its ninth session, the AWG-LCA adopted conclusions on the organization and methods of its work for 2010.⁴ At its tenth session, the AWG-LCA will resume and further intensify the substantive negotiations towards an agreed outcome to be adopted by the COP at its sixteenth session.

* This document was submitted after the due date owing to the short interval between the ninth and tenth sessions of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention.

¹ Decision 1/CP.15, paragraph 1.

² FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/4.

³ FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/3, paragraph 24.

⁴ FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/3, paragraphs 19–30.

4. The Chair was invited to prepare, under her own responsibility, a text to facilitate negotiations among Parties, drawing on the report of the AWG-LCA presented to the COP at its fifteenth session, as well as work undertaken by the COP on the basis of that report.⁵ The text prepared by the Chair is contained in document FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/6.

5. The AWG-LCA also invited Parties to make submissions containing additional views, which the Chair may draw upon in the preparation of her draft text for consideration by Parties at its tenth session.⁶ These submissions have been compiled in document FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/MISC.2 and Add.1.

6. The Chair acknowledges the valuable contribution made by Parties through their submissions and encourages all delegates to study them. The submissions highlight key issues and contain guidance which the Chair has drawn upon in the preparation of the text referred to in paragraph 4 above. Some of the submissions also include proposals for text, most of which are elaborations on various elements contained in other sources that the Chair was requested to draw upon.

B. Indicative road map

7. The AWG-LCA invited the Chair to propose an indicative road map and invited Parties to submit their views on this matter.⁷ Submissions received in this regard are contained in document FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/MISC.3.

8. The Chair is of the view that a road map to the Cancun conference should focus on offering an overall direction to the work of the AWG-LCA and contribute to the effective management of the negotiation process towards the objective of presenting an outcome for adoption by the COP at its sixteenth session to enable the full, effective and sustained implementation of the Convention through long-term cooperative action now, up to and beyond 2012.

9. The AWG-LCA can build upon significant progress made over the last two years in a number of areas where negotiations have advanced towards well developed texts. Operational aspects in these texts now need to be further advanced in order to enable immediate implementation. Many of the unresolved issues in these texts are interdependent and some outstanding questions affect more than one thematic area. The Chair therefore suggests that central operational questions, such as the relationship of proposed institutional arrangements for adaptation, mitigation, technology and capacity building to the emerging institutional arrangements for financial support, require special attention at this stage in the work of the AWG-LCA.

10. Parties have expressed interest in concluding work on implementation modalities in 2010. In cases where such modalities will not have been concluded in 2010, a process with clear time lines for the resolution of any issues should be put in place (including through the elaboration of a work programme and invitations to other subsidiary bodies, as appropriate).

11. The negotiating text still contains options on several central questions related to mitigation, finance and the measurement, reporting and verification of action and support. The aim of the AWG-LCA should be to resolve these questions to the extent possible. In cases where this should prove not to be achievable, the AWG-LCA would need to identify a clear and limited set of remaining political choices. Parties may also wish to recall that the COP, at its fifteenth session, requested the Presidency of

⁵ FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/3, paragraphs 17 and 22.

⁶ FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/3, paragraph 23.

⁷ FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/3, paragraph 24.

COP 16 to make the necessary arrangements in order to facilitate the work towards the success of that session.⁸

12. The form and legal nature of the outcome to be presented to the COP at its sixteenth session has implications for the work of the AWG-LCA. Many Parties have stated that their longer-term objective is to work towards a new legally binding agreement under the Convention and some have stated their expectation that this objective could be achieved by COP 16. Other Parties see the outcome that is to be presented at COP 16 as consisting of a comprehensive and balanced set of decisions. Both alternatives may call for some additional work to be done in 2011. To ensure the continuity of the work, the Chair decided to maintain the approach adopted by the AWG-LCA in 2009.⁹ The work of the AWG-LCA would be facilitated if Parties could soon come to a common understanding on the form of the outcome to be presented at COP 16 and on its eventual legal nature.

13. The available time is limited and the AWG-LCA will need to make effective use of it. Milestones that could guide the AWG-LCA in its work towards the outcome to be presented at COP 16 may include: an initial focused discussion at the tenth session of the AWG-LCA on central operational questions, interdependent issues and issues that may require further elaboration and subsequent development of text as outlined in paragraphs 9 and 11 above; finding mutually agreeable ways of proceeding and capturing them in the text; further advancing text in drafting groups with clearly defined and time-bound tasks; and identifying a limited set of remaining political choices.

C. Organization of the work of the session

14. The AWG-LCA will meet in an opening plenary on Tuesday, 1 June, to launch its work. The Chair will introduce the text prepared for the session and open the floor for an initial exchange of views.

15. In the light of the wish expressed by Parties that the AWG-LCA be informed about initiatives taken intersessionally by Parties that are of direct relevance to the negotiations under the AWG-LCA, the Chair would like to give Parties the opportunity to share with delegates information about the outcomes of such initiatives. These might include the World People's Conference on Climate Change and the Rights of Mother Earth held in Cochabamba, Bolivia, on 19–22 April, the outcomes of which have been included in a submission by Bolivia,¹⁰ the Petersberg Climate Dialogue held in Bonn, Germany, on 2–4 May, and the informal consultations held in Mexico City, Mexico, on 20–21 May.

16. Following consultations at the ninth session of the AWG-LCA, the Chair will propose that the AWG-LCA organize its work in a single contact group, which, as is common practice, would be open to all Parties and to observer organizations. The contact group would be chaired by the Chair of the AWG-LCA and would address, to the extent possible, the full spectrum of issues under consideration by the AWG-LCA, through focused thematic discussions, guided by specific questions. It is the intention of the Chair to focus on bridging positions and finding mutually agreeable ways of proceeding. Where there is progress in the discussions, such progress would be reflected in further iterations of the text at the appropriate time, which may include partially revising or updating parts of the text through the issuance of non-papers during the tenth session of the AWG-LCA.

17. In order to facilitate discussion and allow Parties to prepare and coordinate, the Chair will inform Parties in advance of the issues proposed to be addressed at each meeting of the contact group.

⁸ Decision 1/CP.15, paragraph 3.

⁹ The Chair has outlined the approach in the introduction to the text contained in document FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/6.

¹⁰ See document FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/MISC.2, as referred to in paragraph 5 above.

18. In some cases, the Chair may seek the assistance of delegates in order to allow the continuation of the discussions as needed. The results of such discussions would be reported back to the contact group to ensure the transparency, integration and coherence of the work.

19. A closing plenary is scheduled for Friday, 11 June.
