Scenario note on the eleventh 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 eleventh session of the AWG-LCA will be held in Bonn, Germany, from 2 to 6 August 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 her initial views on the objective and organization of the work of the eleventh session, in the context of an indicative road map as requested by the AWG-LCA at its ninth session.³

3. During this short session of only five working days, the AWG-LCA will need to advance its work significantly, building on the progress made, through focussed and targeted work on text. With only one further session of the AWG-LCA between the August session and the sixteenth session of the COP, efficient use of time will be essential.

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¹ Decision 1/CP.15, paragraph 1.

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

A. Documents prepared for the session

4. At its tenth session, the AWG-LCA considered a text to facilitate negotiations among Parties, prepared by its Chair in response to the invitation by the AWG-LCA at its ninth session. In the context of a general policy debate in a plenary setting, in meetings of the contact group dedicated to thematic areas as well as in informal spin-off groups on specific topics, good progress was made on many issues in the text.

5. For the eleventh session, the Chair has prepared a second iteration of the text to facilitate negotiations among Parties which reflects her sense of the progress made by the AWG-LCA at its tenth session. This text is contained in document FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/8.

6. All elements of this text are subject to negotiations and it is only through such negotiations among Parties that balance can be established and coherence throughout the text be achieved to allow an outcome to be agreed and presented to the COP for adoption at its sixteenth session.

B. Organization of the work of the session

7. The AWG-LCA will meet in an opening plenary on 2 August. As in previous sessions in 2010, Parties will be invited to share information about initiatives relevant to the negotiations under the AWG-LCA, as well as the outcomes of such initiatives.

8. Building on the organization of work agreed at the tenth session, the Chair proposes that the AWG-LCA continue to work in a single contact group, which is open to all Parties and to observer organizations, and that this contact group launch spin-off groups to work on specific issues in the text. In the light of the limited time available at this session, the contact group should meet immediately following the opening plenary meeting on 2 August.

9. At the tenth session, Parties responded actively to questions posed by the Chair on specific issues in the text. This exchange provided further clarity to the issues under consideration. The Chair suggests that the work at the eleventh session focus on three tasks, namely elaboration, integration and negotiation of consensus outcomes. Elaboration is needed where elements in the text are lacking in specificity or clarity, and integration is needed where the elements are interdependent and interlinkages need to be clarified. The final step is the negotiation of consensus outcomes. Some elements in the text are ripe for that final step while other elements still need to be further elaborated and integrated.

10. In order to achieve a comprehensive and balanced outcome at COP 16, a number of areas will need focussed attention at AWG-LCA 11. These could include the issues referred to in paragraphs 11–15 below.

11. Regarding mitigation by developed countries, more detailed discussion will be needed on the framework for economy-wide mitigation targets for 2020, including arrangements to

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4 FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/6.
5 FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/3, paragraphs 17 and 22.
6 For example, it may be noted that square brackets in the text referred to in paragraph 5 do not necessarily reflect the current level of agreement on the text until it has been considered in detail by the AWG-LCA.
formalize such targets as well as the necessary measurement, reporting and verification framework and accounting rules.

12. Regarding mitigation by developing countries, negotiations should build on the good progress made at the tenth session by further clarifying concepts relating to the measurement, reporting and verification of actions, including international consultation and analysis, as well as enhanced support for mitigation actions and their measurement, reporting and verification, so that sufficient clarity and convergence on how these concepts would be operationalized is achieved by COP 16.

13. The AWG-LCA, at its tenth session, benefited from a useful and focused discussion on institutional arrangements for financing. This discussion needs to advance further and be broadened to address the links between the institutional arrangements for finance and the thematic institutions proposed for adaptation, technology, capacity-building, and the various mitigation aspects; this includes questions related to matching of action with support. It will be important to develop a clear understanding of how the various arrangements can be made to fit together in a comprehensive, coherent and effective architecture.

14. In addition, targeted work on arrangements for financial support needs to continue. This includes working towards a new fund, its governance and operational modalities, as well as ensuring coherence and coordination in providing financial support.

15. Regarding various approaches, including opportunities for using markets, to enhance the cost-effectiveness of, and to promote, mitigation actions, the second iteration of the text prepared for the eleventh session of the AWG-LCA contains a proposal by the Chair, building on the constructive discussion at the tenth session on the principles that could guide such approaches and on possible international action in this area. The Chair is keen to receive feedback on the usefulness of the proposed approach in the text and to see this text advance towards agreement.

16. More generally, the AWG-LCA should conclude its work on implementation modalities for all elements of the outcome, to the extent possible, and, in cases where such modalities will not be fully elaborated this year, a clear work plan including the timelines and process for concluding the resolution of any outstanding issues and modalities should be established. The AWG-LCA could initiate, at its eleventh session, the identification of follow-up work that may be needed, and, at its twelfth session, the elaboration of a work programme, including invitations for work to be undertaken by other subsidiary bodies, as appropriate.

17. At the twelfth session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Further Commitments for Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol (AWG-KP) and the tenth session of the AWG-LCA, consultations were held on a proposal by Parties to address issues of common concern to the AWG-KP and the AWG-LCA. In consultation with the Chair of the AWG-KP, the Chair proposes to continue the consultations on this proposal at this session.

18. Furthermore, the process of working towards an agreed text would greatly benefit from clarity on the form of the outcome and on the legal nature of the obligations, commitments and actions Parties will agree to undertake. The Presidency of COP 16 commenced informal consultations on this matter at AWG-LCA 10 at the invitation by the Chair of the AWG-LCA and agreed to continue consultations at AWG-LCA 11.

19. The Chair will seek assistance from delegates to facilitate work at this session as needed. Progress made will be captured during the session by making draft texts arising from the work
available at the documents counter as these become available. These draft texts would be included in the next iteration of the text to facilitate negotiations at AWG-LCA 12.

20. A brief closing plenary is scheduled for Friday, 6 August.