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Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention

Report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention on its thirteenth session, held in Cancun from 29 November to 10 December 2010

Contents

	<i>Paragraphs</i>	<i>Page</i>
I. Opening of the session (Agenda item 1)	1–3	2
II. Organizational matters (Agenda item 2)	4–7	2
A. Adoption of the agenda	4–5	2
B. Organization of the work of the session	6–7	2
III. Preparation of an outcome to be presented to the Conference of the Parties for adoption 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 (Agenda item 3)	8–25	3
IV. Other matters (Agenda item 4)	26	5
V. Report on the session (Agenda item 5)	27	5
VI. Closure of the session	28	5

Annex

Documents before the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention at its thirteenth session.....	6
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I. Opening of the session

(Agenda item 1)

1. The thirteenth session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention (AWG-LCA) was held at the Moon Palace Hotel, Cancun, Mexico, from 29 November to 10 December 2010.
2. The Chair of the AWG-LCA, Ms. Margaret Mukahanana-Sangarwe (Zimbabwe), opened the session and welcomed all Parties and observers. She also welcomed Mr. Daniel A. Reifsnyder (United States of America) as Vice-Chair of the AWG-LCA.
3. The Chair expressed appreciation to the Government of the United Mexican States for the excellent arrangements made for the session.

II. Organizational matters

(Agenda item 2)

A. Adoption of the agenda

(Agenda item 2 (a))

4. At its 1st meeting, on 29 November, the AWG-LCA considered a note by the Executive Secretary containing the provisional agenda and annotations (FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/16).
5. At the same meeting, the agenda was adopted as follows:
 1. Opening of the session.
 2. Organizational matters:
 - (a) Adoption of the agenda;
 - (b) Organization of the work of the session.
 3. Preparation of an outcome to be presented to the Conference of the Parties for adoption 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.
 4. Other matters.
 5. Report on the session.

B. Organization of the work of the session

(Agenda item 2 (b))

6. The AWG-LCA considered this sub-item at its 1st meeting. It had before it document FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/17. The Chair proposed that the AWG-LCA begin by taking up agenda item 3, followed by items 4 and 5.
7. The Chair further proposed that additional matters regarding the organization of the work of the session be taken up under agenda item 3. The AWG-LCA agreed to the proposed organization of work.

III. Preparation of an outcome to be presented to the Conference of the Parties for adoption 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

(Agenda item 3)

1. Proceedings

8. The AWG-LCA considered this item at its 1st and 2nd meetings, on 29 November and 10 December, respectively. At its 1st meeting, the AWG-LCA had before it documents FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/17, FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/14, FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/INF.1, FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/CRP.1, FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/MISC.8 and Add.1, and FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/MISC.9 and Add.1.

9. At its 1st meeting, the Chair of the AWG-LCA invited Parties to present the outcomes of initiatives taken by Parties between the twelfth and thirteenth sessions of the AWG-LCA that are of direct relevance to the negotiations under the AWG-LCA. Four Parties provided information on recent initiatives, including one speaking on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS). Mr. Juan Rafael Elvira Quesada (Mexico) informed delegates of activities undertaken by Mexico in order to facilitate work towards the success of the sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP).

10. The Chair recalled the results of the consultations on expectations of Parties for the outcome of the work of the AWG-LCA in Cancun, which revealed a shared desire for a balanced and comprehensive outcome and also a common understanding among Parties that the Cancun outcome should not prejudge prospects for, or the content of, a legally binding outcome in the future.

11. The Chair proposed that the AWG-LCA work towards one draft decision encompassing the full scope of the AWG-LCA outcome, as, in her view, this approach would facilitate the efforts of the AWG-LCA to achieve a balanced outcome.

12. The Chair drew the attention of delegates to document FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/CRP.1 containing possible elements of the Cancun outcome, prepared by the Chair in order to help the negotiations to move forward. The Chair also stated that not all the elements contained in this document were fully elaborated, reflecting the state of progress of the negotiations, in which some issues were more advanced than others. The Chair further clarified that this document had no formal status and was not to replace the negotiating text contained in document FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/14.

13. The Chair restated her commitment to lead and guide the work of the AWG-LCA and to help Parties in resolving outstanding issues. The Chair also informed delegates of the willingness expressed by the President of the COP at its sixteenth session to assist Parties to arrive at outcomes in the negotiations under the ad hoc working groups by undertaking consultations with Parties on outstanding issues.

14. At the same meeting, the AWG-LCA agreed to establish one contact group for its thirteenth session, on agenda item 3, chaired by the Chair of the AWG-LCA.

15. The AWG-LCA agreed that informal consultations would be convened by the Vice-Chair of the AWG-LCA on issues that had been raised by Parties included in Annex I to the Convention (Annex I Parties) undergoing the process of transition to a market economy and Annex I Parties whose special circumstances are recognized by the COP.

16. Also at the 1st meeting, statements were made by representatives of 15 Parties, including one speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, one on behalf of the least developed countries, one on behalf of AOSIS, one on behalf of the African Group, one on behalf of the European Union and its member States, one on behalf of the Umbrella Group, one on behalf of the Environmental Integrity Group, one on behalf of the League of Arab States, one on behalf of the Coalition of Rainforest Nations, one on behalf of six Parties from the Bolivarian Alliance for the Peoples of Our America – Peoples' Trade Treaty, one on behalf of eight Parties from the Central American Integration System, one in its capacity as Chair of the Francophone Group, one on behalf of 14 Parties from the Pacific small island developing States and one on behalf of seven Parties. Statements were also made on behalf of business and industry non-governmental organizations (NGOs), environmental NGOs, indigenous peoples organizations, local government and municipal authorities, trade union NGOs, women and gender NGOs, and youth NGOs.

17. At its 2nd meeting, on 10 December, the AWG-LCA considered the draft text tabled on the same day by the President of COP 16. At the outset, the Chair underlined that the work of the AWG-LCA at its thirteenth session had been conducted in close collaboration with the President of COP 16 in order to enable negotiations to run smoothly and in a transparent and inclusive manner.

18. The Chair added that the progress made during the session had been assessed in several open-ended stock-taking meetings organized by the President of COP 16 and had also been captured in draft texts as well as in notes by the Chair that were made available to Parties as documents FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/CRP.2 and FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/CRP.3 on 4 December and 8 December, respectively. These texts were issued during the session in order to inform all Parties on the state of negotiations.

19. At the same meeting, the AWG-LCA agreed to forward the draft decision contained in the draft text referred to in paragraph 17 above to the COP for adoption.

20. The Chair informed delegates that the submissions received from Parties during the thirteenth session of the AWG-LCA would be compiled into an addendum to document FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/MISC.8.

21. At the same meeting, statements were made by representatives of six Parties.

22. A representative of the Plurinational State of Bolivia stated that it should be placed on the record that the country was not in agreement with the text referred to in paragraph 17 above, and as a result no consensus existed for its adoption. The Plurinational State of Bolivia further stated its understanding, which it also requested be placed on the record, that the document is only being passed to the COP for adoption, that there is no consensus with regard to the document and that it has not been adopted by the AWG-LCA. The Chair assured the representative of the Plurinational State of Bolivia that the views expressed would be reflected in the record of the proceedings.

23. A representative of Egypt stated that Egypt wanted it put on the record that it had proposed during consultations on the relevant section of the draft decision text different formulations for paragraph 60 (a) and (c), namely "The content and frequency of national communications from non-Annex I Parties will be less onerous than that for Parties included in Annex I to the Convention" and "Developing countries, consistent with their capabilities and the level of support provided for reporting, may also submit biennial update reports, containing updates of national greenhouse gas inventories including a national inventory report and information on mitigation actions, needs and support received".

24. The Chair thanked the President of COP 16 and her team for their efforts, support and guidance during the session. She also thanked the Vice-Chair of the AWG-LCA for his valuable assistance at the thirteenth session and throughout the year. The Chair also

thanked the delegates who facilitated the work of the AWG-LCA at the thirteenth session and at the previous sessions for their valuable contribution to the progress made. The Chair further thanked all delegates present at the meeting.

2. Conclusions

25. The AWG-LCA decided to forward to the COP at its sixteenth session a draft decision on the outcome of the work of the AWG-LCA,¹ as orally amended during the course of the meeting, for consideration and adoption.

IV. Other matters

(Agenda item 4)

26. No other matters were raised or considered.

V. Report on the session

(Agenda item 5)

27. At its 2nd meeting, the AWG-LCA authorized the Chair to complete the report on the session, with the assistance of the secretariat. At the same meeting, the AWG-LCA considered and adopted the draft report on its thirteenth session as orally amended in the course of the meeting.²

VI. Closure of the session

28. At its 2nd meeting, the Chair of the AWG-LCA expressed her appreciation to Parties for their support and confidence and declared the thirteenth session of the AWG-LCA closed.

¹ For the text as adopted, see document FCCC/CP/2010/7/Add.1, decision 1/CP.16.

² FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/L.6.

Annex

Documents before the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention at its thirteenth session

Documents prepared for the session

FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/14	Negotiating text. Note by the secretariat
FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/16	Provisional agenda and annotations. Note by the Executive Secretary
FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/17	Scenario note on the thirteenth session. Note by the Chair
FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/INF.1	In-session draft texts and notes by the facilitators prepared at the twelfth session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention. Note by the secretariat
FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/MISC.8 and Add.1 and 2	Preparation of an outcome to be presented to the Conference of the Parties for adoption 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. Submissions from Parties
FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/MISC.9 and Add.1	Ideas and proposals on the elements contained in paragraph 1 of the Bali Action Plan. Submissions from intergovernmental organizations
FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/CRP.1	Possible elements of the outcome. Note by the Chair
FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/CRP.2	Possible elements of the outcome. Note by the Chair
FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/CRP.3	Elements of the outcome. Note by the Chair
FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/CRP.4	Proposal on draft decisions submitted by the Plurinational State of Bolivia
FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/L.6	Draft report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention on its thirteenth session
FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/L.7	Preparation of an outcome to be presented to the Conference of the Parties for adoption 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. Draft conclusions proposed by the Chair. Recommendation by the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action

Other documents before the session

FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/15	Report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention on its twelfth session, held in Tianjin from 4 to 9 October 2010
FCCC/AWGLCA/2009/17	Report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention on its eighth session, held in Copenhagen from 7 to 15 December 2009
FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/MISC.6 and Add.1 and 2	Preparation of an outcome to be presented to the Conference of the Parties for adoption 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. Submissions from Parties
FCCC/CP/2010/2	Work undertaken by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth session on the basis of the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention
FCCC/CP/2009/11 and Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its fifteenth session, held in Copenhagen from 7 to 19 December 2009
