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English only

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

Fourteenth session, part three

Panama City, 1–7 October 2011

Agenda item 3.2.1

**Nationally appropriate mitigation commitments or actions by
developed country Parties**

Submission by Switzerland

1. On 2 October 2011, the secretariat received a submission from Switzerland. The secretariat was requested to issue a conference room paper containing this submission.
2. The submission is attached and reproduced¹ in the language in which it was received and without formal editing. This submission has also been posted on the UNFCCC website.²

¹ This submission has been electronically imported in order to make it available on electronic systems, including the World Wide Web. The secretariat has made every effort to ensure the correct reproduction of the text as submitted.

² <http://unfccc.int/meetings/ad_hoc_working_groups/lca/items/4578.php>.

Submission from Switzerland

Mitigation Pledges - steps to be taken in Durban

AWG-LCA 3.2.1.

Situation

The current ambition and form of mitigation pledges contained in documents FCCC/SB/2010/INF.1/REV.1 is insufficient as an effective regime to combat climate change in three ways:

- First, the current level of ambition does not meet recommendations by science in view of the 2 degrees target;
- Second, the pledges are unclear regarding assumptions and conditions. Thus, emission reductions are unclear;
- Third, the pledges currently are unbinding.

This applies to the pledges of both, developed and developing country Parties.

Steps to be taken in Durban

In Durban, we must take a significant step forward on all three issues:

- The ambition gap must be recognized and initially identified in Durban and understanding deepened on options and ways to increase the level of ambition (continued mitigation workshops with focus on these issues).
- Agreement on formats for developed country Parties to the aim to clarify their current pledges. The form may be a technical paper which the secretariat will compile and update on the basis of and as communicated in Parties' submissions. Thereby, the formats may differ in structure from the one on developing country Parties' pledges as mitigation action of the latter is much more diverse (see below). The format and its structure should be considered in Panama.
- Agreement on the goal of a legally binding mid-term climate regime. To continue work to this aim, a negotiating process must be launched with a view to elaborate (a) legally binding instrument(s) under the Convention. An ad hoc group may be established with a respective mandate (Durban mandate). The AWG-LCA should finish its work as mandated by the Cancun decision. Any remaining unresolved issues should be considered by the SBs. Equally, the AWG-KP should finish its work by Durban allowing for a political decision at COP17 for the continuation of the Kyoto framework and the related commitments;

Formats for clarification of mitigation pledges

Clarification of pledges is necessary in order to identify the global level of ambition and best ways to increase ambition. The formats to capture the information may be a technical paper. The secretariat should compile and update the formats on the basis of and as communicated in Parties' submissions.

Key questions regarding pledges of developed country Parties:

- land use, land-use change and forestry activities and harvested wood products;
- Consideration of bunker fuels;
- use of carbon credits from the market-based mechanisms;
- carry-over of surplus AAUs;
- GWP values and gases;;
- assumptions in projections
- any conditions related to ambition of the pledge

Outcome and deliverables of Durban and beyond - mitigation

This table presents possible objectives, steps and schedule for Durban and beyond till the conclusion of a comprehensive agreement with participation of all Parties.

	MITIGATION PLEDGES - CLARIFICATION AND AMBITION	MITIGATION PLEDGES – FORM
STEP 1: COP16 (2010)	Global long-term goal & anchoring of current pledges of Parties: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognition of 2-degrees-target Pledges: mixed unilateral / conditional 	Decision for a Pledge-Review-System: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note taken of voluntary pledges Work programme for guidelines for biennial (update) reports, IAR and ICA
STEP 2: COP17 (2011)	Recognition of ambition gap and current understanding thereon: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognition of existing ambition gap Decide on environmental integer rules for future instrument(s) and thereby lay the foundation for higher ambition Provide format for clarification on conditions of pledges <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ (updated) technical paper Request to Parties to raise their pledges according to science, including those Parties who have not yet submitted any pledges to the UNFCCC 	Operationalisation of Pledge-Review-System: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adoption of guidelines for Review system (biennial, IAR, ICA) Reference to pledges in .INF document
		Clarification of the outcome of further work on the legal form(s) of the new climate regime: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment of an ad hoc group mandated (Durban mandate) to elaborate (a) legally binding instrument(s) for consideration to the COP18/19, including all Parties respecting CBDR in their commitments Agreement on continuation of the Kyoto Regime and the related commitments
STEP 3: COP18 (2012)	Raise in level of ambition & clarification of global level of ambition / identification of any ambition gap: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarified pledges: unilateral vs. conditional Raise the level of ambition Identify any remaining ambition gap 	Decision on the form of the new climate regime: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stocktaking in the process of the ad hoc group on the Durban mandate and further guidance to the ad hoc group for its continued work Continued commitments under the Kyoto Protocol
STEP 4: 2015	Raise the level of ambition based on review: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen the long-term goal based on the review Raise the level of ambition accordingly 	Operationalisation of the new climate regime

Draft Decision 1/CP.17 - elements on mitigation (3.2.1.)

The Conference of the Parties

Enhanced action on mitigation:

Nationally appropriate mitigation commitments or actions by developed country Parties (3.2.1.)

Emphasizing the need for deep cuts in global greenhouse gas emissions and early and urgent undertakings to accelerate and enhance the implementation of the Convention by all Parties on the basis of equity and in accordance with their common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities;

Acknowledging that the largest share of historical global emissions of greenhouse gases oriented in developed country and that, owing to this historical responsibility, developed country Parties must take the lead in combating climate change and the adverse effects thereof;

Pledges

Recalling the quantified economy-wide emission reduction targets committed to by Parties included in Annex I to the Convention as communicated by them and contained in the document FCCC/SB/2010/INF.1/REV.1.

Requests the secretariat to update the document FCCC/SB/2010/INF.1/REV.1 on the basis of Parties' submissions.

Ambition - clarification of pledges

Recognizes that there is an ambition gap of [*identification of ambition gap*] between the aggregate reduction of anthropogenic emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases not controlled by the Montreal Protocol by developed country Parties and the recommendations of the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change in view to limit global temperature increase below 2 degrees Celsius;

Urges developed country Parties to increase the ambition of their economy-wide emission reduction targets, with a view to reducing their aggregate anthropogenic emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases not controlled by the Montreal Protocol to a level consistent with that recommended by the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change;

Requests / Urges developed country Parties to clarify their targets in relation to land use, land-use change and forestry activities and harvested wood products, consideration of bunker fuels, use of carbon credits from the market-based mechanisms, carry-over of surplus AAUs, GWP values, gases, assumptions in projections and conditions related to the ambition of the pledge, and submit the information to the secretariat for compilation in the format of a technical paper by XXX or as soon as possible;

Requests the secretariat to update the technical paper on the basis of the information received from Parties;

Workshops

Requests the secretariat to organize further workshops to elaborate on options and ways to increase the level of ambition of developed country Parties' targets and provide a summary of the findings at each session of the AWG-LCA and AWG-KP and to the eighteenth Conference of the Parties;

[accounting]

[MRV]

[LCDS]