

Note by the Co-Chairs of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action on the informal additional session to be held in Bangkok, Thailand from 30 August to 5 September 2012

7 August 2012

The Conference of the Parties (COP), by its decision 1/CP.17, established the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action (ADP).

During the first part of its first session held in Bonn from 17–25 May 2012, the ADP agreed on its Bureau arrangements for 2012–2015, adopted its agenda and initiated two workstreams, one addressing matters related to paragraphs 2–6 of decision 1/CP.17 and another addressing matters related to paragraphs 7–8 of that same decision.

An informal additional session of the ADP will be convened in Bangkok, Thailand from 30 August to 5 September, which provides a valuable opportunity to prepare for the resumed first session of the ADP to be held in Doha in November.

In preparing for the informal additional session, we have reflected on the submissions made by Parties in accordance with paragraphs 5 and 8 of decision 1/CP.17¹ and the views expressed by Parties during the May session. We thank Parties and admitted observer organizations for providing additional inputs in response to our joint message issued in the information note of 25 June 2012² on how the ADP can advance its work under both workstreams in Bangkok and for the remainder of 2012.

In Bangkok, we propose to start work with a brief informal plenary on 30 August to provide an overview of the session and give groups of Parties the opportunity to make brief remarks. It is our intention to facilitate a substantive and meaningful discussion among Parties under both workstreams during the session. These discussions will be organized in a manner that facilitates interactive dialogue, through use of a roundtable format, in several parts over the course of the session. The open and inclusive interactive discussions, which we will co-chair jointly, will be open to all Parties and observer organizations.

Having considered the submissions and views expressed by Parties, we propose to structure the discussion in Bangkok as follows:

Vision for the ADP: We will invite Parties to share and explore their vision and aspirations for the ADP, the results of its work and how these results are to be achieved. It would be particularly useful if Parties could outline how they envisage the broad contours and features of the protocol, another legal instrument, or agreed outcome with legal force under the Convention applicable to all Parties. This roundtable discussion will be initiated at the beginning of the session.

Ambition: We would also like to deepen the discussion on how to enhance ambition, with the aim of building a better understanding of the mitigation gap and the opportunities to bridge that gap, the role of the means of implementation, and how to strengthen international cooperative initiatives. We draw Parties' attention to the report on the workshop on increasing the level of ambition under paragraph 8 of decision 1/CP.17³ held in Bonn, on 21 May 2012. This roundtable discussion will be initiated in the first half of the session.

¹ FCCC/ADP/2012/MISC.1 and Add.1, FCCC/ADP/2012/MISC.2, FCCC/ADP/2012/MISC.3 and Add.1.

² <http://unfccc.int/files/parties_and_observers/notifications/application/pdf/inf_note_20120627.pdf>

³ FCCC/ADP/2012/INF.1.

Principles of the Convention: We also plan to encourage a focused discussion on the elements that could frame the work of the ADP, especially how Parties envisage giving effect to the principles of the Convention in the results of the ADP's work. Many Parties have underlined the importance of the principles of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities in this context. This discussion could be informed by the workshop on equitable access to sustainable development⁴ that was held in Bonn on 16 May 2012. A roundtable discussion on this topic is planned for the second half of the session.

We will prepare summaries of the discussions under our own responsibility and make these available after the session on the UNFCCC web site.

We would also like to hold focused bilateral consultations throughout the session with groups of Parties and, time permitting, with individual Parties. We will also consult on possible next steps for the ADP, including for the remainder of 2012 and the arrangements for activities and meetings that could be undertaken in 2013, and how these could be reflected in conclusions and decisions in Doha. These consultations will be additional to those planned prior to the beginning of the session.

The session will close with a brief informal plenary meeting to be held on 5 September 2012. It is our intention to make available after the session a note that will contain our reflections on the session as a whole and look forward to Doha and beyond.

We welcome any further input from Parties in preparation for the Bangkok session and eagerly anticipate a robust exchange of ideas that will provide a sound foundation for the ADP's work.

⁴ FCCC/AWGLCA/2012/INF.3.