

Note by the Co-Chairs of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action

Reflections on the Bangkok session with a view to Doha and beyond

5 October 2012

1. The ADP has successfully launched its substantive work in Bangkok, and we commend Parties' active and interactive engagement on both workstreams. The roundtable format fulfilled its purpose and enabled rich discussions among Parties both on substance and on next steps. In September, we made available summaries of the roundtables held in Bangkok, and have also invited further inputs from Parties on how best to advance the work and focus substantive discussions.¹ We encourage Parties to reflect on the summaries before Doha.

2. In this note, we provide our reflections on the general status of work of the ADP after Bangkok with a view to Doha and beyond. We identify some key upcoming challenges, and also suggest some substantive points on which Parties might want to focus next. This note has been prepared under our own responsibility, and is without prejudice to future negotiations. It is not a basis of negotiations, but made available to Parties to help them in their preparations for Doha. At a later stage, we will make available an information note containing specific suggestions for organization of work in Doha.

3. On 26 September, we made available on the ADP page of the UNFCCC website our summary of the roundtable discussions in Bangkok under workstream 1. Under workstream 1, Parties have begun to outline their broad visions and aspirations for the ADP, discussing key characteristics and features of the new agreement; and identifying issues and questions that will require attention at future sessions. Paragraphs 6 to 26 of the summary reflect the exchange on a vision and aspirations for the ADP. Paragraphs 27 to 38 reflect views expressed by Parties on how to take the work of the ADP forward.

4. Having carefully reflected on the discussions in Bangkok, we see an interest among Parties to discuss, inter alia:

- How the principles of the Convention will be applied in the new agreement.
- How national circumstances and changes thereof should be taken into account.
- How the new agreement will be “applicable to all” in practice, including approaches to defining differentiated commitments.
- Ways to incentivize full and ambitious participation and ensure effective implementation and compliance arrangements.
- How the new agreement will strengthen the multilateral, rules based regime under the Convention.
- How the ADP will take into account relevant work being undertaken by other institutions and processes under the Convention.

¹ The summaries and the note by the Co-chairs are available at:
<http://unfccc.int/meetings/doha_nov_2012/session/7055.php>.

- Lessons learned from the implementation of the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol and other multilateral agreements.
 - Planning of the ADP's work with a focus on 2013.
5. We would like to suggest that the ADP starts by orienting its work under workstream 1 towards these issues fully recognizing that other issues will need attention as progress is made.
6. On workstream 2, Parties are engaged in an exchange on concrete options for broad measures and specific actions to enhance ambition in order to close the emissions gap to keep the increase in global average temperature below 2°C or 1.5°C. The discussion encompasses enhancing mitigation ambition, as well as aspects of adaptation and means of implementation, including finance, technology and capacity-building.
7. On 26 September, we made available on the ADP page of the UNFCCC website our summary of the roundtable discussions in Bangkok under workstream 2. Paragraphs 8 to 24 of the summary reflect the exchange of views on understanding the mitigation gap and options and ways for increasing the level of ambition of mitigation. Paragraphs 25 to 29 reflect the exchange of views on the role of means of implementation in implementing the workplan on enhancing ambition. Finally, paragraphs 30 to 45 reflect views expressed by Parties on how to take forward workstream 2.
8. Having carefully reflected on the discussions in Bangkok, we see a strong interest to discuss, inter alia:
- How to increase the ambition of existing pledges from Parties and encourage those who have not yet submitted their pledges to do so.
 - How international and national actions that are additional and are therefore supplementary to the pledges that Parties have made can be strengthened, encouraged, and supported by the Convention.
 - The role of means of implementation in increasing ambition.
 - How to catalyze actions and initiatives with the largest mitigation potential.
 - Ways to showcase ongoing initiatives and to share best practices.
 - Ways to undertake more in-depth work, including technical and quantitative analysis of options to increase ambition.
 - Ways to incentivize mitigation actions and ensure effective implementation.
 - Ways to ensure high-level engagement and stakeholder involvement.
 - How principles of the Convention² will be applied in the context of enhancing ambition.
9. We would like to suggest that the ADP starts by orienting its work under workstream 2 towards these issues fully recognizing that other issues will need attention as progress is made. As Parties have clearly stated, such discussions should be fully cognizant of and support the need for ambitious outcomes in Doha under the AWG-KP and AWG-LCA.

² Parties have raised the need to discuss matters related to all of the principles, inter alia, the principles of equity, common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, and also unilateral measures in the context of Article 3, paragraph 5.

10. In preparing for Doha, it is important to remember that the ADP is meeting parallel to six other bodies. Two of those, our sister AWGs, intend to conclude their work in Doha. This will have implications for the progress of the ADP's work in Doha.

11. In Doha Parties clearly wish the ADP to send a clear signal that it is making progress towards a new protocol, another legal instrument, or an agreed outcome with legal force, as well as towards increasing the level of ambition. It would also be important to leave Doha with a clear and agreed calendar identifying elements of work as well as immediate and practical activities for 2013. This is particularly important so that necessary arrangements for meetings can be made as soon as possible in an efficient and cost-effective manner. In order to make Doha a success, Parties will need to reach a common understanding on how to capture agreements on the two aspects above, both in terms of substance and form. One possibility to capture such results is through a set of ADP conclusions that would be accompanied by draft COP decision.

12. Parties will also need to consider what would be the best setting to prepare such outputs. In this regard, Parties have proposed, inter alia, further roundtables, contact groups, informal consultations, as well as ministerial roundtables. We have issued an invitation for further views by Parties on, inter alia, organization of work for Doha. Once we have reflected on these inputs and the views expressed by Parties in Bangkok, we will make available an information note to suggest a possible approach to organization of work. We also intend to summarize the proposals by Parties for possible workshop topics and make suggestions for how to address these proposals in Doha. Regarding the ministerial roundtables proposed by a number of Parties, we have communicated to the COP/CMP Presidency the views of Parties on such proposals.

13. In terms of organization of work in 2013, there is interest in inter-sessional meetings in 2013, and in sessions to be held in conjunction with 38th sessions of the subsidiary bodies³ and COP 19/CMP 9.⁴ Many Parties have indicated the need to reflect on the results of COP 18/CMP 8, in particular on the outcomes of the AWG-KP and AWG-LCA. It was suggested that a short early session in April could add value by taking stock of Doha, and at which open-ended workshops and roundtables could also be organized. Inter-sessional work has also been suggested for the second half of 2013. There was also interest in further submissions and technical papers in the first half of 2013. If Parties decide to organize inter-sessional workshops, it would be important that they be open-ended and ensure full participation.

14. In Doha Parties need to provide guidance on the above aspects of work to be undertaken in 2013. Parties will also need to ensure that financial resources are available to support the work of the ADP in 2013.

³ Scheduled for 3–14 June 2013.

⁴ Scheduled for 11–22 November 2013.