



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

Fifteenth session

Bonn, 15–24 May 2012

Item 2(b) of the provisional agenda

Organizational matters

Organization of the work of the session

Scenario note on the fifteenth session

Note by the Chair*

I. Introduction

1. At the seventeenth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP), Parties reached a number of decisions that outlined a plan for negotiation under the different ad hoc working groups as well as further work under the permanent subsidiary bodies. The COP decided that the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention (AWG-LCA) is to be completed by the eighteenth session of the COP.

2. In order to complete the work of the AWG-LCA and reach the agreed outcome, it is important to reflect on the original mandate of decision 1/CP.13 (Bali Action Plan) and the decisions that have been adopted regarding the work of the AWG-LCA at the sixteenth and seventeenth sessions of the COP. Through careful evaluation, Parties can identify the elements under the AWG-LCA that require addressing in 2012.

3. A successful completion of the Bali Road Map requires a satisfactory closure of the AWG-LCA as well as the Ad Hoc Working Group on Further Commitments for Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol. This is important in order to ensure a smooth transition to the next phase of the negotiations under the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action.

II. Work in 2012

4. There is a clear understanding that the AWG-LCA shall complete its work in 2012 and reach the agreed outcome pursuant to decision 1/CP.13 through decisions adopted by

* This document was submitted after the due date because there was insufficient time to finalize it before the document deadline.

the sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth sessions of the COP, at which time the AWG-LCA shall be terminated.¹

5. The past work of the AWG-LCA resulted in decisions that were adopted at the sixteenth and seventeenth sessions of the COP. Through these decisions, different levels of progress were achieved under the different elements of the Bali Action Plan. Some additional elements have also been included under the work of the AWG-LCA as a result of agreement reached among Parties at previous sessions.

6. The provisional agenda of the AWG-LCA for 2012 comprehensively reflects the Bali Action Plan and the additional elements that have been included under the work of the AWG-LCA. The annotations to the provisional agenda² aim to reflect the status of the different elements of the provisional agenda. This will help Parties to reflect on the original mandate of the Bali Action Plan and the decisions that have been adopted regarding the AWG-LCA at the sixteenth and seventeenth sessions of the COP. Such reflection should facilitate identifying the elements under the AWG-LCA that require further work in 2012. The completion of the remaining elements identified, together with the decisions reached under the AWG-LCA, will ensure that a comprehensive coverage of the Bali Action Plan is concluded, and that the 'agreed outcome' is reached.

7. Decision 2/CP.17 also identified specific tasks for the AWG-LCA, including holding a number of workshops, five of which will take place in May. Between the specific tasks, and working to fulfill all the elements that have not been addressed, or that require further work, the AWG-LCA is expected to have a very busy final year.

A. Staged approach through the year

8. The task ahead of the AWG-LCA in 2012 is the completion of its five years of work. This is not a trivial exercise and the fifteenth session, in May, will need to lay the foundation for the successful conclusion of its work at the eighteenth session of the COP in Doha, Qatar.

9. The next step will be to work on the text of the outcome to be presented by the AWG-LCA to the COP in Doha. It is important that sufficient time be provided for the production of this text in order to ensure that the process remains Party-driven, and thus the additional session in the second half of the year will be very important.

10. The last session, in Doha, will need to focus on streamlining and finalizing the text in order to be able to reach the agreed outcome pursuant to decision 1/CP.13, taking into account the progress achieved so far.

B. Fifteenth session in Bonn, Germany

11. The work of the AWG-LCA at its fifteenth session in Bonn should result in the identification of the remaining work on all elements of the provisional agenda, taking into account progress achieved so far. The fifteenth session should define the different elements and the extent to which they are expected to be part of the AWG-LCA outcome in Doha. It is also an opportunity to begin looking at textual proposals on the different elements.

12. The provisional agenda and its annotations can serve as a helpful reference for cross-checking what needs to be delivered in Doha in order to reach the agreed outcome pursuant

¹ Decision 1/CP.17, paragraph 1.

² FCCC/AWGLCA/2012/1.

to decision 1/CP.13, through a decision by the COP at its eighteenth session, taking into account the progress achieved so far.

13. It is also important in this session to prepare to engage in textual negotiations on the elements of the agreed outcome.

III. Organization of the work

14. The opening plenary of AWG-LCA 15 will be held on Tuesday, 15 May, and the closing plenary on Thursday, 24 May. Noting that there are five bodies meeting during the sessional period, Parties should aim to make the best use of time at plenary meetings and throughout the session.

15. There are five workshops that will take place under the AWG-LCA during the fifteenth session. The workshops are planned to be organized during the first week of the session. The workshop discussions and results should inform and facilitate related negotiations under the AWG-LCA.

16. Building on past practice, the Chair plans to organize the work of the AWG-LCA under one contact group, which will cover items 3, 4 and 5 of the provisional agenda. The contact group will also provide an opportunity for Parties to maintain a holistic overview of work under the AWG-LCA.

17. The contact group will spin off specific work on the different elements as needed. In line with established practice, the Chair will request delegates to facilitate specific work in informal spin-off groups.

18. Work will be organized in a manner that allows Parties to focus on the completion of the tasks and issues under the AWG-LCA in order to reach the agreed outcome in accordance with its mandate.

19. The AWG-LCA Chair will aim to ensure close coordination with the Chairs of the other subsidiary bodies, particularly on matters related to the work of the AWG-LCA.
