



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

Fifteenth session, part two

Doha, 27 November 2012–*

Agenda item 2(b)

Organizational matters

Organization of the work of the session

Scenario note on the second part of the fifteenth session

Note by the Chair**

I. Introduction

1. The Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention (AWG-LCA) will resume for the second part of its fifteenth session in Doha, Qatar, on 27 November 2012. It will be held in conjunction with the eighteenth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP), which will close on 7 December 2012.

2. This scenario note is intended to reflect the status of the deliberations and outline how the work of the AWG-LCA can be organized and advanced through the session, in an effort to assist Parties in preparing the results to be presented to the COP in Doha in order to reach the agreed outcome pursuant to decision 1/CP.13 (the Bali Action Plan).

II. Status of the negotiations

3. Since its inception at the thirteenth session of the COP, held in Bali, Indonesia, in 2007, the AWG-LCA has delivered significant achievements, through decisions adopted at COP 15, COP 16 and COP 17. Through these decisions, different levels of progress were achieved under the different elements of decision 1/CP.13. 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.

* The second part of the session will be held in conjunction with the eighteenth session of the Conference of the Parties. The opening date of the fifteenth session, part two, of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention will be Tuesday, 27 November 2012. The closing date will be determined in due course.

** This document has been submitted at this time because the Chair considers that a scenario note is most useful if it is submitted close to the session to which it applies.

4. At COP 17, the work of the AWG-LCA was extended for one year in order for it to continue its work and reach the agreed outcome pursuant to decision 1/CP.13 through decisions adopted at COP 16, COP 17 and COP 18, at which time the AWG-LCA shall be terminated.
5. At the first part of its fifteenth session, the AWG-LCA adopted a comprehensive agenda that reflects the Bali Action Plan and the additional elements that have been included under the work of the AWG-LCA. Parties also agreed to work together towards a successful closure of the AWG-LCA at COP 18.
6. In order to complete the work of the AWG-LCA and reach the agreed outcome, it was important to reflect on the original mandate of decision 1/CP.13 and the decisions that have been adopted regarding the work of the AWG-LCA. Through careful evaluation, Parties highlighted different elements that needed to be addressed in order to reach successful closure of the AWG-LCA.
7. At the first part of its fifteenth session, held in Bonn, Germany, in May 2012,¹ and at an informal additional session, held in Bangkok, Thailand, from 30 August to 5 September 2012, the AWG-LCA made good progress in its work under the different items on its agenda.
8. In Doha, the AWG-LCA is expected to forward to the COP for adoption the results of its work, which along with the decisions adopted by the sixteenth and seventeenth sessions of the COP will constitute the agreed outcome pursuant to decision 1/CP.13.

III. Working towards the agreed outcome

9. In an effort to facilitate the work of Parties in Doha, the Chair has prepared an informal overview text² that builds upon the informal overview note by the Chair made available at the end of the informal additional session on 5 September.³ The aim of the overview text is to reflect the exchanges and views, interventions and options presented by Parties in their consideration of the various AWG-LCA agenda items throughout the year.
10. In a number of areas, the overview text also presents attempts by the Chair to give further structure to the elements under consideration or to identify a potential way forward. This overview text is made available by the Chair in an effort to assist Parties in preparing the results of the work of the AWG-LCA to be presented to the COP in Doha in order to reach the agreed outcome.
11. As the level of maturity in the discussions and agreements varies in different elements of the work of the AWG-LCA, the overview text accordingly does not have a strictly coherent and uniform approach for all areas. Nonetheless, the overview text can bring some focus on the choices to be made on the substantive elements contained within it.
12. The Chair encourages Parties to work diligently and in a focused manner from the first day in Doha, overcome their differences and look for compromise and pragmatic ways forward. There are still many options on the table that need to be further consolidated. Parties need to work swiftly during the first week to identify solutions to the different issues in order to facilitate reaching agreement. Discussions in the second week should focus on the few critical and somewhat more difficult issues that may remain.

¹ For the report on the session, see document FCCC/AWGLCA/2012/3.

² FCCC/AWGLCA/2012/CRP.3.

³ Available at <unfccc.int/6958>.

IV. Organization of the work

13. In Doha, the AWG-LCA will be one of five subsidiary bodies that will all be meeting in addition to the COP and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol. Efficient utilization of the very limited available time will be critical in order to complete the work.

14. The AWG-LCA will resume its fifteenth session on 27 November with a plenary meeting. Given the limited time, the plenary is envisaged to be brief, in order that the substantive work can be swiftly proceeded to.

15. It will be important to maintain a clear overview of how the result of the AWG-LCA as a whole is shaping up. To that end, one or more stocktaking meetings are envisaged. In addition, open-ended informal consultations with Parties on the agreed outcome can be scheduled as needed. The Chair will also convene bilateral consultations with groups of Parties to facilitate solutions as necessary.

16. As throughout the year, the Chair will ask delegates for assistance in facilitating specific work as needed, and will aim to ensure close coordination with work in other bodies as well as with the Presidency of the COP, as appropriate.

17. The Chair will undertake informal consultations with Parties and groups prior to the beginning of the session, to discuss their views on advancing the work of the AWG-LCA and on effectively utilizing the time to make progress on the AWG-LCA agreed outcome.

18. The Chair is looking forward to working with all Parties towards an agreed outcome, to bring the significant work of the AWG-LCA to a successful closure.
