

Scenario note on the fifth part of the second session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action

Note by the Co-Chairs

17 April 2014

I. Introduction

1. The Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action (ADP) will resume its work at the fifth part of its second session, to be held in Bonn, Germany, from 4 to 15 June 2014.
2. At our last session in March,¹ you, the Parties, actively engaged in advancing the work of the ADP so as to fulfil its mandates within the agreed timelines. You have advanced in the elaboration of the content of the 2015 agreement in a focused and dedicated manner, and have continued your consideration of opportunities for raising pre-2020 ambition, focusing on the practical realization of these opportunities, through the work conducted in the technical expert meetings. In addition, you have exchanged experiences on the on-going domestic processes in preparation of the nationally determined contributions, and shared views on the scope and content of nationally determined contributions, on the information to be submitted, and on possible subsequent consideration processes.
3. In March, the ADP established a contact group to carry out work on item 3 of its agenda² and agreed on the need for an additional session in the second half of 2014.³
4. We have issued a note⁴ containing our reflections on the progress made in March. In order to assist you in preparing for the June session, this scenario note focuses in more detail on how to carry out the work of the ADP at the upcoming session in the light of the organization of work agreed thus far, your submissions and the fruitful exchanges that we have had with you, and you with each other.
5. In our approach to the preparation of the session, we have continued to be guided by the core principles agreed by Parties:
 - a) The process will continue to be Party-driven;
 - b) The process will continue to build on inputs from Parties; and
 - c) Any outputs of the process will reflect inputs from Parties.
6. As in the past, we will continue to seek your views in the run-up to the session, including through pre-session consultations with groups of Parties, and will further shape the organization of the June session accordingly.
7. Since we met in March, the IPCC Working Groups II and III have issued their respective reports on impacts, adaptation and vulnerability as well as on mitigation. The results underline the urgency to take commensurate actions in order to keep the global average temperature rise well below 2 degrees Celsius compared to pre-industrial levels and to adapt to inevitable adverse effects of climate change. We are confident that your determination and commitment to accelerate negotiations to achieve the timely adoption of an ambitious 2015 agreement and to enhance pre-2020 ambition will characterize the work of the ADP at the upcoming session and at the sessions to follow.

¹ The fourth part of the second session of the ADP was held from 10 to 14 March 2014 in Bonn.

² Implementation of all the elements of decision 1/CP.17.

³ As requested by the ADP at the third part of its second session, held in Warsaw (FCCC/ADP/2013/3, para. 33), the secretariat has secured a venue for this additional session, in a window around the third week of October, falling between the twelfth meeting of the COP to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the 40th session of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, and is seeking financial contributions.

⁴ ADP.2014.3.InformalNote.

II. Organization of the work

8. The fifth part of the second session will be held in conjunction with the fortieth sessions of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI). We will resume the second session of the ADP at an opening plenary meeting on 4 June 2014 and hold a second plenary meeting at the end of the session on 15 June.

9. Further to the resumption of the second session, the first meeting of the contact group on item 3 of the ADP agenda is scheduled to take place at the earliest opportunity thereafter, preferably before the high-level ministerial round table on increased ambition of Kyoto Protocol commitments⁵ and the high-level ministerial dialogue on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action,⁶ which will take place on 5 June and 6 June, respectively.

10. As agreed at our last plenary meeting on 14 March, the contact group will be chaired by us, and will work in accordance with the mandate of the ADP and its agreed agenda, which includes two workstreams, namely: (a) workstream 1 on matters related to paragraphs 2 to 6 of decision 1/CP.17; and (b) workstream 2 on matters related to paragraphs 7 and 8 of decision 1/CP.17.

11. We intend to allocate time for the consideration of all issues under negotiation in the contact group in a balanced manner. In doing so, we would need to maintain a certain degree of flexibility so as to avoid clashes with parallel meetings being held under the SBSTA and the SBI and in order to optimize the use of time available during the session. Avoiding clashes, especially on mitigation issues, will be a significant challenge and may constrain scheduling of meetings.

12. Mindful of the need to conduct our deliberations as efficiently as possible, including optimizing the time used for plenary and the contact group meetings in order to achieve concrete results in the limited time available, we also encourage groups of Parties to be efficient in their preparatory and coordination meetings, thus fully utilizing the time allocated to the ADP for its negotiations by starting meetings on time.

Elaborating the elements of the 2015 agreement

13. In line with the decision to accelerate the development of the 2015 agreement, the contact group will seek to further elaborate the elements for a draft negotiating text, building on previous work of the ADP, including, inter alia, on mitigation, adaptation, finance, technology development and transfer, capacity-building, transparency of action and support, as well as on other relevant issues which have been raised by Parties.

14. To achieve this, we will need to advance common understanding and engage in negotiations on topics where differences need to be bridged. It will be important to focus on clearly identifying a limited set of politically significant options on such issues with a view to arriving at the elements for a coherent and clear draft negotiating text by the twentieth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP), to be held in Lima, Peru.

15. To facilitate the work of the contact group in this respect we issued our reflections note and prepared the “landscape of issues identified by Parties” annexed to the note. The “landscape of issues identified by Parties” presents our understanding of the possible elements for a draft negotiating text for the 2015 agreement that Parties have elaborated so far, as well as the options on the table, proposed by Parties. We expect that the negotiations in June will further elaborate on what has been proposed thus far and in this regard, we encourage you to study the proposals presented by others and to seek clarification as needed, through your own bilaterals as well as during the negotiations, in order to arrive at a limited number of clearly defined options.

16. We would like to stress that the draft negotiating text that we are all working towards is your draft text and, as such, needs to be and will be constructed collectively through negotiations and based on the views expressed by Parties in submissions and statements and in the negotiations. We, as Co-Chairs, will do our best to facilitate your work.

17. The contact group will also advance the work that began during the negotiations in the March session on the identification of the information that Parties will provide when putting forward their nationally determined contributions, as requested in decision 1/CP.19,⁷ with a view to developing a draft COP decision.

18. In organizing the work of the contact group, it is our plan to focus the meetings of the contact group following the sequence of elements contained in paragraph 5 of decision 1/CP.17, and to provide time for the

⁵ Decision 1/CMP.8, paragraph 10.

⁶ Decision 1/CP.19, paragraph 7

⁷ Decision 1/CP.19, paragraph 2(c).

consideration of other issues raised by Parties. The first meeting of the contact group will be devoted to addressing agenda item 3 as a whole, addressing both workstreams. We intend in the following order to facilitate negotiations on adaptation, mitigation and finance in the first week of the session. Technology development and transfer, capacity-building, transparency of action and support, as well as other relevant issues raised by Parties will be addressed in the second half of the session.

Unlocking opportunities for pre-2020 ambition

19. The contact group will carry out work on workstream 2 on matters related to paragraphs 7 and 8 of decision 1/CP.17 in order to further consider the workplan on enhancing pre-2020 mitigation ambition,⁸ including the results of technical expert meetings. In this context, we would wish to initiate an exchange of views among Parties on their expectations for outcomes under workstream 2 at COP 20 with a view to developing a draft decision for consideration by the ADP in Lima. We intend to start this work early in the session and to continue these considerations during the second half of the session, after the technical expert meetings have taken place.

20. During the June session, the ADP will continue the technical examination of opportunities for actions with high mitigation potential, including those with adaptation and sustainable development co-benefits through the organization of technical expert meetings.⁹

21. As announced in the March session, the focus of the technical expert meetings during the June session will be on opportunities regarding the urban environment and land use. These meetings are scheduled to take place on 10 June and 11 June, respectively. In order to facilitate your preparations for the technical expert meetings, further information will be made available on the UNFCCC website.¹⁰

22. Building on the experience at our last session in March and in accordance with our mandate, the technical expert meetings will focus on facilitating domestic action by taking forward promising policy options and developing new tangible domestic and international initiatives, including efforts to remove barriers to implementation, and by scaling up and accelerating the delivery of finance, technology and capacity-building support.

23. As in March, we have also invited expert organizations and international support institutions to participate in the technical expert meetings. We reiterate our invitation to the organizations that are active in the respective areas being addressed to engage in the discussions in Bonn and in future sessions by sharing information on: good practices and initiatives being undertaken with Parties and their potential for broader engagement among Parties, as well as on different sources of support available to developing country Parties. These organizations are also encouraged to assist Parties in identifying concrete follow-up actions.

24. We encourage all of you once more to bring your experts and come prepared with proposals for bold actions and initiatives you would like to advance, to share experience and engage in discussions oriented towards achieving concrete and practical results.

25. In addition, we have requested the secretariat to facilitate informal follow-up meetings to take forward the exchange on renewable energy and energy efficiency, as needed.

26. In Warsaw, the ADP requested the secretariat to convene during the June session a forum to facilitate the sharing among Parties of experiences and best practices of cities and subnational authorities, where appropriate, in identifying and implementing opportunities to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change, with a view to promoting the exchange of information and voluntary cooperation.¹¹ The forum is scheduled to take place on 10 June. Further information on the forum will be made available on the UNFCCC website.¹²

27. As has been the practice of the ADP, we will continue the active engagement with observers in the ADP process by convening a special event with observer organizations. As in the past, we encourage the continued participation of observers in the various ADP meetings that will be open to them.

28. We also plan to hold a meeting, in the middle of the session, to take stock of progress made.

⁸ Decision 1/CP.19, paragraph 5.

⁹ FCCC/ADP/2013/3, paragraph 30(c)(i).

¹⁰ <<http://unfccc.int/8133>>.

¹¹ FCCC/ADP/2013/3, paragraph 30(d).

¹² <<http://unfccc.int/8169>>.

29. In accordance with decision 1/CP.17, paragraph 6, we have requested the secretariat to organize a briefing to inform the ADP on relevant work being undertaken by the SBSTA and the SBI. The briefing will be provided by the respective Chairs of the subsidiary bodies, Mr. Emmanuel Dumisani Dlamini (Swaziland), and Mr. Amena Yauvoli (Fiji).

30. In addition to the details provided in this scenario note, closer to the session, we will provide additional information on the upcoming session through the UNFCCC website.¹³

31. Throughout our work, you have engaged in the ADP discussions in a constructive spirit and in a dynamic, open and interactive manner. We encourage you to deepen this engagement to achieve the successful adoption of a protocol, another legal instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force under the Convention applicable to all Parties, to enhance pre-2020 ambition, and to strengthen the long-term response to climate change.

¹³ <<http://unfccc.int/8133>>.