

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

Note by the Co-Chairs

8 October 2014

I. Introduction and context of the session

1. The Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action (ADP) will hold the sixth part of its second session in Bonn, Germany, from 20 to 25 October 2014.
2. We are greatly encouraged by the progress you, the Parties, made at our last session.¹ At that session, you advanced in the elaboration of the elements for a draft negotiating text, in the identification of information to be communicated by Parties on their intended nationally determined contributions (INDCs), and in the identification of policy options and actions to enhance pre-2020 action.
3. As announced at our last closing plenary meeting, based on your guidance, views and proposals, we have reflected our understanding of the progress that you have made thus far in the form of:
 - (a) A reflections note;²
 - (b) A non-paper describing Parties' views and proposals on the elements for a draft negotiating text in bullet point format;³
 - (c) A revised draft decision text on the INDCs of Parties in the context of the 2015 agreement;⁴
 - (d) A draft decision text on accelerating the implementation of enhanced pre-2020 climate action.⁵
4. This material, made available to you on 7 July 2014, aims at facilitating the understanding of the issues and the options that you have put on the table.
5. This scenario note complements the documents issued on 7 July by presenting our proposals on how to carry out the work of the ADP at the sixth part of the second session and to assist you in your preparations for the upcoming session.
6. In Lima,⁶ the ADP will need to:
 - (a) Advance its work toward the 2015 agreement;
 - (b) As mandated in Warsaw, agree on a draft decision identifying the information that Parties will provide when putting forward their INDCs;
 - (c) Agree on a draft decision on pre-2020 action that consolidates the work done by the ADP under workstream 2 and sets the basis for continuing work on pre-2020 action beyond the life of the ADP.
7. In its work towards the 2015 agreement, the ADP needs to take into account that, Parties, through decision 2/CP.18, requested the ADP to make a negotiating text available before May 2015, as part of the process leading up to Paris. As of today, this leaves less than six months to the ADP to deliver a text ready for translation into all the official languages of the United Nations by the beginning of April 2015.
8. In this context, the October meeting of the ADP plays a decisive role in our work towards the 2015 agreement. This dedicated ADP session is therefore a critical one that has to result in substantive progress for a negotiating text.

¹ The fifth part of the second session of the ADP was held from 4 to 14 June 2014 in Bonn.

² Contained in document ADP.2014.5.InformalNote.

³ Contained in documents ADP.2014.6.NonPaper and Corr.1.

⁴ Contained in document ADP.2014.7.DraftText.

⁵ Contained in document ADP.2014.8.DraftText.

⁶ The ADP will hold a session in conjunction with the twentieth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP) in Lima, Peru.

9. In the light of the progress that needs to be made, we encourage you to deepen your discussions with a view to moving towards common ground wherever possible or, where not, arriving at limited and concrete options. We encourage you to reach out to others and especially to work across the different negotiating groups. If seen as helpful, we will be available to facilitate such engagement, at your request. October is the time to start reaching out genuinely to each other and build bridges.

10. Let us underline once more that our collective work will continue 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;
- (c) Any outputs of the process will reflect inputs from Parties.

11. We thank you for the feedback received, including through your submissions, and will continue to seek your views in the run-up to, and during, the October session, including through pre-session consultations with groups of Parties.

II. Approach to the session

12. The ADP will resume its second session at an opening plenary meeting on 20 October 2014 and hold a second plenary meeting at the end of the session on 25 October.

13. Further to the resumption of the second session, the contact group on item 3 of the ADP agenda will hold its first meeting. The contact group, established in March and chaired by us, will work in accordance with the mandate of the ADP and its agreed agenda, including two workstreams, namely: workstream 1 on matters related to paragraphs 2 to 6 of decision 1/CP.17; and workstream 2 on matters related to paragraphs 7 and 8 of the same decision.

14. We suggest continuing to follow a balanced approach focussing on the key open questions under each element of the draft agreement, as well as the two draft decisions.

15. In order to achieve concrete results in the time available, it is imperative that the time allocated for plenary and contact group meetings be optimized; therefore we encourage groups of Parties to be efficient in their preparatory and coordination meetings, and to allow the ADP to start its meetings on time.

Elaborating the elements of the 2015 agreement

16. As outlined above, it is essential to use the October session to make significant progress in clarifying and advancing the content of the 2015 agreement, to build bridges and to work together on outstanding issues.

17. In particular, it will be important in the October session, to further clarify and flesh out the operational aspects of the agreement. Key challenges that will need focussed attention in our work include:⁷ deepening the understanding on the longer-term cycle of contributions/commitments, including its periodicity (length) and the functions of the steps proposed, such as any periodical consideration or assessment and review, as well as long-term aspects and how to build on the existing transparency system; and exploring ways to advance the key elements in the 2015 agreement and concrete and pragmatic approaches to take forward proposals on enhancing implementation and strengthening cooperation. As you have often stressed, it will be useful for discussions to continue to be well informed of relevant on-going work in other bodies, and we intend to arrange for briefings at the outset of several of the meetings, such as those on finance, capacity-building and transparency.

18. Following up on the fruitful discussions at the June session, it will also be important to continue and intensify the consideration of accompanying or complementary decisions. You have already started to identify the aspects that you would like to see developed in decisions which would give effect to the agreement and be needed to make it operational. We encourage you to advance the understanding and initiate the elaboration of the content of those decisions and to consider more thoroughly what needs to be enshrined in the agreement and what is more suitable to be elaborated in complementary decisions.

19. There are legal aspects regarding the 2015 agreement that many of you have mentioned in discussions and submissions but have not yet explored to any great extent. These include institutional questions (e.g. how

⁷ Following the June session, we have set out some initial reflections on significant challenges ahead in document ADP.2014.5.InformalNote, paragraph 16.

existing institutions can serve the agreement), governance of the agreement, interim or transitional arrangements and aspects of final provisions such as entry into force/entry into effect. Guided by what we have heard from you, we will facilitate continuing clarification of these issues.

Intended nationally determined contributions of Parties in the context of the 2015 agreement

20. As mentioned, adopting a decision in Lima on the information that you will provide when putting forward your INDCs and reaching an understanding on the outstanding questions is essential for the INDCs to come forward in early 2015. This includes reaching an understanding on the scope of INDCs. While in the June session we saw an emerging understanding among you that all contributions would have a mitigation component, you will also need to advance on a common understanding on other components. The questions around what happens with the INDCs once communicated, as raised by many of you, which should be the steps or process that should follow, will also need answers agreeable to all. We propose to focus on advancing this discussion by working on the draft decision on INDCs⁸ and ideally to reach conclusions on them in this session. This would allow the ADP session during the COP in Lima to focus its work on the elements of the draft agreement. We envisage that this will involve new iterations of the draft to be issued during the session.

21. Responding to calls made by many of you, we have made arrangements for a briefing on support for domestic preparations for INDCs, which is planned to take place on 23 October. The briefing will highlight case studies on cooperation and support in relation to the preparation of INDCs, including reports on the regional dialogues organized under the leadership of United Nations Development Programme with the active involvement of the secretariat.

Accelerating the implementation of enhanced pre-2020 climate action

22. We have also issued a draft decision on enhanced pre-2020 climate action reflecting the inputs received from Parties to date in their various forms. Structurally the draft reflects the expressed desire by Parties to:

- (a) Take stock of the implementation of previous agreements;
- (b) Provide further guidance to the technical expert meetings and, if deemed appropriate, to other subsidiary bodies of the Convention;
- (c) Establish a process to give consideration to how the workplan on enhancing mitigation ambition can be taken forward when the ADP completes its mandate in 2015.

23. Your interventions in June and our consultations with you indicate that Parties wish to take an ambitious decision on this issue in Lima. We consider the draft decision to be food for thought for Parties and a starting point for our discussion.

24. In order to meet this objective of recommending an ambitious decision to the COP in Lima, our aim in October will be to collectively read through the entire draft decision in the contact group and provide Parties with an opportunity to enrich the draft. We expect that this input will allow us to issue further iterations of the decision during the session. As mentioned before, ideally, we would reach a conclusion on this draft at this session.

25. During the October 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

26. As announced in the June session, we have made arrangements for the following technical expert meetings:

- (a) Technical expert meeting on carbon capture, use and storage (CCUS), to be held on 21 October;
- (b) Technical expert meeting on addressing non-carbon dioxide (non-CO₂) greenhouse gases, to be held on 22 October.

27. We encourage experts from Parties to come prepared with proposals for bold actions and initiatives that Parties would like to advance, to share experience and engage in discussions oriented at achieving concrete and practical results. We also encourage organizations that are active in the respective areas to participate by sharing

⁸ Footnote 4 above.

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

with Parties good practices and initiatives being undertaken and their potential for broader engagement, as well as by sharing information on different sources of support available to developing countries.

28. In addition, we have requested the secretariat to facilitate an informal follow-up meeting to the technical expert meetings on energy efficiency, renewable energy, urban environment and land-use improvements in the pre-2020 period. This meeting, to be held on 23 October, will allow you to take stock of actions undertaken since the technical expert meetings in March and June and to identify further opportunities for action in the areas considered thus far.

Negotiating time required in 2015

29. As mentioned in our reflections note, another important issue that we need to consider in October is the negotiating time that will be required in 2015, including the need for any additional meeting time, bearing in mind paragraph 7 above.

30. This is necessary in order to give Parties and the secretariat sufficient time to undertake the necessary preparations. Given the many meetings that are likely to take place next year in our process and outside of it, there is a need to conclude on this matter as early as possible. In particular, if a decision on an additional session to take place in the first half of 2015 is delayed, the secretariat will not be in a position to guarantee that funding and/or facilities can be arranged.

Other matters

31. As has become standard practice, we will consult groups of Parties informally in the days prior to the October session.

32. An information event on the outcome of the United Nations Climate Summit, which was held in September 2014, will take place on 20 October.

33. 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. The event is planned to take place on 21 October.

34. We also plan to hold a meeting toward the middle of the session to take stock of progress made.

35. In addition to the details contained in this scenario note, closer to the session, we will provide additional information on the upcoming session through the UNFCCC website.¹⁰

36. We are confident that the work of the ADP during the October session will benefit from your undivided attention and deliver the important results needed to achieve the timely adoption of an ambitious 2015 agreement and to enhance pre-2020 ambition.

¹⁰ <<http://unfccc.int/8133>>.