Introduction of agenda item 12

Work plan of the AC after 2015

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I: Background and context

AC, during its first year, developed a three-year plan for its work.

Work plan contains activities for the period 2013–2015 and was approved by COP 18.

No further guidance is given by the COP, or contained in the AC's rules of procedure, on the next iteration of a work plan.

The AC will thus have the opportunity to consider how it wishes to proceed.

II: Summary

Considerations to keep in mind…

Flexibility: Fixed activity or flexible?

Length:

- Current work plan ends at COP 21 (2015).

- Progress and performance of the AC will be reviewed by COP 22 (2016)

- Hence: Interim work plan for one year or longer work plan?

Prominence of the AC review:

- Interim work plan might allocate a greater visibility and prominence to the review of the progress and the performance of the AC in 2016

- Longer term work plan would lay a greater emphasis on continuity and allow for a longer-term, stepwise structure of the Committee's work.

Existing types of work plans

Fixed work plan

- Specific and detailed activities for a certain amount of years

High level work plan

- Broad, overarching themes for a period covering several years. Concrete new-term activities elaborated at committee meetings.

Combination of both

- Broad, overarching themes for several years.

- Plus annual detailed work plan

Rolling work plan

- Activities are agreed and extended on an annual basis

Interim work plan

- Bridge the gap between end of current work plan and finalization of AC review

III: Next steps and key questions

The AC may wish to initiate consideration of

- Type of work plan it would like to use in the future

- Duration of the work plan

With a view to obtaining approval from the COP for its approach and to avoid a gap between COP 21 and new a workplan