



Latvian Presidency  
of the Council of the  
European Union



The eighth part of the second session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action, Geneva, 13 February 2015

Dear Co-Chairs, Distinguished Colleagues, Dear Friends,

This is a **statement made on behalf of the European Union and its 28 Member States.**

We came to Geneva with a clear objective of working towards adopting a legally binding agreement at COP21 that is capable of keeping us collectively on track to achieve the below 2°C objective. In that context we have done the minimum necessary to achieve the task set out by the Lima Call for Climate action. We have prepared a Party owned text to be circulated before May as the basis for our negotiations on the road to Paris.

However, the pace of progress needs to radically change if we are to deliver a **legally binding agreement** in Paris. June will need to produce a text with clear options for Ministers. To achieve that, Parties will need to trust each other and the Co-Chairs. Here in Geneva it proved impossible to even consolidate near identical paragraphs, and as such we now have a text that is over double the length of the Lima text.

The mode of work in June cannot be a simple continuation of our approach here in Geneva. In order to enter into real negotiations we need three things:

- (i) **Leadership from the Co-Chairs.** We need guidance and homework for Parties ahead of the June session. This should take the form of a reflections note that proactively sets out ideas for how we can ensure that time in June is used effectively to ensure success in Paris.
- (ii) **Clarity of process.** Organisation of work for June should allow for parallel working under the contact group, addressing key issues in a balanced manner. We would also expect in June to have facilitated, issue specific, time limited groups to take things forward.
- (iii) **Engagement in substance.** Negotiations in June should be through Party engagement on the basis of text. To get to that point we need a shorter text that preserves the position of Parties. The Secretariat should produce a simple technical analysis of the text to indicate duplications, redundancies and identify paragraphs with similar ideas that could be streamlined.

By time we next meet, many Parties including the EU will have come forward with their **Intended Nationally Determined Contributions.** We would call upon the Co-Chairs and the Secretariat to preserve some space in June for Parties to have a discussion on aggregate effect of pledges communicated through INDCs and have some opportunity for interactive exchanges.

In relation to **enhancing mitigation before 2020** we should stick to the mandate from Lima to take forward the technical examination process, and to work towards a recommendation on how we might further advance in Paris. We look forward to engaging in the technical expert meetings in June.

Thank you all and we wish the Co-Chairs and all Parties a safe journey home.