

Framework for various approaches under the Convention

Submission by the Plurinational State of Bolivia September 2, 2013

The Government of the Plurinational State of Bolivia presents its views on the provision of guidance to the development of the framework for various approaches as per decision FCCC/SBSTA/2013/L.7 of SBSTA 38 with a view to recommending a draft decision to the Conference of the Parties (COP) at its nineteenth session (November 2013). This submission refers to guidance for the development of the framework of various approaches as referred to in previous decision.

(i) On the role of the FVA

a. What is the purpose and scope of the FVA, including its role in ensuring environmental integrity?

The purpose and scope of the FVA is to develop under the authority and guidance of the COP the institutional, methodological, and procedural arrangements in order to increase mitigation ambition by developed countries and to keep global warming no more than 1.5oC by respecting the principles (article 3) and commitments (article 4 of the Convention), taking into consideration non-market-based approaches.

The previous submission of the Plurinational State regarding the establishment of market-based approaches (March 2013) has proposed to establish a clause with a moratorium on the establishment of a new market-based mechanism for climate change under the precautionary principle, due to the scientific and conceptual incongruity of emissions markets with the basic science of climate change, inconsistency of carbon markets with the effective reduction of greenhouse gases, and the incongruence between carbon markets and their contribution to sustainable development¹.

In addition, Bolivia considers that market-based-approaches do not fit with the criteria for the development of approaches under the FVA, which are referred to in the following section.

b. What are the possible links between the FVA and other relevant matters under the Convention and its instruments?

The FVA must only include approaches that take into consideration the principles (article 3) and commitments (article 4) of the Convention. Therefore, the Convention, which is inherently a non-market-based approach, sets out the criteria for the development of various approaches as presented in the following Table No. 1.

¹http://unfccc.int/files/documentation/submissions_from_parties/application/pdf/nmm_bolivia.pdf

Table No. 1 Considerations for assessment of approaches under the FVA in light of the Convention: principles and commitments

<p align="center">PRINCIPLES (article 3 of the Convention)</p>	<p align="center">Considerations for assessment of approaches under the FVA</p>
<p>3.1 Protection of the climate systems for the benefit of present and future generations of humankind, on the basis of equity and in accordance with their common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities. Accordingly, the developed country Parties should take the lead in combating climate change and the adverse effects thereof.</p>	<p>Approaches must consider explicitly the principles of CBDR and equity</p>
<p>3.2 The specific needs and special circumstances of developed country Parties, especially those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change (...)</p>	<p>Approaches must ensure to address specific needs and circumstances of vulnerable countries</p>
<p>3.3 Efforts to address climate change may be carried out cooperatively by interested Parties.</p>	<p>Approaches must promote to address climate change cooperatively by interested Parties.</p>
<p>3.4 The Parties have a right to, and should, promote sustainable development (...) taking into account that economic development is essential for adopting measures to address climate change.</p>	<p>Approaches must be oriented to the promotion of sustainable development</p>
<p align="center">COMMITMENTS (article 4 of the Convention)</p>	<p align="center">Considerations for assessment of approaches under the FVA</p>
<p>(b) Formulate, implement, publish and regularly update national and, where appropriate, regional programmes containing measures to mitigate climate change (...) and measures to facilitate adequate adaptation to climate change;</p>	<p>Approaches must ensure mitigation measures to climate change as well as adequate adaptation to climate change</p>
<p>(c) Promote and cooperate in the development, application and diffusion, including transfer, of technologies, practices and processes that control, reduce or prevent anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases (...);</p>	<p>Approaches must promote and cooperate in the development and diffusion of transfer of technologies and practices</p>
<p>(d) Promote sustainable management, and promote and cooperate in the conservation and enhancement, as appropriate, of sinks and reservoirs of all GHG (...)</p>	<p>Approaches must be oriented to promote sustainable management and conservation</p>
<p>(e) Cooperate in preparing for adaptation to the impacts of climate change; develop and elaborate appropriate and integrated plans (...);</p>	<p>Cooperation for adaptation to climate change through appropriate and integrated plans</p>
<p>(h) Promote and cooperate in the full, open and prompt exchange of relevant scientific, technological, technical, socio-economic and legal information related to the climate system and climate change, and to the economic and social consequences of various response strategies;</p>	<p>Approaches must help cooperation in the exchange of relevant scientific, technological, technical, and socio-economic information</p>
<p>(i) Promote and cooperate in education, training and public awareness related to climate change and</p>	<p>Approaches must ensure cooperation in education, training, and public awareness</p>

encourage the widest participation in this process, including that of non-governmental organizations.	related to climate change
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c. *Should the elements of the FVA operate under the principles, provisions and commitments of the Convention, and if so how?*

As analyzed in the previous section, only the approaches that fit in the principles and commitments of the Convention must be developed at the UNFCCC. The FVA is the scenario in order to assess various approaches (assessment integral of approaches) considering the aforementioned elements.

Table No. 2 Criteria for assessment and development of various approaches

Ensuring principles of the UNFCCC	
Consideration of principles of CBDR and equity	Promotes developed Parties meeting their commitments under the Convention in the pre-2020 period to bridge the ambition gap. The approaches must directly address the increase in the level of ambition of developed country Parties.
Address needs and circumstances of vulnerable countries	Actions help most vulnerable countries to benefit from the actions of developed country Parties regarding climate change mitigation and adaptation.
Address climate change cooperatively	Development of complementary efforts that put together the support on finance, technology and capacity building from developed countries to developing countries, in order to create a synergic approach for mitigation and adaptation, based on CBDR.
Promotion of sustainable development	Efforts of mitigation and adaptation must have a direct and unambiguous impact on sustainable development of developing country Parties. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Diversification of livelihoods of local people - Integral and sustainable management of systems of life of Mother Earth - Changes of unsustainable patterns of production and consumption
Ensuring commitments of country Parties under the UNFCCC	
Approaches must ensure mitigation measures to climate change as well as adequate adaptation to climate change	Implementation of joint mitigation and adaptation actions to climate change.
Approaches must promote and cooperate in the development and diffusion of transfer of technologies and practices	Creation of an architecture that promotes the transference of technologies and practices for mitigation and adaptation.
Approaches must be oriented to promote sustainable management and conservation	Promotes the sustainable management and conservation of components of Mother Earth (biomass, forests and oceans as well as other terrestrial, coastal and marine ecosystems);
Cooperation for adaptation to climate change through appropriate	Implementation of appropriated and integrated plans for adaptation to climate change.

and integrated plans	
Approaches must help cooperation in the exchange of relevant scientific, technological, technical, and socio-economic information	Establishment of networks of collaboration and exchange of scientific, technological, technical, and socio-economic information.
Approaches must ensure cooperation in education, training, and public awareness related to climate change	Establishment of networks of collaboration in education, training, and public awareness to climate change.

(ii) On the technical design of the FVA

- a. How may the elements listed in decision 1/CP.18, paragraph 46, be elaborated given the options for the purpose and scope of the FVA expressed by Parties?*

If the purpose of the FVA is to develop various approaches that fit in the principles, provisions and commitments of the Convention, there is the need to develop the following aspects in the context of the UNFCCC:

- a) Identify the proposals of non-market-based approaches that are being currently discussed and developed under the UNFCCC, and other proposals that could be developed under the guidance of the Convention.
- b) Identify other mechanism that are functioning in the Convention (CDM and JI, among others)
- c) Develop an integral assessment of all the proposals identified (paragraphs a and b) taking into consideration the criteria depicted in Table No. 2.

The FVA must be developed including only the approaches that fully fit to the criteria depicted in Tables No.1 and 2.

Then, it will be possible to develop further steps such as the technical specifications to avoid double counting through the creation of an accurate and consistent recording and tracking of mitigation outcomes.

The Plurinational State of Bolivia considers that the framework will be developed and operated under the guidance and authority of the COP, while promoting the articulation of polycentric institutional arrangements to cope with climate change. Since efforts to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions are a classic collective action problem that is best addressed at multiple scales and levels; therefore, the Bolivian proposal is to develop a polycentric approach at various levels with active oversight of local, regional, and national stakeholders. This can be achieved through the development of processes of ascription of subnational initiatives to national ones, and accreditation of national initiatives to international ones².

² For a more detailed explanation about this topic, is suggested to consult the submission of the Plurinational State of Bolivia on non-market-based approaches.

A polycentric approach has the main advantage of encouraging efforts at multiple levels³. Therefore, an international institutional arrangement should be able to contribute to the ongoing efforts to scale up and improve the effectiveness of finance, capacity building and technology transfer for different polycentric approaches and mechanisms oriented to achieve the ultimate objective of the Convention.

b. Which experiences from the Kyoto Protocol flexible mechanisms, domestic and regional schemes, existing institutional arrangements and infrastructure are relevant to the elaboration of the FVA and how can they be applied to the FVA?

The Plurinational State of Bolivia has proposed to include in the consideration of the FVA the initiative of the Joint Mitigation and Adaptation for the Integral and Sustainable Management of Forests. This proposal is currently on discussion under the working group of the UNFCCC, designated as “policy approaches and positive incentives on issues relating to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries; and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries”.

³ For a more detailed explanation of this consult the work of Vincent Ostrom and Elinor Ostrom (nobel award of economics, 2009) and colleagues. Polycentricity and Local Public Economies. 2002. Edited by Michael D. McGinnies. Ann Arbor, The University of Michigan Press.