

# High-level comments on the “way to Paris” under the UNFCCC



CLIMATE CHANGE MONITORING AND EVALUATION TEAM



**environmental affairs**

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## BACKGROUND

- The Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action (ADP) is a **subsidiary body** of the UNFCCC established at COP.17 in Durban.
- It was set up in order **to develop a protocol, another legal instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force** under the Convention applicable to all Parties.
- The work on the new agreement is to be completed **no later than 2015** in order to be adopted at the COP.21 in Paris, in order to be implemented by all parties **from 2020**.

# Addressing the pre-2020 ambition

- The ADP is also discussing how to close the **ambition gap**
- That is, the difference between reductions necessary to limit the increase of global temperature to below 2° C and the level of reductions that may be achieved by Parties, if they implement their collective 2020 reduction pledges and commitments.
- These discussions **should/could/may** be informed by the 2013-2015 review of the long-term global goal and recommendations of the 5th Assessment Report of the IPCC.

# Workstreams within the ADP

- There are **two Workstreams** within the ADP.
- The first Workstream (WS1) focussing on **agreement on a new legal instrument in 2015 for the period after 2020**
- This Workstream aims **to develop key characteristics and features of the new agreement** (ie the protocol, other legal instrument or agreed outcome with legal force applicable to all Parties).
- **Mode of work so far:** Round-table discussions - enabling Parties to share the views and exchange opinions on a range of issues

# Workstreams within the ADP

- There are **two Workstreams** within the ADP.
- The second Workstream (WS2) focuses on **raising ambition in the period up to 2020**.
- It aims **to progress concrete options** in order to close the emissions gap to keep the increase in global average temperature below 2° C.
- The underlying idea is to find ways to achieve enhanced mitigation pending the entry into force of the new agreement under Workstream 1.

# Workstreams within the ADP

- Discussions under Workstream 2 centred on:
  - developing new quantitative emission limitation and reduction obligations (QELROs).
  - For developing countries, the discussion addressed, among others, nationally appropriate mitigation actions (NAMAs) and the generation of the means allowing for their implementation.
  
- Mode of work in 2012 and 2013:
  - **Workshops (TEM)** - enabling Parties to share the views and exchange opinions on a range of issues

# The 'Holy Grail' of the ADP

- The intention of the ADP is to broaden out the discussion and consider an architecture where all major emitters (i.e., Annex I, BASIC, and selected other emerging economies) would take on commitments under the same “mitigation tent.”
- However, as one would expect, this is interpreted differently by different Parties

# Progress: a new child is Bonn

- Workstream 2: My views
  - A lot of useful inputs in the workshops (Technical Expert Meetings)
  - Lack of clarity on how all that information adds up
  - “Achilles heel” of Workstream 2:

Would Parties get what they wish for under this workstream – how (not what) would they achieve what would it be ??



# Progress

- Workstream 1: Context
- Divergent Interpretations of Convention Principles
  - One of the key drivers of disagreement over the nature of a future agreement under the ADP is the **interpretation of the language and principles in the Convention.**
  - Different views go beyond developed and developing countries
- CBDR is **still a driver**, but its changing nature complicates the picture
- Diverging views as to what extent the ADP would need to take up negotiations on all pillars of the **Bali Action Plan.**
- Form of a post-2020 agreement – not yet a matures discussion
- Scope for a new Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) Framework (“rules”)

# Progress

- Workstream 1:
  - **Major focus of 2014 Agenda:**
    - Information requirements of INDCs
    - The elements for a draft negotiating text
  
    - Compilation of Parties views and proposals on the elements for a draft negotiating text – Non-paper by the Secretariat (July 2014)
  
    - Looking at the Party submissions – **there are incremental ‘breakthroughs’** - in the negotiations.



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