Mitigation Commitments under the Post-2020 Regime: Ad-hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action (ADP) and Several Issues

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The views expressed in this presentation are solely those of the speaker, and do not reflect or represent the views of any organization.

What is ADP?

ADP= a working group consisting of two workstrem on pre-2020 and post-2020

Workstream 1 (post-2020): To develop a post-2020 framework applicable to all Parties under the UNFCCC (a protocol, another legal instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force) by 2015
- The work of ADP includes, “inter alia, on mitigation, adaptation, finance, technology development and transfer, transparency of action, and support and capacity-building” (Paragraph 5 of Decision 1/CP.17)

Workstream 2 (pre-2020): To identify and to explore options for a range of actions that can close the ambition gap
- “Noting the significant gap between the aggregate effect of Parties’ mitigation pledges in terms of global annual emissions of greenhouse gases by 2020 and aggregate emission pathways consistent with having a likely chance of holding the increase in global average temperature below 2 °C or 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels” (Preamble of Decision 1/CP.17)
Timeline of ADP

2011
• December: agreement, named Durban Platform, to launch ADP at COP17

2012
• May 2012: ADP1-1 (election of the co-chairs and adoption of the agenda)
• August-September 2012: ADP1 informal (roundtable discussion)
• November-December 2012: ADP1-2 (planning of the work of 2013 and milestones up to COP21 in 2015)

2013
• April-May: ADP2-1 (roundtable discussion and workshops)
• June: ADP2-2 (roundtable discussion and workshops, election of new co-chairs)
• November: ADP 2-3

2014
• At least, two meetings with (an) additional meeting(s), if necessary
• consider elements for a draft negotiating text at a meeting in COP20 in Peru

2015
• At least, two meetings with (an) additional meeting(s), if necessary
• Deadline for agreement on a post-2020 framework at COP21 (in France)

Major Negotiation Groups in ADP

• Umbrella Group (UG): Non-EU developed countries (Japan, US, Russia, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Norway etc.)
• European Union (EU): Member countries of European Union
• Environmental Integrity Group (EIG): Switzerland, Korea, Mexico, Lichtenstein
• Group of 77 (G77): Coalition of all developing countries
• Like-minded developing countries (LMDC): China, India, Saudi Arabia, Venezuela, Philippines, Malaysia etc.
• Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS): Nauru, Tuvalu etc.
• Least Developed Countries (LDC): Bangladesh, Nepal, Gambia etc.
• Association of Independent Latin American and the Caribbean Countries (AILAC): Chile, Columbia, Costa Rica etc.
• Africa Group
(*) Brazil, South Africa, and Singapore tend to express their own views
Countries which joined the joint statement of LMDC at the meeting in Bonn, 2012

New Developments in ADP2-2 (June 4-13, 2013)

Several ideas for both workstreams emerged from roundtable discussion and workshops, while LMDC opposed treating them as a basis for future negotiation

Workstream 1 (post-2020)
Emerging common ground:
• Nationally-determined mitigation commitments for all countries with appropriate differentiation under internationally-determined rules (hybrid of bottom-up and top-down approaches)
  ✓ Def. Bottom-up: nationally-determined, top-down: internationally-agreed
• Importance of adaptation as well as mitigation
  □ Views of LMDC:
  • Top-down commitments for developed countries, and bottom-up actions for developing countries with support from developed countries
  • Equal treatment of mitigation, adaptation, finance, and technology

Workstream 2 (pre-2020)
Emerging common ground: Gas/sector-specific consideration of mitigation potential such as HFCs and Energy
  □ Views of LMDC: Opposition for gas-specific and sectoral focuses
Possible Elements of Hybrid Approach

1. Parties’ submission of draft commitments

2. International consultation and assessment of draft commitments

3. National determination of commitments

4. Enhanced transparency for implementation

5. Review of collective level of efforts

• My interpretation: many Parties assume a sequence of these five steps as possible hybrid approach, while they have divergent views on how internationally-agreed rules should be applied to these steps (especially, to what extent Parties’ freedom to define their commitments should be bound).

• Cancun agreements include step 3, 4 and 5 only. Emerging hybrid approach adds step 1&2 and enhance step 3-5.
  • US proposal (March), EU proposal (May)

Issues on post-2020 mitigation commitments

1. Specifications of possible hybrid approach
   • Step1: (a) timing of submission of draft commitments, (b) information required to be attached to the draft commitments to make them comparable and transparent
   • Step2: (a) format of consultation, (b) roles of index, criteria, and reference point to assess fairness, (c) emission pathways consistent with below 2°C after release of AR5
   • Step3: (a) ways to reflect commitments in a new agreement (in ratified part or non-ratified part?), (b) legal nature of commitments
   • Step4: ways to enhance ex-post tracking of Parties’ efforts
   • Counterproposals for the hybrid approach
     (+ Name of this approach)

2. Dynamics of negotiation
   • Difficulty in getting international agreement in “G-zero” world
   • Implications of divergent positions among developing countries