

Special meeting of the Subcommittee on Sustainable Development on COP24 Outcomes and Roadmap to COP25, ACP House 5th and 6th March 2019

Outcomes of technical working groups

First group

- Chair: UNDP
- Members: Fiji, Kenya, Angola, Sudan, Tuvalu
 - Negotiations:
 - Political guidance for negotiators on remaining key issues in Bonn inter-sessional and COP25, e.g. Article 6 control mechanism, scaled up finance, etc.
 - Capacity development for negotiators
 - Promote women in ACP and as part of delegations to contribute to Gender Action Plan
 - Political messaging on ambition and MOI
 - Continue to use forums to promote the importance and urgency of climate action as documented in the IPCC 1.5 Special Report
 - Have talking points/press releases ready for the IPCC CC and Land Report (Aug) and the IPCC Oceans Report (Sept)
 - Advocate through relevant workstreams under the UN Climate Summit for greater ambition (e.g. the WGs on mitigation ambition, climate finance, energy transition, etc) – use
 - Push for private sector to scale up climate solutions
 - NDC updates/revisions
 - Recognise ACP members who signed declaration of higher ambition in 2018 (Marshall Islands, Rwanda, Ethiopia, Fiji, Saint Lucia)
 - Confirm that ACP countries that must revise NDCs from 2025 timeframe to 2030 have support available
 - Ensure ACP countries know where to go to access finance and easily tap technical assistance (the “elephants in the room”) if we are to accelerate resilient NDC implementation
 - Key activities
 - Use developing countries with defined roles in the Climate Summit as entry points to propose ACP solutions (e.g., Malawi for the Resilience workstream)
 - Support ACP countries to access climate finance and tech transfer, build capacities, & create opportunities to exchange experience and share lessons

- More information on accessing/promoting insurance schemes, e.g., Insure Resilience was launched for V20 that have been accessed to date by Kenya, Malawi, and Myanmar.
- Second group
- Chair: Papa New Guinea
- Members: Cuba, two NGOs (CAN Europe and CARE Netherlands) and European Investment Bank (EIB)
 - no specific recommendations but discussion has been focused on climate finance, which needs to be predictable and adequate and on capacity building.

Third group

- Chair: Madagascar
- Members: Mali, Togo and Côte d'Ivoire
 - NDCs: countries need to be responsible for their own NDCs. The regional Groups need to be given support to complete and submit their NDCs;
 - Countries such as LDCs do not have the capacity to implement their entire NDCs;
 - Funding and technology transfer: example from the agricultural sector, in which major private companies have the necessary technology for resilience. It is possible to engage in public-private partnerships with the private sector to secure the technology transfer.
 - Importance of oceans and protection of seas and coastal areas;
 - Involvement not only of the Ministry of Environment but also the Ministry of Economy at national level in the NDCs process.

Fourth group

- Chair: H.E. Lois Young, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Belize to the United Nations and Chair of AOSIS.
- Members: Caribbean (Belize, ECS Embassies), University of the South Pacific (USP), the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) representing 17 countries, East African Community Secretariat (EAC) representing 4 countries, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) representing 8 countries, the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) representing 21 countries, the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC) representing 4 ACP countries and the Commonwealth Secretariat.
 - All of the countries covered by the above have prepared first NDCs, covering mitigation and adaptation. Most are seeking to review their first NDCs and as a result of this reviewing exercise, the following issues have come to the fore front:
 - As the first NDCs were done to meet a set timeframe, these NDCs may have been overly ambitious in many areas.

- The cost of implementing the NDCs is beyond the scope of the national budgets.
- Monitoring and reporting is also an issue.
- 12.4 The capacity to develop bankable projects which meet the at times complicated criteria of the particular funding agency and identifying the necessary resources will have a major impact on the implementation process.
- Similarly, these countries and organizations agreed that data collection and the lack thereof will also prove problematic in terms of project planning and implementation.
- All in all, the “capacity to develop bankable projects” is a loaded requirement for these countries. On the international side, the criteria, the criteria required by funding agencies is exceptionally complex and onerous.

Fifth group

- Chair: Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA)
 - Members: South Centre, Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFs) and Samoa.
- The following critical areas were identified:
- NDCs process of development and revision. The need for State-level ownership and need for a clear focus of the involved stakeholders (inclusiveness);
 - Integration with national development planning mechanism to include an inter-ministerial committee to secure ownership of the projects. Need to have parliamentary engagement to produce government changes.
 - Draw on the knowledge and contribution of regional organisations working on mitigation and adaptation matters together with certain Member States.
 - Revision of NDCs: methodological aspects identified as a key constrain, looking at the qualitative robustness to quantify needs, the production of robust document to better understand the impact to best determine direction and needs required for States. Some NDCs were not specific on what the critical needs and actions for the States were to be able to address them properly. Thus, importance of specifying actual needs and integration of the 1.5C target into the process of the revision of NDCs.
 - Need for harmonisation of efforts for greater efficiency: the SDGs, the DDR global agenda, the Climate agenda should be contextualized into national development plans/strategy where the issue of climate and risk would be looked at in terms of impact.
 - Countries need to better manage the NDC implementation and monitoring.
 - Resource mobilisation: the costing of these NDCs and impact on countries honouring their commitments. It was suggested that many of these NDCs should not impact the national budget, thus the need to develop a resource mobilisation strategy informed by clear actions and investment plans. Hence, adequate and meaningful resources to effectively review NDCs to reflect the 1.5 ambition should be provided under the condition that national sovereignty is respected.