

Tuesday, 14 November 17

APA agenda item 4: informal consultations on further guidance in relation to the adaptation communication, including, inter alia, as a component of nationally determined contributions, referred to in Article 7, paragraphs 10 and 11, of the PA

Co-facilitator provides some information of the iteration of the informal note that was sent out yesterday at 5pm. Co-facilitators tried to capture some of the ideas expressed at yesterday's session, as well as ideas from submissions by parties thereafter. The informal note only focuses on the elements now, and co-facilitators have not gone further than number 6 of the document skeleton. In a more detailed level of granularity, they decided to go with a standard way of presenting that information, in italics and in parenthesis, so that it can easily be identified and distinguished from the text from previous versions. Co-facilitators open the floor for suggestions to and state the hope to finalize the informal note today before the closing of the APA.

Argentina (on behalf of G77 and China)

- The Group has been working very hard in order to consider the informal note, and in order to advance together
- Work has been done regarding some language aspects and some specific suggestions of the options in order to accommodate the group's interests
- As there was no room for discussions regarding elements, these are our group's suggestions:
 - o 1st: include a paragraph in the informal note, i.e. relevant context. Suggestion is made to have a specific text, which is stressed to be *very* important for the group to be included.
 - o 2nd: under the heading 11 of the 6th element: all this is new information, the group would like to see this information as Option 1 in each of the cases so that context-specific information will apply to all places. Option 2 should contain a placeholder on further information, e.g. for national circumstances, adaptation priorities, national vulnerabilities etc.
- In all cases, they want to have Option 1 and Option 2: to have two ideas, first to replace the third bullet and the relevant context and then to have these two options in all cases
- Reads out paragraph that should be included; paragraph focuses on the fact that within the elements section, the text in italics are suggestions that have been made by parties and do not represent convergence of parties; as well as the fact that elements may include country-driven approaches

Co-facilitator:

- The language suggested in the paragraph is no language for the outcome of the text
- "I just want to be very clear on that that negotiations are outside of the skeleton"
- I've heard G77: nothing against our own way of our workings, but wouldn't include what was suggested

Argentina:

- Stresses that this is very important for the group
- "I personally understand your comment"
- The group's understanding is however that the room did not have sufficient time for conversations, hence they need this caveat in the text. It is just one option for the informal note, and it is understood that there will be another opportunity in May to discuss matters further.
- "We are considering that you will add it in in good faith"

Co-facilitator:

- Having Option 1 and Option 2 in each one of the bullets is noted, we will proceed now
- Opens up for requests from the floor

Switzerland:

- Thanks co-facilitators for preparing the document
- Delegation specific concerns:
 - o They are ready to engage on the substance and to have all elements are on the table first
 - o “We have a problem with singling out the very NDC specific guidance, we don't see why we should single that out”
 - o Why has the proposal Switzerland made yesterday not been taken up?
- Option 1 should be on vehicle specific guidance for adaptation communication and then more specificity for each vehicle (National Adaptation, National Communications, Other specific-guidance)
- “This is really important for us and we would like this to be included”

Co-facilitator:

- How should this be reflected in the text?
- Asks for clarification from Switzerland

Switzerland:

- Clarification:
 - o Option 1 as it stands right now: vehicle-specific guidance for an adaptation communication guidance
 - o And then vehicle specific guidance, and then have current Option 2

Co-facilitators:

- Repeats for clarity: Leave Option 1 which is NDC specific as it currently is;
- If we want to add another vehicle, it should go under Option 2 and then each option would add for each vehicle
- Option 1 to say to say specific guidance for specific vehicles, so we keep Option 1 and Option 2 then has sub bullets
- Is that agreeable for parties?

New Zealand:

- That would be fine but we would also have to modify Option 2 to have no vehicle specific guidance

Co-facilitators:

- Makes sense, thank you

Japan:

- Share similar view like NZ, stress the need for consistent language
- Stresses that the informal note makes it very clear that the text in italics on elements has not been discussed

Co-facilitator:

- Thanks Japan for their input, we have been working not only on headings but also on sub headings, but we wanted to have an approach where we will be guided by parties, so everything that is in the informal note has come from parties, many parties provided us with information, we are happy to keep up with this rhythm, and at the same time, suggestion from G77 makes it very clear that the text is in no way precluding, or in any part of the text of that matter

Japan:

- No opposition on the bullets (?) just a question of clarification regarding the status
- We are not asking to delete anything, we are pretty much fine to have these bullets (?), but please only clarify on the status

Co-facilitator:

- We can add that we indeed have engaged in discussion of headings but have had no equivalent level on the level of sub headings, although the sub headings represent parties' requests that have been sent in
- We still have 20 minutes, I don't have any more request from the floor but I encourage parties to have reflections on the items

South Africa:

- SA would like to align with G77 on the inputs that have been made
- However, Co-facilitator, we would like to raise an important issue, which is pertaining to the conclusion of this agenda item
- We have gone through this document, around relevant methodology and guidelines in terms of utilization, and we would like to suggest that the conclusion should request the IPCC to prepare specific guidance for this item, ideally to report its work before COP25
- This is a fundamental matter for us

European Union:

- Thank you Co-facilitator for the expanded note
- EU's ideas have largely been reflected
- Note contains main elements that we need to talk about in the coming sessions
- Informal note both contains elements that we agree on and elements that require further discussion, so may the latter should not be in the final document
- There is still scope for certain sections
- Some sections contain very similar listings

United States:

- We are happy to see our reflections reflected
- Just an immediate reaction to SA, I would not support any conclusions directing the IPCC as it states very clearly (in the note), the views have not been discussed or agreed on, so I think there is no basis to request the IPCC to do anything
- Stresses that this approach is something that the US is not supportive of at all

Japan:

- Some of Japan's comments have been captured, but Japan mentioned bullets (?) not sub headings
- Also: we need some paragraph to clarify the status the text in the italics
- Agrees with the US regarding the terms of feasibility and capacity, not too confident that we have any conclusion, we haven't discussed in this room, so not appropriate to have such conclusion,
- We don't have an IPCC representatives in this room to ask but I am not sure IPCC is willing to do research on methodology

Malawi:

- Supports the inputs that G77 has made
- Would fully support the idea SA suggested, as it would help Malawi a lot in terms of capacity

Ecuador:

- On behalf of like-minded developing groups
- In terms of the document, thank you for your efforts to include different options, and we support G77, we were just wondering from the proponents regarding some clarification in terms of approach regarding the headings

Saudi Arabia:

- G77 and China
- Number of comments: under number 6, element B, first bullet: as we are the opponents to this item, we suggest change in the language: “information on adaptation action that result in mitigation co-benefits”, to make it a bit more focused on the current item we are talking about
- Number 5, which is approach, maybe good to add further clarification from the proponent, e.g. if its to provide guidance, it might be better to include guiding principle, maybe more input would be more useful at this time,

Jamaica:

- On behalf of SIDs
- Agree with G77/Argentina’s comments
- We believe in reference to comments on relevant context that some clarification with respect to that text is needed, we similarly express our hope that comments that we have been making, (such as the one G77 has made), will be reflected in some manner
- It is very important that we understand the nature of the note → preliminary!
- So we urge you to take the reflection made seriously

Liberia:

- Intervention, align with SA on behalf on the Africa group and Malawi
- This note is not final, it is not time to shut ideas down
- Call for the IPCC for developing methodologies is very very important to the African group

New Zealand:

- NZ perspective: we are happy with the iteration of this informal note, co-facilitators should add parties views’
- Having a section on the approach
- NZ view: approach is important, adaptation communications can be communicated through a variety of means. We thought be it would be useful, but we are open as to where in the guidance, to encourage parties that they use the structure that we hope that the guidance will provide, so that information is structured. It would be helpful that adaptation actions and plans and results (etc.) then follow a structure that cuts across vehicles
- IPCC: developing mythologies; what sort of mythologies would this encompass? As a representative of my government, I urge to think about the financial implications: the IPCC has already decided its work program for the next 6 years, it is a project on 1.5 degrees, it is also doing some refinements on guidelines; in general: pretty much works already across a number of areas and it is running out of money, IPCC doesn't have sufficient budget to go over its exiting program. In fact IPCC working groups are already working to capacities and more requests coming from this process would not be suitable to the existing time frame

Co-facilitators:

- Other sessions are starting at this time, please be aware of that

Columbia:

- On behalf of G77, three minor inclusions:
 - o Linkages; 1st: make an option for the 1st bullet,
 - o Global stock take → add 2nd option: adaptation communication in Art. 7 paragraph 14b,
 - o Transparency framework → add: reporting on the implementation of adaptation communications

US:

- Does not support heading on guidance principles
- We don't see guiding principles moving forward
- Regarding the IPCC: agrees with NZ, this room has no mandate to ask the IPCC for developing guidance

Uruguay:

- We would just appreciate some clarification by the African group proposal, some parties supporting this proposal and others do not, could you react to it, how is this being treated moving forward by the co-facilitators?

Co-facilitator:

- We will talk to the APA co-chairs, ask how it will be reflected in the conclusions
- Proposal from SA was very clear, we have to consult it
- We will ask for more guidance from the consultations and contact groups

Saudi Arabia:

- Option 1 vehicle specific: this is ok as long as the footnote remains

China:

- Support G77 and Saudi Arabia on their points
- Want to add another point: guiding principle is very important, guiding approach including principles should be included

Co-facilitator:

- We are sure options are kept

South Africa:

- We are ok with seeking further guidance
- They should be reflected in the informal note
- On behalf of the African group we have the understanding that the text takes into account all positions

Co-facilitator closes the session, says it was a very productive sessions, reminds parties to be aware: we will need to work fast, in order to produce a new version, we need to do it quickly, APA deadline is approaching. New version will be accessible on the UNFCCC webpage.