

First APA Informal on Item 4 at COP23

November 8th, 2017

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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 Paris Agreement

Summary:

- G77+China begin meeting by forwarding a proposal of headings and subheadings for the NAPs
 - Several other countries, including Canada, US, New Zealand and Australia, suggest that there may be deeper disagreements on the headings and subheadings
 - Facilitators to produce a consolidated list from discussion today, roundtable and previous country submissions for discussion at next informal session.
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Detailed notes:

Note: the session was booked for one hour and ran almost an hour and 45 minutes.

- The facilitators began the meeting by reviewing the roundtable from Saturday, November 4th where small groups developed skeleton proposals. They remind the group that over the informal sessions, the goal is to consolidate the headings/sub-headings and populate the text.
- Argentina (on behalf of G77+ China) indicates that they have been working since the roundtables (“homework”) and has specific headings/sub-headings to propose.
- This is seconded by Ecuador (on behalf of LMDCs).
- Saudi Arabia aligns with G77+China and LMDCs. Also notes that not all parties have participated on all issues and would like to be more specific about the bulletpoints under the headings/subheadings.
- Facilitators suggest that agreeing on headings/subheadings before building out.
- European Union states that it seems like there are many common elements and supports consolidation as well as preliminary textual idea.
- Further support is expressed by Uruguay, Botswana (African Group) and Malawi (LDCs).
- Argentina (on behalf of G77 + China) introduces proposals:

Headings:

- Preamble/Introduction
- Guiding principles: how to prepare and implement needs, plans and priorities

- Purpose
 - Elements: both a common set and then opt in and opt out set of elements.
 - Specific guidance for LDCs for different interests
 - Vehicles:
 - Timing and frequency could be here or under other matters
 - Linkages
 - Support: Three possible fields:
 - support that is needed for the NAPs (prep and submission)
 - implementation for needs, plans and strategies in the NAP and Article 7.3
 - support provided by developed countries to developing countries in relation to different modalities under the workplan
 - Other matters: (not attached to the name)
- Saudi Arabia supports the basic headings. Also asks for ways to make sure the design is “mutually inclusive” to different viewpoints, rather than “mutually exclusive”.
 - Ecuador (LDC) also supports the headings. Suggests that the guiding principles of the UNFCCC should be highlighted, that support on finance, technology and capacity building is important, and is looking for coherence across all APA work.
 - Kuwait supports the proposal as well as the need for guiding principles, such as CBDR
 - Columbia supports the proposal, wants to be more specific about the elements, the timing and frequency of the reporting and the issues of support.
 - Canada stresses that the NAPs are for all parties as well as developed countries. Would like additional guidance from the facilitators on how the skeletons from the roundtable can be brought together and what sort of “principles” can be followed to guide the guidance.
 - Saudi Arabia suggests a “step by step” approach to identify options, convergence and divergence on the headings/subheadings.
 - Facilitators ask is the G77+China proposal is acceptable to all Parties and can they start to populate the headings.
 - Australia suggests that there may be more divergence than is captured in the G77+China proposal and wants co-facilitators to work from the all the skeleton outlines
 - Facilitators clarify that the headings are still up for debate and they are willing to take a role in the development of the text if requested.
 - USA agrees with Australia that there was be disagreement in the guiding principles and the balance of common/opt-in/opt-out elements.
 - New Zealand concurs with Australia and the USA - a step by step approach is correct for areas of convergence, but the G77+China proposal has too much divergence to be a good start.
 - EU concurs that they should start with areas of fuller convergence and come back to other later.
 - Argentina wants to talk now about all the headings, cannot accept to continue only with convergences and reiterates that they want to start with the G77+China proposal.

- Saudi Arabia also wants to negotiate the G77+China rather than send it back to the co-facilitators.
- Facilitators reminds that parties that is the goal is a common text, but that it does not need to consolidate all items, but should be a good text for negotiation for next COP.
- Ecuador affirms that it wants the process to be “country-driven” with negotiation on the G77+China proposal rather than going back to the co-facilitators.
- Japan asks the facilitators to clarify the approach: has it changed from the beginning of the meeting? Is it now convergence and divergence rather than a common text?
- Facilitators clarify that right now there is no proposal.
- Jamaica (on behalf of Islands and SDS) wants to focus on areas of divergence rather than convergence and suggests that the G77+China proposal is a good start.
- Facilitators suggest starting from common list of elements like the G77+China proposal which can be populated. Proposals from all parties are being solicited of headings/sub-headings to be populated. In the absence of new proposals, they will assume that the roundtable results still stand. However, the facilitators would like to develop one list of headings.
- New Zealand asks if she need to resubmit or do the previous proposal stand.
- Facilitators say yes, especially in the absence of new submissions
- Argentina agrees that all ideas can be in the text, but that it must be circulated early so there is time for coordination and that the list only includes headings and subheadings.
- Facilitator confirms that parties will populate list together, and that more headings and subheadings can still be added later.
- Saudi Arabia affirms that progress needs to be made in this session.
- Kuwait asks for a clarification on whether they will be able to view the proposals on a screen.
- Facilitators believe that the countries have well-known views and they can build a “single basket”, without complete consensus but more than a collated table.
- Saudi Arabia asks about the timeline.
- Facilitators suggest either a list for the next session or the 3rd session, if the parties would like to discuss the interlinkages with APA tomorrow.
- Saudi Arabia wants the consolidated the list tomorrow.
- Facilitators will take all inputs rom the parties today and previous proposals.

