

# Warsaw: On the Road to Paris

Through a series of decisions adopted at COP 17 in Durban, South Africa, countries reaffirmed their resolve to tackle climate change. They further built on those decisions at COP 18 in Doha, Qatar. This resolve is yet to be put into action as global emissions continue to push the world towards warming of 4 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels by the end of this century.

However, the Earth's planetary limits and thus tipping points of its ecosystem have almost been reached. There have been devastating impacts of climate change across the world in the form of super storms, floods, droughts and enhanced extreme weather events. Climate change impacts are costing countries scarce financial resources while the global economy continues facing a major downturn. Impacts are addressed temporarily as the root cause remains unaddressed.

Lack of political will continues to be the key impediment crippling progress in the UNFCCC. Inadequacy of financial resources has hampered ambitious mitigation actions. It has also slowed down effective operationalization of mechanisms meant to help the world cope with impacts of climate change. Key issues such as equity as well as loss and damage wait to be addressed adequately.

It is time that countries catch up with the reality of climate change. Displaying leadership and courage to take difficult decisions is the need of the hour. Lack of political will should not continue to impede ambitious action to tackle climate change.

CAN wishes to remind parties that a climate safe pathway for 2/1.5°C is still feasible and nations must strive for it at COP 19 in Warsaw. They only have the luxury of two more COPs to commit to a climate agreement in 2015. Time is of essence and there are still many unresolved issues - lack of trust between countries being the prominent one.

COP 19 should be used to start working towards a fair, ambitious and legally binding climate plan for the world. CAN suggests that COP 19, as a priority, should address short-term mitigation ambition and the financial gap. This will help build trust amongst parties and create a positive momentum towards a post 2015 climate regime.

## What could be done in the short term at Warsaw COP 19 – Pre-2020

### Mitigation

- **Countries need to strive towards a peak in global emissions by 2015.** Parties need to agree on a process for adopting a decision on global peaking at the earliest.
- **Immediate increase in Developed countries pre-2020 mitigation commitments.**
- **Developing countries who are yet to announce their NAMAs should immediately do so.**
- **Exploring options to further increase developing country contribution to global mitigation actions** while respecting their differentiated responsibility and capability. **Adequate incentives through provision of finance and other means of implementation** will unlock dormant mitigation potential.
- **A framework for Renewable energy and energy efficiency** that enables UNFCCC to play an effective facilitative and coordination role in scaling up RE & EE around the world.
- **Show strong political support for complementary measures being undertaken in other multilateral fora for reducing emissions** especially regarding a phase down of HFCs, reducing emissions from international aviation and shipping and removal of fossil fuel subsidies.

### Finance

- **ALL developed countries to state what climate finance they are providing over the period 2013-15, and commit to a mid-term finance target of \$60 billion in public finance for the period.**
- **A concrete roadmap for meeting the commitment to reach \$100 billion (per year) by 2020, through new and additional sources of public finance.**
- A commitment to allocate at least **50% of public finance to adaptation.**
- **Immediate and substantial pledges to the Green Climate Fund, the Adaptation Fund and the Least Developed Countries Fund.**

### Technology

- **Provision of long term funding for the technology mechanism, using appropriate technology impact assessments** as well as an **analysis of key technologies** whose deployment would bring the greatest and most rapid

sustainable reduction of emissions and agree to a process that would deliver a **global Technology Action Plan in 2015**.

#### REDD/LULUCF

- **REDD is key to emissions reductions however, finance needs to flow in significant quantities** thus the work programme on REDD+ finance under the COP should be extended, **rules relating to LULUCF and elements around REDD + need to be clarified further.**

#### Adaptation

- **Adaptation actions needs to be scaled up immediately** including, **adaptation finance**, agreement on the **next phase of the Nairobi Work Programme**, commitment to pursue the **full implementation of NAPAs** and provision of the required support to LDCs, as well as to enhance immediately the support to vulnerable developing countries in preparing their NAPs over the next two years.

### Contours of the 2015 agreement and elements required for expedited progress towards it

#### Legal

- The scope, structure and design of the 2015 agreement should be consistent with a **1.5°C** related global carbon budget, including **targets and actions** within an **equitable framework** that provides the **financial, technological and capacity building support** to countries with low capacity.
- The 2015 agreement should built on, developing and improving the **rules already agreed under the Kyoto Protocol and the Convention** including transparency through **common and accurate accounting and effective compliance processes, respecting the principles of equity.**
- The form of the 2015 agreement should be a **fair, ambitious and legally binding protocol.**

#### Equity

- **There will not be an ambitious 2015 deal without equity nor equity without an ambitious 2015 deal.**
- **Countries should agree to an Equity Reference Framework**, one that ensures that commitments – both for mitigation action and financial support – are objectively and precisely evaluated with respect to specified global emission budgets and specified estimates of the global financial need.
- CAN has developed a list of **five equity indicators (Adequacy, Responsibility, Capability, Development Need and Adaptation Need)**, which together can effectively capture the core Convention-based equity principles.
- **Equity Champions need to step forward and drive the equity process. At COP 19 a roundtable or workshop should be conducted around an Equity Reference Framework and Equity Indicators.**
- **COP 19 should deliver a decision on accelerated development of an Equity Reference Framework**

that is applicable to all and **involves an independent expert process.**

#### Mitigation

- Countries need to collectively **agree on long- and medium-term global goals (2030, 2040, 2050)**. These goals need to be inscribed in the 2015 legally binding agreement and should be based on rigorous scientific assessment.
- **All countries must put forward fair and adequate mitigation commitments and actions for the post-2020 period latest by the COP 20.** Commitments and actions should be reported using common accounting rules to ensure transparency, MRV, thus allowing comparability of national commitments.

#### Finance

- **Establish a permanent high-level negotiating space for climate finance** under the COP.
- **Ensure rapid progress on the following issues in relation to finance: adequacy and scaling up, equity, additionality, coherence, rationalization, transparency.**
- **A review mechanism that assesses adequacy** of existing finance pledges and regularly reassesses finance commitments.
- **An agreed target for public finance during the period 2020-2025 and inclusion of alternative sources of financing** that will contribute to raising public finance to the scale required.

#### Review

- **Start work of the Joint Contact Group (JCG) on the First Periodical Review.** Parties should not just conduct housekeeping but **draw conclusions from recent scientific progress especially IPCC Working Group 1 report by conducting a working session during COP 19 about the report.**

#### Adaptation

- The 2015 agreement should recognize **that lack of mitigation ambition exacerbates adaptation needs of the poorest and most vulnerable people.**
- Options, benefits and limitations of **global adaptation goals should be explored.**
- **Learning from development and implementation of NAPAs and NAPs** should be used as valuable inputs towards post 2020 adaptation needs. Full implementation of NAPAs and NAPs should be key to that.

#### Loss and Damage

- **Loss and Damage should be an integral part of the 2015 agreement.**
- **COP 19 should establish an international mechanism to address loss and damage** and it should be fully operationalized by COP 21.

#### REDD & LULUCF

- The 2015 agreement should contain **specific provisions for the continuation of REDD+.** This should include provisions for funding results based (phase 3) REDD+ and

ensure that the Cancun safeguards are fully addressed, respected and implemented.

- The agreement should include **rules for common accounting, including for LULUCF** that are land based, consistent with the Convention, and should be referenced to a common base period or year, as in all other sectors.

### *Technology*

- The Technology mechanism to **apply agreed equity principles to the CTCN prioritization and other TM processes.**
- Prepare a **workable resource for countries to determine, for any new technologies they might choose to deploy, any unsuspected detrimental impacts on biodiversity or human lives.**
- An **analysis of key technologies** whose deployment would bring the greatest and most rapid sustainable reduction of emissions and/or reduction of barriers to resilience. Along with this **prioritization of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, particularly off-grid Renewable Energy** to support the resilience provided by rural energy access.
- Develop a **global Technology Action Plan** in 2015.

### *International Carbon Markets*

- **Access to international carbon markets** under the new agreement should be limited to countries that have a sufficiently ambitious reduction target and that are in line with science and with the Equity Reference Framework.
- **Extensive reform of the Clean Development Mechanism and Joint Implementation** is needed.

### *Agriculture*

- **Explore the possible roles of all the relevant UNFCCC and Kyoto Protocol mechanisms that can contribute to attaining an equitable, food secure, sustainable, and climate resilient agriculture.**

Climate Action Network (CAN) is the world's largest network of civil society organizations working together to promote government action to address the climate crisis, with more than 850 members in over 100 countries. [climatenetwork.org](http://climatenetwork.org)

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