



Climate Action Network

Briefing on Top Line Priorities for the Japan-Brazil Meeting

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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 1100 members in over 120 countries. www.climatenetwork.org

The 16th Informal Meeting on Further Actions Against Climate Change or the Japan-Brazil Informal Meeting provides an opportunity for key Parties to initiate the critical discussions that need to happen in 2018 and agree on important issues ahead of the UNFCCC intersessions in April. Climate Action Network provides this Briefing outlining its top line expectations for 2018 with the view of guiding the Ministers at this Meeting.

At COP23, under the leadership of the Fijian Presidency, Parties focused on 1) moving forward on the implementation guidelines of the Paris Agreement and 2) designing the Talanoa Dialogue, a mechanism that will hopefully provide an accurate assessment of both pre- and post-2020 climate efforts and jumpstart the ambition mechanism of the Paris Agreement. In addition to this, significant attention was given to loss and damage finance as well as to Pre-2020 action and support which resulted in decisions that mandated the Suva Expert Dialogue to be held in conjunction with the April/May sessions and a stocktake on pre-2020 implementation and ambition to be held in conjunction with COP 24, respectively.

The first area of focus saw mixed results as several issues remained unresolved or suffered from lack of clarity on a way forward. The pace of progress on these issues, and many others, needs to be stepped up in 2018. Parties have committed to finalizing the implementation guidelines of the Paris Agreement at COP24 in Katowice, yet much remains to be done to deliver on this commitment. Parties should do their utmost to avoid any delays in the adoption of ambitious and robust implementation guidelines. At a minimum, Parties need to come out of the April/May session with draft legal texts and with significant progress on the following:

- Core set of robust and enforceable guidelines for the Enhanced Transparency Framework and the global stocktake, which are essential in driving forward ambition over time;
- Key concepts of modalities for accounting for Climate Finance, as it plays a central role in enhancing trust and confidence between Parties and providing developing countries with the necessary support to adapt to the impacts of climate change and develop carbon neutral and resilient economies; and
- Common 5-year time frames for NDCs, to ensure that the ambition mechanism works smoothly and methodically towards achieving the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement, avoiding lock-in of insufficient ambition.

In 2018, the Talanoa Dialogue provides an opportunity to ramp up ambition and constitutes a strong basis for enhancing current NDCs before 2020. It is also an opportunity for increased synergy in

expediting implementation while meeting urgent development goals. An assessment of climate action and support both in the pre-2020 and post-2020 periods allows us to have an accurate status report as we approach the first implementation period of the Paris Agreement. However, as we undertake this assessment, Parties must ensure that the Dialogue results in increased mitigation targets and a clear pathway towards achieving the long-term goals of the Agreement. To make the most of this process, the Talanoa Dialogue should:

- Help Parties in consolidating their political resolve to close the ambition gaps;
- Provide emphasis on the provision of support – in parallel to mitigation efforts - and the means of implementation (MOI) necessary, including further opportunities for international cooperation, which are necessary to unlock the additional ambition embedded in the conditional components of most NDCs;
- Be informed by the IPCC's Special Report on 1.5°C and other available best science, as well as by equity considerations;
- Encourage inputs that consider both the barriers to, and opportunities for greater ambition, to best inform the Ministerial Dialogue at COP24; and
- Allow for a broader set of inputs from non-Party stakeholders, including via submissions to the online platform, participation during the SB48 workshops, or throughout the year via Talanoa branded events, should also be adequately considered and reflected in the synthesis reports by the Fijian and Polish Presidencies.

At the conclusion of the Talanoa Dialogue, and in answering the three guiding questions provided in the Design thereof (where are we? where do we want to go? how do we get there?), Parties should have a clearer understanding of the work that remains to be done and know how to address barriers across all sectors. The outcomes must be enshrined in a decision text to emphasize the need for greater collective ambition and to provide impetus for the enhancing of NDCs. These revised NDC targets should be consistent with long-term strategies and inspire collaborative action. Lastly, NDCs need to be framed as gateways for enhanced financial flows, with the potential to drive economic growth and address sustainable development needs.

Lastly, the Suva Expert Dialogue must lead to meaningful steps towards channelling and accessing loss and damage finance for the most vulnerable. A finance arm for the WIM is urgently needed to address the growing needs of those at the front lines of climate change impacts. Parties must initiate important discussions which include enhancing the understanding of the nature, types and scales of finance developing countries require, sources of finance, and mechanisms for generating and assessing finance.