



Recommendation to the Informal Dialogue – 15th of April 2016 (Paris)

April, 2016

Climate Action Network International (CAN-I) is the world's largest network of civil society organizations working together to promote government action to address the climate crisis, with more than 950 members in over 110 countries. www.climatenetwork.org

BACKGROUND

At COP 21, 197 nations came together to agree on the Paris Agreement. CAN welcomes the outcome from Paris and urges all countries to ratify the Paris Agreement as soon as possible to ensure a smooth entry into force of the agreement. While the Paris Agreement provides the framework for future climate action, there is still a lot to be done. From elaborating the rules of the Paris Agreement to ensuring that greater ambition in the pre 2020 period in order to rapidly close the gigaton gap. Effective implementation of the agreement as well as creating the enabling environment for countries to achieve their proposed climate actions is crucial if we are to fulfil the goals within the Paris Agreement as well as to pursue efforts to limit temperature rise to 1.5 C.

CAN recommends that the following issues should be prioritized and addressed in the informal meeting in order to develop a concrete road map towards addressing these issues and to create the necessary foundations for implementation of the Paris Agreement.

Increase Ambition: The Paris Agreement creates the framework for increasing ambition within countries over time. The current ambition as seen within the Cancun pledges (pre 2020) as well as the INDCs (post 2020) proposed by governments in the run up to COP21 is grossly inadequate from what is required by science.

Governments need to increase ambition immediately and have clear timelines towards revising their ambition if the commitment made by governments within the Paris Agreement is to be understood as meaningful.

- There is a need for **accelerated implementation of pre-2020 commitments especially by developed countries, as well as provision of support**. Previous technical expert meetings (TEMs) have tended to focus on mitigation opportunities in developing countries, this does not reflect developed countries capabilities and mitigation potential. **The positive and solutions-oriented approach of the technical examination**

process should help to overcome political barriers and identify effective measures and build productive alliances.

- **CAN proposes a TEM dedicated to considering how finance and other means of implementation could be increased in order to deliver additional action.** The lack of finance and other barriers to means of implementation have been a recurring theme in previous TEMs. In order for concrete action on ground these concerns need to be addressed immediately.
- Among the prime enablers for accelerated implementation CAN suggests a focus on the leapfrog technologies whose needs are foreseen based on needs assessment, action plans, and national SDGs. This “needs resource” together with a horizon scanning function to identify applicable cutting edge climate technologies raise awareness among stakeholders in cooperative public and private Research, Development and Deployment to send market signals that hasten implementation of prime technologies while ensuring their safety and appropriateness in local applications..
- In order for a clear way forward on the technical meetings and for on ground tangible implementation of ideas and initiatives, **CAN proposes that the high-level champions produce a scenario note for 2016, to be presented prior to the May session.** This should include plans and milestones for the TEMs, fundraising efforts, engagement with Parties and non-Party stakeholders, and, importantly, concrete plans to turn good ideas into action as well as plans to assist countries in overcoming means of implementation shortfalls.
- **For the action agenda to build credibility and gain political influence, the projects and initiatives presented in TEMs and highlighted at high-level events must provide real and significant emissions reductions and/or enhanced resilience.** Projects and initiatives must contain specific and measurable commitments and reporting plans.
- **Countries should seriously address the shortfall in adaptation finance. Para 114 of 1/CP.20 urges developed countries to provide a roadmap toward \$100 billion.** In CAN’s view, developed countries should present such a roadmap at COP 22, providing information on the use of various instruments, channels and institutions, but also planned increases in adaptation finance by 2020. **CAN proposes that countries should, in this context, set a 2020 goal for adaptation finance to provide the necessary certainty and clarity.**
- At Paris countries agreed that loss and damage was a separate and distinct area of work, and enshrined the Warsaw International Mechanism (WIM) to undertake important work. **You must now provide the WIM with the support it needs** to move quickly from a mode of enhancing understanding to provide significant **action and support**, in particular for the most vulnerable communities and countries. This will require significant funding - over and above that committed to adaptation. Countries must **engage in the SCF 2016 Forum on Loss and Damage Finance**, and take forward from it and from the upcoming Review of the WIM at the Marrakesh COP a **plan, with milestones and timelines, to develop and introduce new sources of finance, such as a Carbon Levy, to ensure that by 2020 at least \$50 billion a year is flowing for loss and damage in vulnerable countries**, on top of and beyond the \$100 billion pledged by developed countries to support adaptation and mitigation in developing countries.

Revisions, facilitated dialogue and global stocktake: Key to the Paris agreement are various provisions that allude to potential review and revision of ambition over the course of time. It is these components of Paris Agreement that make it ambitious and, potentially, will allow it to stand the test of time.

There is a need to set ambitious guidelines for these processes as well as sequence them in a manner for effective revision of ambition.

- The facilitated dialogues in 2016 and 2018 will be crucial dress rehearsals for the global stocktake in 2023. Countries must use the opportunities presented by these dialogues to indicate exactly how, and under what circumstances, they are most likely to increase their ambition.
- Given that the current set of INDCs are completely inadequate and would set the world, in the best case, on a 3-4°C temperature pathway, **CAN strongly encourages countries to upwardly revise their current INDCs before inscribing them into the new agreement.**
- **The 2018 facilitated dialogue will be a key opportunity for governments to review, revise, and resubmit their NDCs.** Credible science should be the basis for these discussions. For 2018, countries must consider the IPCC Special report on impacts and potential pathways of 1.5°C. However, countries have to do their homework, starting now.
- The **guidelines to be developed for the global stocktake need to be robust** and must ensure the **active participation of civil society**. The global stocktake must be **comprehensive**, and **should actively encourage countries to revise their NDCs**. The guidelines for the global stocktake should be **anchored around the three crucial pillars science, equity and ambition**. This can be facilitated through improving the information requirements for INDCs.

Long Term Strategies: The Paris Agreement invited parties to formulate and communicate long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies by 2020. CAN views these strategies as key in providing the necessary confidence to various stakeholder around long term commitment to climate action and as the national operationalization of the collective long-term goals. **CAN believes that it is important for the COP to provide further guidance as well as the necessary support to developing countries in building these strategies.**

Transparency: We emphasize the importance of continued improved public participation and stress on inclusion and participation of civil society representatives across various processes and platforms created within the Paris Agreement.

CONCLUSION:

Climate Action Network (CAN) looks forward to engaging constructively with governments in ensuring effective and fair implementation of the Paris Agreement. We would continue to provide our inputs while the rulemaking and further elaboration of provisions is negotiated. We hope that governments take these issues raised within this briefing into account during the course of the informal discussions.