

# CANCUN BUILDING BLOCKS

## ESSENTIAL STEPS ON THE ROAD TO A FAIR, AMBITIOUS AND BINDING DEAL

**COP16 at Cancun must be a significant stepping stone to a full fair, ambitious and binding deal at COP17 in South Africa. Parties at COP16 must take decisions on important policy areas, establish a clear vision for COP17, and agree a process for reaching a full fair, ambitious & binding deal, including the following benchmarks:**

### **A global understanding of ambition and shared effort**

- COP16 should commission a technical paper on the scientific, technical and socio-economic issues relating to temperature increase of 1.5°C to inform COP17 decisions.
- COP16 should establish a mandate to agree an equitable effort sharing approach between developed and developing countries by COP17, consistent with the equity principles of the UNFCCC, the historical responsibility of developed countries, and the right to sustainable development of developing countries.

### **Developed country emission reductions**

- At COP16 developed countries should agree an aggregate reduction target of more than 40% below 1990 by 2020. Should they fail to commit to this target, they must acknowledge the gigatonne gap between current pledges and science based targets, and agree a mandate to negotiate by COP17 the needed aggregate reduction target of more than 40% below 1990 levels by 2020.
  - Developed countries should commit to a mandate to negotiate by COP17 individual legally binding quantified emission reduction commitments (QERCs) reflecting comparable effort and summing to the needed aggregate target of more than 40%.
  - Agree at COP16 that each developed country will produce a Zero Carbon Action Plan by 2012.

- At COP16 developed countries should clearly state that their emission reduction commitments will be subject to an effective measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) and compliance system within the Kyoto Protocol, whilst ensuring comparable MRV and compliance for the United States. COP 17 should codify these stringent MRV and compliance rules.
- COP16 should agree robust rules to ensure developed countries honestly meet their emission reduction targets by minimising loopholes, including:
  - Land use, land use change and forestry rules that increase accountability and strengthen the level of ambition of developed countries such that forestry and land use sectors deliver emissions reductions.
  - Market mechanism rules that improve environmental integrity, prevent double counting, and strengthen the ability to transform economies.
  - Rules that minimise damage from hot air (surplus AAUs).

### **Developing country mitigation actions**

- At COP16 developing countries should agree to produce climate resilient Low Carbon Action Plans, optional for least developed countries and small island developing states, contingent upon support from developed countries.
  - COP16 should establish a mechanism to enable developing country nationally appropriate mitigation actions (NAMAs) to be matched with support. Guidelines including MRV, should be adopted by COP17.
- At COP17 developing countries as a group should commit to developing NAMAs amounting to the

deviation from business as usual identified in the effort sharing approach, whose implementation would be contingent on the necessary support being provided by developed countries.

- At COP17 a science-based review process should be established to identify the total mitigation forecast from developing country LCAPs and NAMAs, and assess whether this is in line with the mitigation needed in developing countries to contribute to keeping warming below 1.5°C, as identified in the effort sharing approach. A process should be established to address any gap (or shortfall) in mitigation occurring in developing countries. This is likely to involve an increase in funding from developed countries.
- At COP16 all Parties shall collectively aim to stop deforestation and degradation of natural forests and related emissions completely, by 2020. A commitment to sufficient finance is required to meet this goal. Studies indicate that halving emissions by 2020 would cost between \$15 and 35 billion annually in 2020.

## Supporting global efforts to address climate change and adapt to its effects

- COP16 should establish a Climate Fund to receive the vast majority of long-term finance.
  - COP16 should establish a governance structure for the new fund that is transparent, regionally balanced and ensures the COP decides policies, programme priorities and eligibility criteria. It should enable direct access to funds.
  - COP 16 should initiate a process to secure innovative sources of public funding by COP 17. COP17 must agree to implement specific innovative sources of public finance and to a formula of contributions from each developed country.
  - COP 16 must build on the \$100 billion commitment made in Copenhagen, by agreeing that developed countries will scale up their support to new and additional public finance by 2020 and establish a review process to periodically reassess the adequacy of financial support, the first assessment being completed in 2015.
  - COP 16 should establish common measurement and reporting formats, on financial support by developed countries, including annual 'climate finance inventories', to make comparisons and verification possible.

- COP 16 should immediately establish a Capacity Building Technical Panel, with sufficient resources to begin funding fast-start capacity building for national proposals on adaptation, technology, REDD and mitigation-action programmes and priorities.
- COP 16 should establish a Technology Executive Committee (TEC) to develop, by COP17, a Global Technology Objective and Global Technology Action Plans or Roadmaps to guide Climate Technology Centres (and regional centres and members of the Climate Technology Network).
- COP 16 must agree an Adaptation Framework to urgently and significantly scale up action at the local, national, regional and international levels and ensure focus on the needs of the poorest and most vulnerable people and ecosystems.
  - COP16 should establish an Adaptation Committee to coordinate adaptation efforts; support developing countries to obtain information, build capacity to adapt to the impacts of climate change; and ensure that sufficient technology and financial support is provided in light of updated science and impacts.
  - COP 16 should establish a mandate to address loss and damage caused by extreme and slow-onset climate change beyond the limits of adaptation, eg severe flooding or sea level rise, desertification. COP17 must create a mechanism to address loss and damage, especially for the poorest and most vulnerable.

## Clarity on the legal framework and path forward

COP 16 should establish a mandate to provide clarity on the legal form of the outcome to be agreed at COP17. As a minimum the legal mandate should include a second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol, and a complementary agreement under the LCA track including comparable mitigation commitments by the United States, financial commitments by developed countries, and developing country action. Both tracks should produce a legally binding and enforceable outcome in accordance with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities.

COP16 must also outline a timeline, workplan, number of meetings, and format to provide certainty to the negotiations.

Additionally COP16 must begin to plan for the negotiation of commitments beyond the next commitment period, foreshadowing a process informed by the latest science, including the 1.5° Technical Paper and the IPCC 5<sup>th</sup> Assessment Report, ending in 2015 at the latest.

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Climate Action Network – International is a coalition of roughly 500 civil society organizations worldwide committed to limiting human-induced climate change to ecologically sustainable levels. This paper incorporates input from across CAN's broad membership. For further detail on the diversity of views in CAN membership please see the detailed version at [www.climatenetwork.org](http://www.climatenetwork.org).

For further information on Climate Action Network, including contact details for the CAN-International Secretariat and regional and national nodes please see our website: [www.climatenetwork.org](http://www.climatenetwork.org)