

AD HOC WORKING GROUP ON LONG-TERM COOPERATIVE ACTION UNDER THE CONVENTION

Report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention on its second session, held in Bonn from 2 to 12 June 2008

CONTENTS

			Paragraphs	Page
I.	OPENING OF THE SESSION (Agenda item 1)		1–6	3
II.		ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS (Agenda item 2)		3
	А.	Adoption of the agenda	7–8	3
	B.	Organization of the work of the session	9–11	4
III.	IMPLE LONG BEYO	LING THE FULL, EFFECTIVE AND SUSTAINED EMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION THROUGH FTERM COOPERATIVE ACTION NOW, UP TO AND ND 2012, BY ADDRESSING, INTER ALIA: da item 3)		
		A shared vision for long-term cooperative action		
		Enhanced national/international action on mitigation of climate change		
		Enhanced action on adaptation		
		Enhanced action on technology development and transfer to support action on mitigation and adaptation		
		Enhanced action on the provision of financial resources and investment to support action on mitigation and adaptation and technology cooperation	12–28	4

		Paragraphs	Page
IV.	CONSIDERATION OF A WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2009 (Agenda item 4)	29–38	7
V.	OTHER MATTERS (Agenda item 5)	39	8
VI.	REPORT ON THE SESSION (Agenda item 6)	40	8
VII.	CLOSURE OF THE SESSION	41	8
	Annex		
	Documents before the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperativ Action under the Convention at its second session	e	9

I. Opening of the session

(Agenda item 1)

1. The second session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention (AWG-LCA) was held at the Maritim Hotel, Bonn, Germany, from 2 to 12 June 2008.

2. The Chair of the AWG-LCA, Mr. Luiz Alberto Figueiredo Machado (Brazil), opened the session and welcomed all Parties and observers. He also welcomed Mr. Michael Zammit Cutajar (Malta) as Vice-Chair of the AWG-LCA and Ms. Lilian Portillo (Paraguay) as Rapporteur.

3. The Chair recalled that at its first session, the AWG-LCA agreed on a programme of work for 2008 and held an initial substantive debate on the elements of the Bali Action Plan (decision 1/CP.13). The Chair noted that these rich discussions brought out a number of important insights, concerns and concrete proposals that require further in-depth consideration. The summary of the views expressed at the first session is contained in document FCCC/AWGLCA/2008/6.

4. The Chair stated that the main challenge before the AWG-LCA at its second session was to make the transition to undertaking more focused work, leading to negotiations on the elements of the Bali Action Plan. The group would need to make progress on the critical issues to be addressed and to hear concrete ideas and proposals on how to move forward. The Chair noted that with only 18 months remaining until the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP), it was crucial that each session achieve as much progress as possible.

5. The Chair noted that the AWG-LCA could make progress on its tasks in various ways, building on the useful exchange at its first session and the valuable submissions from Parties. Appropriate next steps would need to be determined based on previous work on the issues. Areas for further work would need to be determined. Agreeing on targeted calls for the submission of concrete suggestions and proposals by Parties could also help to advance the work.

6. The Chair recalled that as agreed at the first session, the AWG-LCA would also hold three in-session workshops. The objective of these workshops would be to deepen understanding and clarify elements contained in the Bali Action Plan. This could contribute to the emergence of a common understanding of what needs to be negotiated in order to reach an agreed outcome. The workshops would be Party-driven, meaning that substantive discussions would rely primarily on inputs by Parties, placing the onus on Parties to bring to the workshops their ideas and proposals for concrete ways to fulfil the mandate of the Bali Action Plan.

II. Organizational matters

(Agenda item 2)

A. Adoption of the agenda

(Agenda item 2 (a))

7. At its 1^{st} meeting, on 2 June, the AWG-LCA considered a note by the Executive Secretary containing the provisional agenda and annotations (FCCC/AWGLCA/2008/4).

8. At the same meeting, the agenda was adopted as follows:

- 1. Opening of the session.
- 2. Organizational matters:
 - (a) Adoption of the agenda;

- (b) Organization of the work of the session.
- 3. Enabling the full, effective and sustained implementation of the Convention through long-term cooperative action now, up to and beyond 2012, by addressing, inter alia:
 - (a) A shared vision for long-term cooperative action;
 - (b) Enhanced national/international action on mitigation of climate change;
 - (c) Enhanced action on adaptation;
 - (d) Enhanced action on technology development and transfer to support action on mitigation and adaptation;
 - (e) Enhanced action on the provision of financial resources and investment to support action on mitigation and adaptation and technology cooperation.
- 4. Consideration of a work programme for 2009.
- 5. Other matters.
- 6. Report on the session.

B. Organization of the work of the session

(Agenda item 2 (b))

9. The AWG-LCA considered this sub-item at its 1^{st} meeting, on 2 June.

10. Recalling the scenario note prepared for the second session,¹ the Chair proposed that the AWG-LCA begin by taking up agenda item 4, and launch consideration of this item by initially focusing on organizational and planning issues. The AWG-LCA would then take up agenda item 3, and hear substantive statements on the elements that the AWG-LCA needed to address, building upon the initial substantive debate at its first session.

11. The AWG-LCA agreed to the proposed organization of work.

III. Enabling the full, effective and sustained implementation of the Convention through long-term cooperative action now, up to and beyond 2012, by addressing, inter alia:

(Agenda item 3)

A shared vision for long-term cooperative action (Agenda item 3 (a))

Enhanced national/international action on mitigation of climate change (Agenda item 3 (b))

Enhanced action on adaptation (Agenda item 3 (c))

Enhanced action on technology development and transfer to support action on mitigation and adaptation (Agenda item 3 (d))

¹ FCCC/AWGLCA/2008/7.

Enhanced action on the provision of financial resources and investment to support action on mitigation and adaptation and technology cooperation

(Agenda item 3 (e))

1. Proceedings

12. The AWG-LCA considered these sub-items together at its 1st, 2nd and 3rd meetings, on 2 June, 6 June and 12 June, respectively. It had before it documents FCCC/AWGLCA/2008/6, FCCC/AWGLCA/2008/7 and FCCC/AWGLCA/2008/INF.1.

13. At the 1st meeting, the Chair recalled that at its first session, the AWG-LCA agreed to undertake its work, seeking progress on all elements assigned to it by the Bali Action Plan, in a coherent, integrated and transparent manner. It further agreed to organize its work at each session to include each of the elements, taking into account the interlinkages among them and with the work of the Convention's other subsidiary bodies in the context of the Bali Road Map.

14. The Chair noted that the greatest challenge for the AWG-LCA at this session was to focus its work by building on the general substantive debate at its first session and moving to developing and considering concrete proposals on how to address issues identified in the Bali Action Plan. The Chair welcomed suggestions on how best to take the work forward during this session and to prepare decisions that the AWG-LCA needed to take at the closing plenary meeting.

15. At the same meeting, statements were made by representatives of 15 Parties, including one speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, one on behalf of the African Group, one on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS), one on behalf of the European Community and its member States,² one on behalf of the Umbrella Group, one on behalf of the Environmental Integrity Group and one on behalf of the least developed countries.

16. At the same meeting, a statement on behalf of environmental non-governmental organizations (NGOs) was made.

17. The AWG-LCA held three in-session workshops on 2, 3 and 5 June. The Vice-Chair of the AWG-LCA chaired the workshop on "Advancing adaptation through finance and technology, including national adaptation programmes of action". The Chair of the AWG-LCA chaired the two other workshops.

18. The Chair and the Vice-Chair prepared summaries of the views expressed at each in-session workshop that they had chaired to inform the work of the AWG-LCA on the respective issues at the second session. These summaries were issued as conference room papers³ during the session and will also be incorporated into the Chair's summary of the views expressed at the second session.

19. At the 2nd meeting, on 6 June, statements were made by representatives of 19 Parties, including one speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, one on behalf of the African Group, one on behalf of AOSIS, one on behalf of the European Community and its member States, one on behalf of the Umbrella Group and one on behalf of the least developed countries.

² This statement was supported by Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Ukraine and Turkey.

³ Summaries are available at <http://unfccc.int/meetings/ad_hoc_working_groups/lca/items/4416.php>.

FCCC/AWGLCA/2008/8 Page 6

20. At the same meeting the AWG-LCA, acting on the proposal by the Chair, established a contact group on agenda item 3, to be chaired by the Chair of the AWG-LCA. The group was given two tasks:

- (a) To advance substantive work on the elements of the Bali Action Plan, focusing on concrete proposals;
- (b) To consider if it would be useful to issue focused calls for submissions of concrete proposals from Parties and, if needed, requests for technical papers or information notes from the secretariat.

21. At its 3^{rd} meeting, on 12 June, the AWG-LCA considered and adopted conclusions⁴ proposed by the Chair.

22. At the same meeting, statements on behalf of business and industry NGOs, environmental NGOs and trade unions were made.

2. Conclusions

23. The AWG-LCA took note of the views expressed and proposals made at its second session, including at the in-session workshops held.⁵ It further took note of the information on ongoing work under the Convention as it relates to the Bali Action Plan.⁶

24. The AWG-LCA recalled the conclusions of its first session, containing an invitation to Parties and accredited observer organizations to provide additional information, views and proposals on paragraph 1 of the Bali Action Plan, as may be required for each session.

25. The AWG-LCA invited Parties to submit ideas and proposals and, where appropriate and to the extent possible, specific textual proposals on the elements contained in paragraph 1 of the Bali Action Plan, taking into account the interlinkages among the elements and the specific subparagraphs under each of the elements, in order to focus the consideration of all the five elements by the AWG-LCA.

26. The AWG-LCA further invited Parties to submit ideas and proposals on the subjects of the AWG-LCA workshops scheduled for 2008.

27. The AWG-LCA requested the secretariat to post the submissions referred to in paragraphs 24–26 above on the UNFCCC website, as soon as they are received, and to compile submissions by Parties and intergovernmental organizations into separate miscellaneous documents, and make them available one week prior to the respective sessions for consideration by the AWG-LCA.

28. The AWG-LCA requested the secretariat, subject to the availability of financial resources, to prepare and make available for consideration at its fourth session:

- (a) A technical paper on challenges and opportunities for mitigation in the agricultural sector;
- (b) A technical paper on mechanisms, including innovative insurance tools, that can be used to manage financial risks from direct impacts of climate change in developing countries, including consideration of the unique circumstances of the most vulnerable developing countries, especially least developed countries, small island developing States and countries in Africa, and the design of appropriate mechanisms bringing together inputs from technical experts in the fields of insurance, reinsurance, and hazard assessment;

⁴ FCCC/AWGLCA/2008/L.5.

⁵ <http://unfccc.int/meetings/items/4381.php>.

⁶ FCCC/AWGLCA/2008/INF.1.

FCCC/AWGLCA/2008/8 Page 7

- (c) An update of the technical paper on investment and financial flows to address climate change,⁷ taking into account paragraph 1 of the Bali Action Plan;
- (d) An information note on adaptation related activities within the United Nations system.

IV. Consideration of a work programme for 2009

(Agenda item 4)

1. Proceedings

29. The AWG-LCA considered this item at its 1^{st} and 3^{rd} meetings, on 2 and 12 June, respectively. It had before it document FCCC/SBI/2008/4/Add.1–FCCC/AWGLCA/2008/5.

30. The Chair invited the Executive Secretary to present this document on meeting facilities and resources needed and available for the work of the AWG-LCA in 2009.

31. At the same meeting the AWG-LCA agreed to consider this item in informal consultations convened by the Vice-Chair, with a focus on organizational aspects.

32. At the 2^{nd} meeting, the Vice-Chair provided a brief update on the progress made in the informal consultations with Parties.

33. At its 3rd meeting, the AWG-LCA considered and adopted conclusions⁸ proposed by the Chair.

2. Conclusions

34. The AWG-LCA recalled that, at its first session, it had agreed that it would start considering its work programme for 2009 at its second session in 2008, and complete it no later than at its fourth session in 2008.⁹ The AWG-LCA began its consideration at its second session by focusing on organizational aspects relating to the planning and scheduling of its work in 2009.

35. The AWG-LCA took note of the information provided on meeting facilities and resources needed and available for its work in 2009.¹⁰

36. The AWG-LCA recalled that, at its first session, it had agreed that it would need to hold at least four sessions in 2009, of a total duration of up to eight weeks,¹¹ and confirmed that four sessions would be held in March/April, in June in conjunction with the thirtieth sessions of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI), in August/September and in conjunction with the fifteenth session of the COP,¹² in conformity with the overall schedule of meetings under the Convention. The AWG-LCA noted that, for planning purposes, a decision on whether an additional session in 2009 would be necessary should be reached no later than at COP 14.

37. The AWG-LCA noted that other organizational aspects of the 2009 schedule of meetings, including venues and durations of sessional periods that are not already fixed, as well as financial implications, were considered by the SBI at its twenty-eighth session.¹³

⁷ <http://unfccc.int/files/cooperation_and_support/financial_mechanism/application/pdf/background_paper.pdf>. ⁸ FCCC/AWGLCA/2008/L.4.

⁹ FCCC/AWGLCA/2008/3, paragraph 25.

¹⁰ FCCC/SBI/2008/4/Add.1–FCCC/AWGLCA/2008/5, chapter III.

¹¹ FCCC/AWGLCA/2008/3, paragraph 25.

¹² 30 November to 11 December 2009.

¹³ FCCC/SBI/2008/8, chapters XIII–XIV.

FCCC/AWGLCA/2008/8 Page 8

38. The AWG-LCA welcomed the ongoing exploration by the President of the COP and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol and the Chairs of the subsidiary bodies of possible ways to provide greater focus on the Bali Road Map in 2009.

V. Other matters

(Agenda item 5)

39. No other matters were raised or considered.

VI. Report on the session

(Agenda item 6)

40. At its 3rd meeting, on 12 June, the AWG-LCA considered and adopted the draft report on its second session.¹⁴ At the same meeting, on a proposal by the Chair, the AWG-LCA authorized the Rapporteur to complete the report on the session, with the assistance of the secretariat and under the guidance of the Chair.

VII. Closure of the session

41. At the 3rd meeting, the Chair thanked the delegates for their contributions. A representative of the secretariat made a statement on financial implications of the decisions taken at this session. Statements were made by representatives of 13 Parties, including one speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, one on behalf of AOSIS, one on behalf of the European Community and its member States and one on behalf of the Central American Integration System.

¹⁴ FCCC/AWGLCA/2008/L.3.

Annex

Documents before the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention at its second session

Documents prepared for the session

FCCC/AWGLCA/2008/4	Provisional agenda and annotations. Note by the Executive Secretary
FCCC/AWGLCA/2008/6	Summary of views expressed during the first session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention on the development of the two-year work programme that was mandated under paragraph 7 of the Bali Action Plan. Note by the Chair
FCCC/AWGLCA/2008/7	Scenario note on the second session. Note by the Chair
FCCC/SBI/2008/4/Add.1– FCCC/AWGLCA/2008/5	Arrangements for intergovernmental meetings. Note by the Executive Secretary. Addendum. Further information on arrangements for intergovernmental meetings in 2008 and 2009
FCCC/AWGLCA/2008/INF.1	Information on ongoing work under the Convention as it relates to the Bali Action Plan. Note by the secretariat
FCCC/AWGLCA/2008/L.3	Draft report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention on its second session
FCCC/AWGLCA/2008/L.4	Work programme for 2009. Draft conclusions proposed by the Chair
FCCC/AWGLCA/2008/L.5	Enabling the full, effective and sustained implementation of the Convention through long-term cooperative action now, up to and beyond 2012. Draft conclusions proposed by the Chair
	Other documents before the session
FCCC/AWGLCA/2008/3	Report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention on its first session, held in Bangkok from 31 March to 4 April 2008. Note by the Executive Secretary

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