

STATE OF GLOBAL CLIMATE GOVERNANCE AND IMPLICATIONS FOR AFRICA

Climate Change and Development in Africa Conference (CCDA-8)

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CLIMATE CHANGE PROCESS:

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

- ▶ The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), was adopted in 1992 and it sets out the basic legal framework and principles for international climate change cooperation with the aim of stabilizing atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases (GHGs) to avoid “dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system.” The Convention, which entered into force on 21 March 1994, has 197 parties.

KYOTO PROTOCOL

- ▶ In order to boost the effectiveness of the UNFCCC, the Parties at the first conference of the Parties adopted a decision on the Berlin Mandate to negotiate a Protocol to the Convention. The negotiations resulted in adoption of the Kyoto Protocol in December 1997. The Kyoto Protocol gave the industrialized countries, and countries in transition to a market economy the commitment to achieve quantified emissions reduction targets for a basket of six GHGs. The Kyoto Protocol entered into force on 16 February 2005 and has 192 parties. Its first commitment period took place from 2008 to 2012. The 2012 Doha Amendment established the second commitment period from 2013 to 2020. It will enter into force after reaching 144 ratifications. To date, 128 parties have ratified the Doha Amendment

PARIS AGREEMENT

- ▶ In December 2015, Parties adopted the Paris Agreement. Under the terms of the Agreement, all countries will submit NDCs, and aggregate progress on mitigation, adaptation, and means of implementation will be reviewed every five years through a Global Stocktake. The Paris Agreement entered into force on 4 November 2016 and, to date, 185 parties have ratified the Agreement.
- ▶ The Paris Agreement stems from an innovative bottom up approach with each Party called upon to formulate its own commitments through Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDC) later converted into the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC)
- ▶ Many African country face challenges with the implementation of their NDCs. Some INDCS prepared by foreign consultants without involvement by local experts.

CHALLENGES OF EARLY ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT

- ❑ Paris Agreement adopted in December 2015 in Paris.
- ❑ Entered into force barely one year after in November 2016.
- ❑ Very little time to prepare for entry into force and implementation.
- ❑ UNFCCC adopted in May 1992 and entered into force in March 1994.
- ❑ Kyoto Protocol adopted in December 1997 and entered into force on February ,2005
- ❑ Doha amendment adopted in 2012, but not yet in force.
- ❑ Early entry into force of Paris Agreement posed challenges for implementation. Modalities, Guidelines and Procedures had to be developed after entry into force.

PARIS TO SANTIAGO

- ▶ CMA ,PART I in Marrakech 2016, started process for developing the Rule book for implementation :Continued at Fiji/Bonn in November 2017 and COP 24 in Katowice, Poland in November 2018

COP 24 Katowice

- ▶ **Katowice:** COP 24 was convened from 1-14 December 2018 in Katowice, Poland. The parties adopted the Katowice Climate Package and nearly completed work on the Paris Agreement Work Plan (PAWP). Decisions adopted included the following.
 - decisions to facilitate common interpretation and implementation of the Paris Agreement on the mitigation section of NDCs
 - adaptation communications,
 - transparency framework,
 - Global Stocktake, and
 - financial transparency,
 - Work on cooperative approaches under Article 6 of the Agreement was not concluded and Parties agreed to conclude work on this item at COP 25 in Chile in 2019.
 - Parties referred further work on the the IPCC Special Report on 1.5°C of Global Warming to SBSTA for consideration at its next session in Bonn in June 2019..

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KEY AND OUTSTANDING ISSUES FOR AFRICA AT COP 25

PROPOSAL BY THE AGN TO INCLUDE AN ITEM ON THE SPECIAL NEEDS OF AFRICA ON THE AGENDA OF COP 24 IN KATOWICE, 2018

- ▶ 1. Proposal by Africa for the inclusion of the Special needs and circumstances of Africa under the Paris Agreement as a Supplementary Agenda;
- ▶ 3. Following the request by Africa, other groups decided to submit similar proposals for the consideration of their special circumstances.
- ▶ Similar proposals submitted the Latin American Countries and Iran on behalf of the Asia/Pacific States .
- ▶ An Agenda item will most likely be proposed for inclusion in the COP 25 Agenda for the special needs of Africa to be considered.

Adaptation Fund

- ▶ In the decision adopted, it was decided under the CMA that the AF shall serve the PA from 1 Jan 2019, subject to the decision by the Conference of Parties serving as the meeting of Parties to the KP (CMP) on this.).
- ▶ In the decision adopted by the CMP, it was decided that that AF “*shall exclusively serve the PA and shall no longer serve the KP once the share of proceeds under Article 6.4 of the PA becomes available*”. Parties also decided that that the AF “*shall continue to receive the share of proceeds, if available, from activities under... the KP*”.
- ▶ It was also decided that both developing and developed countries who are Party to the Paris Agreement are eligible for membership on the AF Board and requested the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) to consider the matter in June 2019.
- ▶ The SBI at its 50th sessions considered again the question of membership. Developed countries have long argued for more representation on the Board; considering that they provide most of the contributions to the Fund, and without adding more seats, their influence will be diluted. Developing countries on their part have responded that there is no mandate to change the distribution of seats, and that developed countries must decide amongst themselves who sits on the board without increasing their total number. Failing to reach a consensus the parties decided to continue discussions at COP 25 in Santiago.

Special IPCC Report on the Global Warming of 1.5 degrees Centigrade

- ▶ **Special Report of the Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) on the 1.5°C:** The COP welcomed the timely completion of the IPCC Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C in response to the invitation from Parties in decision 1/CP.21 (the Paris outcome). It recognized the role of the IPCC in providing scientific input to inform parties in strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty; and expressed its appreciation and gratitude to the IPCC and the scientific community for responding to the request of the COP and providing the Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C, reflecting the best available science. The COP requested SBSTA 50 to consider the report with a view to strengthening the scientific knowledge on the 1.5°C goal, including in the context of the preparation of the Sixth Assessment Report of the IPCC and the implementation of the Convention and the Paris Agreement.
- ▶ The SBSTA after a lengthy and sometimes acrimonious discussion, adopted conclusions in which it “expressed its appreciation and gratitude” to the scientific community, saying that the IPCC Special Report “reflects the best available science.” Sadly, the Special Report of the IPCC on the 1.5 degrees was not adopted due to a lack of consensus. In the end, the SBSTA conclusions “expressed its appreciation and gratitude” to the scientific community, saying that the IPCC Special Report “reflects the best available science.”

OTHER ISSUES ON COP 25 AGENDA

- ▶ Agriculture- Offer by New Zealand to further discussions
- ▶ Article 6 on Markets
- ▶ Finance and mobilization of \$100 billion dollars by 2020; Replenishment meetings by GCF.
- ▶ Participation of other stakeholders in the UNFCCC process