

**Implementation of all the elements of decision 1/CP.17, (b)  
Matters related to paragraphs 7 and 8 (ADP)**

**Submission by the Republic of Nauru on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS)**

**Information, views and proposals from Parties and accredited observed organizations on actions, initiatives and options to enhance ambition, including through the workplan on enhancing mitigation ambition, with a particular focus on 2013, including aspects indicated in paragraph 15 (a)-(c) of the ADP conclusions**

**12 March 2013**

In the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action, Parties noted with grave concern the significant gap between the aggregate effect of Parties' 2020 mitigation pledges and aggregate emission pathways consistent with having a likely chance of holding temperature rise to below 2°C<sup>1</sup> or well below 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, a goal supported by over 100 Parties. Without scaled-up short-term action by Parties, the chance to hold temperature increases to below 2°C or 1.5°C may be lost, as the steady increase in carbon-emitting infrastructure locks Parties onto a high emission pathway and as positive feedbacks in the climate system, if triggered, could accelerate the anthropogenic greenhouse effect. Immediate mitigation actions and policies are needed before 2017 to prevent dangerous lock-in of global fossil fuel infrastructure that will make achieving the 2°C goal exceedingly difficult.<sup>2</sup>

Research indicates that it would be extraordinarily difficult or impossible to compensate later on, and the chance to achieve the 'below 2°C' long-term goal may be irrevocably lost even before 2020, if emissions are not dramatically reduced in the near-term. Failure to close the ambition gap will not only have impacts in the short term, but will also have a profound effect on the scale of commitments that would be required under the post-2020 regime. Early mitigation action also makes economic sense, as the IEA has stated that every \$1 of delayed investment now would necessitate an investment of \$4.30 on average post-2020 to compensate for the increased emissions resulting from that delay in taking mitigation action.<sup>3</sup>

**The workplan on enhancing pre-2020 mitigation ambition was a critical element of the Durban Package. Its inclusion was the only reason AOSIS agreed to postpone the adoption of a new legally binding agreement until 2015, for implementation from 2020.**

Discussions on the post-2020 agreement will be framed by the mitigation efforts born out of the pre-2020 mitigation ambition Workplan, which will determine whether we are negotiating for a below 2°C world or 4°C+ world. The Workplan should culminate in the adoption of more ambitious economy-wide emission reduction targets by developed countries and NAMAs by developing countries that close the ambition gap by 2014 at the latest, including from those who have not yet pledged to undertake mitigation actions. It should also facilitate the identification of mechanisms or cooperative efforts that secure the appropriate scope and scale of financial resources, technology transfer and capacity building for NAMAS. Success from the Workplan in closing the ambition gap would help Parties to ably construct a future legally-binding agreement by 2015 that keeps us on the path to achieving the goal of holding temperature rise below 2°C, or 1.5°C. **A failure to close the gap will have significant implications for the scale and nature of obligations under the 2015 Protocol.**

Discussions for both workstreams should remain separate, and equal time should be allocated to both.

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<sup>1</sup> Decision 1/CP.17

<sup>2</sup> International Energy Agency, "World Energy Outlook 2012"; UNEP "The Emissions Gap Report 2012"

<sup>3</sup> International Energy Agency, "World Energy Outlook 2011"

## **General Views on The Workplan**

Some progress has been made towards identifying options to increase pre-2020 mitigation ambition and the workshop in Bonn and roundtables in Bangkok and Doha were helpful, however, we must build upon this momentum and quickly accelerate progress under the Workplan in early 2013.

In Decision 2/CP.18, we decided to “identify and explore in 2013 options for a range of actions that can close the significant pre-2020 mitigation ambition gap”. To succeed in closing the gap, the Workplan should first cultivate common ground among Parties by identifying examples of leadership, areas of scalability and for collaboration, and then quickly harvest the mitigation benefits through higher pre-2020 ambition.

To identify the necessary actions, the Workplan should provide Parties with the opportunity to share examples of individual leadership on specific topics, and on specific mitigation actions that have been successful or are being undertaken. Leaders who come forward should be encouraged to share information on the mitigation potential of these actions, their projected or actual emissions reductions, and how an enabling environment can be created to implement these actions elsewhere.

As identified by the co-chairs, discussions under the Workplan should identify “concrete areas of action for increasing ambition, specific actions and best practices at the national level, and specific cooperative initiatives at the international level which can help to bridge the ambition gap” with a complementary “focused discussion on how finance, technology and capacity-building can be strengthened to enable greater ambition.”<sup>4</sup> In identifying these concrete areas of action, the purpose of the Workplan should be to explore how Parties can work together to scale-up the greatest possible pre-2020 mitigation ambition.

The Workplan should be organized in a way that facilitates detailed technical discussions through constructive engagement among Party representatives, members of civil society, and the private sector with specific competencies and expertise in the application and diffusion of technologies, practices and processes, and the implementation of policies and measures that control, sequester, reduce or prevent anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases.

The Workplan should seek to quantify the emissions reduction potential of identified mitigation policies and measures to assess their potential contribution towards closing the ambition gap, as well as to identify and quantify the range of costs and barriers of implementing those actions, including the financial resources technology, and capacity building required by developing countries. The Workplan should also identify strategies for rapidly mobilizing the delivery of the necessary means of implementation by developed countries as a means to unlocking new ambition.

A number of respected reports that have identified a wide range of mitigation policies and measures could also provide a useful input to our discussions, such as the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change’s Special Report on Renewable Energy Sources and Climate Change Mitigation, UNEP Emissions Gap Report, the International Energy Agency’s World Energy Outlook and the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis’s Global Energy Assessment. Furthermore, the specific mitigation actions and policies identified in these reports could also be considered in the preparation of the technical report that was requested in the conclusions adopted by the ADP in Doha.<sup>5</sup>

Ultimately, workshops and other activities under the Workplan should build upon each other and benefit from regular high-level engagement, culminating in enhanced mitigation ambition by 2014. Important political opportunities to engage at the ministerial level to build political momentum for enhanced mitigation ambition include the finance ministerial in-session meeting at COP19 to secure financial resources to support higher ambition, the high-level ministerial roundtable for Kyoto Protocol Parties to be

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<sup>4</sup> ADP Co-Chair Note dated 18 February 2013

<sup>5</sup> FCCC/ADP/2012/3

held during the first sessional period in 2014, and the leaders summit on climate change to be convened by the Secretary-General in 2014. Additionally, periodic engagement at the ministerial level, particularly from relevant ministries that would be responsible for implementing identified mitigation actions, should be an integral component of the Workplan to further ensure that more ambitious mitigation action capable of closing the gap is agreed to by 2014. Thus, AOSIS proposes that a ministerial meeting on mitigation ambition should be convened under the Workplan, and take place at COP19.

The Workplan should provide meaningful avenues for significant and substantive engagement of a diverse group of relevant stakeholders to ensure a richer and more robust dialogue and exchange of ideas. Observer states, intergovernmental organizations, civil society and members of the private sector, particularly those with on-the-ground expertise with the implementation of mitigation actions at a regional, sub-national or local level, should be empowered to actively participate in, and contribute to the process. This should include allowing designated representatives from the different groups of stakeholders to engage beyond submissions and statements, such as actively participating in roundtable and workshop discussions.

### **The Workplan in Bonn (April & June 2013 Sessions)**

The work of the ADP could benefit from input from international experts and research institutes, and the workshops in Bonn in 2013 should include their participation. In AOSIS's view, it would be appropriate to invite, among others, representatives of:

- UNEP on the scale of effort needed to close the ambition gap;
- Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) on emission trends, the potential temperature increases, and resulting climate impacts resulting from a failure to close the ambition gap;
- The International Energy Agency (IEA) on energy trends and their implications on the rate of projected emissions growth, as well as on energy efficiency and other policy options contained within their 2012 Global Energy Outlook Report;
- Global Energy Assessment on policy options for reducing emissions;
- IRENA on renewable energy;
- United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) on industrial energy efficiency and technological advances for resource-efficient and low-carbon production; and
- C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group on initiatives of cities to reduce GHG emissions and increase energy efficiency.

Parties who have successfully implemented mitigation strategies at the local, national, regional or international level that have resulted in significant emissions reductions should also be invited to share information on their examples of leadership in workshops on specific topics. Topics should be selected based on their high mitigation potential, the applicability and scalability of actions to other Parties, and their low mitigation cost. Parties could benefit from hearing about specific experiences in developing and implementing mitigation policies that have delivered concrete results. Presentations would be particularly useful if they included:

- Details of the mitigation initiative(s);
- The mitigation potential of the initiative(s), and projected emissions reductions or actual reductions achieved;
- Scope and expertise of participants and ministries involved;
- Financial, technological, legal, political and other constraints faced in adopting and implementing action;

- Solutions to obstacles faced to achieve success and lessons learned; and
- Costs involved.

Discussions flowing from presentations by the experts and Parties should work towards the identification of proven, immediately implementable, and cost-effective practices that could be employed at the local, national, regional, or international level, as well as strategies for overcoming the barriers that could inhibit their implementation.

### **Summary**

In summary, AOSIS proposes:

- Focused discussions to identify specific and cost-effective mitigation actions and policies that can be deployed immediately, as well as strategies for overcoming any implementation and means of implementation barriers;
- High-level engagement throughout the Workplan, including a ministerial level meeting on mitigation ambition at COP19 in 2013;
- Experts be invited to participate in 2013 workshops in Bonn; and
- The Workplan should culminate in the adoption of more ambitious economy-wide emission reduction targets by developed countries and NAMAs by developing countries that close the ambition gap by 2014, including from those who have not yet pledged to undertake mitigation actions.