

Independent Association of Latin America and the Caribbean - AILAC

Opening Statement ADP 2-4

10.03.2014

I have the honor to speak on behalf of the AILAC group of countries.

We wish to start by associating ourselves with the statement made by the G77 and China.

Co-Chairs,

Reaching consensus in Warsaw was challenging, but we now have a basis to take our work forward. AILAC trusts that we will advance our work this year with a much higher degree of ambition. Science tells us clearly and unequivocally that our window for timely action is narrowing. Non-stop disasters and extreme events make this tangible. What else is needed before we truly act? We need to secure progress urgently.

During COP19, we were unable to agree to a clear way forward to guide our work starting with this session, and to define the specific elements that will be included in the agreement. It is fundamental that in the first session of 2014 we agree the way forward, and that we define the specific elements of the agreement no later than the June session. We trust, however, that Parties will avoid getting caught in fruitless discussions over “process” in this session and move forward on substance immediately.

Regarding WS1, AILAC believes there is political will to engage in substantive negotiations. The modalities under which we will work should be flexible and progressive. At this juncture we must work in a single negotiating setting where we can engage in a thorough understanding of all issues no matter how difficult. We must ensure that the result of our discussions is tangible, and that we all feel a sense of ownership for it. Parties’ submissions are very valuable and should be taken into account. The process must reflect Parties’ views, while remaining rational, expedite and efficient.

There are only 9 months to COP20 in Lima, the most decisive milestone in this process. A successful outcome in 2015 depends on what we achieve in Lima. We invite all countries to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with Peru to ensure that, working together, we can truly achieve significant progress throughout this year in the development of the elements of a draft text to be adopted in Lima. We stand ready to contribute and to work with all Parties and groups in order to secure this outcome.

Co-Chairs, in this spirit, we would like to start immediately with substantive remarks in order to accelerate progress in our work.

Regarding the overall structure of the new legally binding agreement, AILAC considers that it should include at least the following elements:

1. **Preamble**, including a reference to the ultimate objective of the Convention, science, the principles of the convention including CBDR-RC and equity, and the recognition of the collective responsibility incumbent on all parties for both mitigation and adaptation.

2. **Mitigation** including:
 - The global mitigation goal to be achieved through efforts by all parties according to CBDR-RC;
 - The mechanism to determine nationally determined legally binding contributions;
 - The information required to make commitments comparable, and allow for global aggregation;
 - Accounting and transparency of action;
 - Support, including finance, technology transfer, and capacity building;
 - Market and non-market mechanisms;
 - REDD+ and its role in achieving the global goal;
 - A review mechanism of contributions and support.

Universality of application (“applicable to all”) does not mean uniformity. *In AILAC’s understanding the way to ensure equity is the implementation of a fair differentiation, where capacity and political will towards the highest level of ambition possible are at the core.*

AILAC reiterates that leadership on mitigation should come from developed country parties, in light of their historic responsibility and their capacity.

3. **Adaptation**, including
 - A reference to the collective responsibility to address adaptation to climate change;
 - An adaptation assessment framework;
 - A permanent and solid structure to support adaptation processes of LDCs and non-LDC parties;
 - Advancing adaptation metrics and methodologies;
 - The mechanism to define nationally determined legally binding contributions on adaptation;
 - Support, including finance, technology transfer and capacity building;

We have many adaptation instruments under convention; the new instrument should contribute to the systematization and grouping to strengthen the thematic importance of this issue.

AILAC would like to state that the African Group’s proposal on the adaptation goal should be given consideration and we are looking forward to have more in depth discussions on the proposal and how it might be included in the new agreement.

4. **Loss and Damage**, building upon the Warsaw International Mechanism of Loss and Damage, ensuring that this issue is given a central place under the new agreement for enhancing the technical capacities of financial institutions in developing countries to identify their gaps and needs on this matter. This is the first necessary step for the definition of a robust loss and damage approach under the Convention.

5. Means of Implementation, including:

- The need to transition to a world where all investments are compatible with low carbon and climate resilient development;
- The responsibility of all countries to mobilize and invest resources in climate friendly actions at the national level according to their respective capabilities;
- The responsibility of developed countries to provide climate finance to developing countries;
- The mechanism to define nationally determined legally binding contributions on the provision of means of implementation;

6. Transparency of action and support, building upon existing transparency arrangements both for action and support, including:

- Elements necessary to guarantee ex-ante clarity on the nature of mitigation commitments by all parties;
- Transparency rules upon which the nationally determined contributions will be based;
- Transparency rules on sources of support, the scale of support, the channels and instruments used;
- A unified MRV system for action and for support, which differentiates within it regarding the requirements on the basis of capacity; and
- A mechanism to periodically review nationally defined contributions (on all issues) based on science and respective capacities.

7. A robust compliance mechanism.

Parties need to seriously engage in a discussion on a compliance mechanism to ensure the effective implementation of the agreement

Co-Chairs, AILAC fully supports your guidance and leadership, which are vital for advancing our work. We close by underscoring the pressing sense of urgency that should inspire us with a view to making substantive progress that will allow us to have draft negotiating text by COP20 in Lima.

As we know, Lima is the key milestone for delivering in Paris. Let us focus to make Lima a success this year.

Thank you.