

Headline: Overtime needed to reach climate deal

Byline: Philippine Daily Inquirer

Published Date: 04:00 AM December 12, 2015

Section: globalnation

Word Count: 4294

Content:

LE BOURGET, France—High-stakes climate talks outside Paris will not end on Friday as planned but will continue at least one more day as diplomats try to overcome disagreements over how—or even whether—to share the costs of fighting climate change and shift to clean energy on a global scale.

Negotiators from more than 190 countries are trying to do something that's never been done: reach a deal for all countries to reduce man-made carbon emissions and cooperate to adapt to rising seas and increasingly extreme weather caused by human activity.

US Secretary of State John Kerry zipped in and out of negotiation rooms as delegates broke into smaller groups overnight to iron out their differences.

After all-night talks wrapped up at nearly 6 a.m. (1 p.m. Manila time), French Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius said he was aiming for a final draft on Saturday.

The two-week talks, the culmination of years of UN-led efforts for a long-term climate deal, had been scheduled to wrap up on Friday. The talks often run past deadline, given the complexity and sensitivity of each word in an international agreement.

"I will not present the text Friday evening, as I had thought, but Saturday morning," Fabius said on BFM television. "There is still work to do... Things are going in the right direction."

Fabius said he wanted to consult with various negotiating blocs so that "this is really a text... that comes from everyone."

"This represents all of the countries in the world and it's completely normal to take a bit of time, so we will shift it," he said.

Negotiators from China, the United States and other nations are haggling over how to share the burden of fighting climate change and paying for a trillion-dollar transition to clean energy.

Earlier, some delegates said a new draft presented late on Thursday by Fabius allowed rich nations to shift the responsibility of fighting global warming to the developing world.

"We are going backwards," said Gurdial Singh Nijar of Malaysia, head of a bloc of hard-line countries that also includes India, China and Saudi Arabia.

They have put up the fiercest resistance against attempts by the United States, the European Union and other wealthy nations to make emerging economies pitch in to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions and help the poorest countries cope with climate change.

The issue, known as "differentiation" in UN climate lingo, was expected to be one of the last to be resolved.

"We're working on it," Kerry said as he emerged from one meeting room with an entourage of security agents and state department aides.

Nijar said it was unreasonable to expect countries like Malaysia to rapidly shift from fossil fuels—the biggest source of man-made greenhouse gas emissions—to cleaner sources of energy.

"We cannot just switch overnight... and go to renewables," he said, on a coffee break between meetings at 1:30 a.m. "If you remove differentiation you create very serious problems for developing countries."

This accord is the first time all countries are expected to pitch in—the previous emissions treaty, the 1997 Kyoto Protocol, only included rich countries.

The 27-page draft—two pages shorter than a previous version—included a long-term goal of keeping global warming "well below" 2 degrees Celsius, while pursuing efforts to limit the temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius.

The draft also said governments would aim to peak the emissions of heat-trapping greenhouse gases "as soon as possible" and strive to reach "emissions neutrality" by the second half of the century.

That was weaker language than in previous drafts that included more specific emissions cuts and time frames.

The biggest challenge is to define the responsibilities of wealthy nations, which have polluted the most historically, and developing economies, including China and India, where emissions are growing the fastest.

The draft didn't resolve how to deal with demands from vulnerable countries to deal with unavoidable damage from rising seas and other climate impacts.

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One option said such "loss and damage" would be addressed in a way that doesn't involve liability and compensation—a US demand. AP