

Overview of current UNFCCC discussions

International Blue Carbon Policy Working Group



J. Tamelander

UNFCCC

A. ADP (Durban Platform)

B. AWG-LCA/SBSTA, incl.:

a. REDD+

b. NAMAs

c. Agriculture

e. Adaptation

d. Green Climate Fund

f. Capacity building

C. Kyoto Protocol

a. LULUCF

b. CDM

**D. Science and technical
information and guidance**

a. SBSTA (Research &
Observation)

b. IPCC (new wetlands
guidance)

Reminder - Key Durban outcome n°1

- “launch a process to develop a protocol, another legal instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force...”
- Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action (ADP)
- Instrument agreed 2015 - into force 2020

Reminder - Key Durban outcome n°2

- Second commitment period for the Kyoto Protocol
 - For AI Parties minus Canada, Japan, Russia and U.S.
 - 10-15% of global emissions
 - Length and quantified commitments to be agreed at Doha

Reminder - Key Durban outcome n°3

- ‘grave concern’ about the significant gap between the effect of current mitigation pledges and the emission pathways needed to meet the 2°C target
- => work programme on increasing mitigation ambition, now, up to and beyond 2020.

Bonn May 2012

Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action (ADP)

- First meeting of the ADP
 - Officers to be elected
 - Work programme to be agreed
 - Procedural problems over choice of interim chairman
 - Agenda fight

Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action (ADP)

“Implementation of all the elements of decision 1/CP.17:1

(a) Matters related to paragraphs 2 to 6;

work including, inter alia, on mitigation, adaptation, finance, technology development and transfer, transparency of action and support

(b) Matters related to paragraphs 7 and 8”.

workplan on enhancing mitigation ambition to identify and to explore options for a range of actions that can close the ambition gap

- Invitation by the co-chairs for NGOs/IGOs to submit views on how ADP can advance its work

Deadline: 27 July 2012

ADP – For discussion

- status of negotiations: early
 - important bc assumption: current elements will get carried forward into new instrument
-
- ✓ How will land use (AFOLU/LULUCF and REDD), including Blue Carbon, be included in a future international agreement?
 - ✓ Closing the mitigation gap: Can inclusion of a broader suite of land use activities, including Blue Carbon, help to raise the level of ambition?

SBSTA REDD - State of the negotiations

- Draft Conclusions proposed by the Chair
 - Modalities for a national forest monitoring system
 - Measuring, Reporting and Verification (MRV)
 - How to address drivers of deforestation and forest degradation
 - **Draft decision** on modalities for national forest monitoring systems and MRV
- [AWG-LCA on REDD: Financing]

REDD – for discussion

- ✓ Are there opportunities in ongoing SBSTA discussion on: reference levels, drivers of deforestation, MRV, monitoring systems, or safeguards?
- ✓ Can other Blue Carbon types be included in a future mechanism?

NAMAs - Overview

National Appropriate Mitigation Actions – by developing countries (agreed in Cancun COP17)

- allow developing countries to develop and receive international financial support for nationally appropriate climate change mitigation actions
- work programme for the development of modalities and guidelines (facilitation of support, MRV, ...)

NAMAs - State of the negotiations

- AWG-LCA

Divergent views:

1. The organization of a **workshop to further the understanding of the diversity** of nationally appropriate mitigation actions (NAMAs).
2. The secretariat to prepare a **synthesis report or compilation paper** gathering the information provided by developing country Parties on their NAMAs.

NAMAs - State of the negotiations

- AWG-LCA

3. Any future workshop should not focus on the understanding the diversity of NAMAs, but **on other issues.**

- A process to assess the needs for support for the preparation and implementation of NAMAs, including technical, policy and institutional aspects, and on how to address these needs;
- A process to support the preparation and implementation of NAMAs, including a possible mandate to the Consultative Group of Experts;

NAMAs – For discussion

- ✓ What opportunities currently exist to further shape negotiations and discussions in the UNFCCC?
- ✓ What guidance is needed from the UNFCCC to support development and implementation of Blue Carbon NAMA (or NAMA with BC component)?
- ✓ How can the submission of information on BC NAMA be further encouraged?

Agriculture – State of the negotiations

- Progressing extremely slowly
- Little expectation for Doha
- Looks at mitigation and adaptation potential from/of agriculture
- NOT agriculture as driver for e.g. deforestation

Agriculture – For discussion

- ✓ Does aquaculture fit under the “agriculture” agenda? Should this be treated under the “Blue Carbon” umbrella and objectives? Should this be a priority?
- ✓ What do we know about mitigation potential from existing aquaculture? Are there mitigation opportunities?
- ✓ How is aquaculture dealt with under the GHG reporting and IPCC guidelines?

Adaptation - State of the negotiations

- SBI & SBSTA

SBI

- National adaptation plans (NAPs)
- Approaches to address loss and damage with climate change impacts in developing countries

SBSTA

- Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change

Adaptation – for discussion

- SBI & SBSTA

BCPWG

>> Support improved management of Blue Carbon coastal systems through climate change adaptation financing

✓ Is there an opportunity for linkages between adaptation & mitigation (finance) in the UNFCCC processes?

Green Climate Fund – State negotiations

- Expected to become the central multilateral fund for climate change
- COP 17 in Durban, approved the governing instrument for the GCF
- No actual funds yet
- Two windows “mitigation and adaptation”, although “additional thematic windows and/or substructures to address specific activities, as appropriate” can be created by the Board

Green Climate Fund – for discussion

- ✓ How can we best ensure that the Green Climate Fund supports BC-related activities?

Capacity building – State of the negotiations

- **AWG-LCA**

- divergent views on whether there is a need to continue discussion under AWG-LCA
 - no need, establishment of the Durban Forum on Capacity-building
 - identification of performance indicators to monitor and assess capacity-building is an issue that still needs to be addressed
 - issue of the establishment of an institutional and a financial mechanism to support priority areas

Capacity building – State of the negotiations

- **AWG-LCA**

- Of this 15 priority areas, relevant for BC seem:

- (c) National communications;

- (e) Greenhouse gas inventories, emission database management, and systems for collecting, managing and utilizing activity data and emission factors;

- (i) Research and systematic observation, including meteorological, hydrological and climatological services;

Capacity building – For discussion

- ✓ Is there an opportunity to highlight the need for BC capacity building in current state of negotiations?
- ✓ What opportunity does the Durban Forum on Capacity-building provide?

LULUCF - State of the negotiations

- **Kyoto Protocol/SBSTA**

SBSTA

- Explore more comprehensive accounting of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks from land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF)
- Possible additional LULUCF activities under the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM)

LULUCF – for discussion

- **Kyoto Protocol/SBSTA**

- ✓ What is the best option to integrate Blue Carbon into discussions on accounting of emissions/removals from LULUCF?
- ✓ Should countries consider expansion of the CDM to include Blue Carbon activities? What are those activities?
- ✓ How to encourage/improve national accounting?

Research and observation – Negotiations

- SBSTA

- Suggestion for a workshop on Coastal Marine Ecosystems under the auspices of the SBSTA Research and Observation Agenda
- No agreement so far
- Last session focused on observation

Research and observation – for discussion

- SBSTA

- ✓ Is there still a need for a SBSTA workshop on coastal and marine ecosystems?
- ✓ What should this workshop discuss? See submission by CfRN
- ✓ Are there other opportunities for BC under SBSTA Research and Observation?

Policy/finance options overview

Policy mechanism	Mangrove forest	Non-forest mangrove	Salt marsh	Sea grass
ADP	• Open	• Open	• Open	• Open
REDD+	• Yes	• Expand?	• Expand??	• Expand??
NAMAs	• Open	• Open	• Open	• Open
LULUCF	• Yes	• Yes	• Yes	• Yes?
CDM	• A/R • Expand?	• Expand?	• Expand?	• Expand??
GCF	• In theory	• In theory	• In theory	• In theory
VCS	• WRC + other forest activities	• WRC + other land m'gmt activities	• WRC + other land m'gmt activities	• WRC + ?