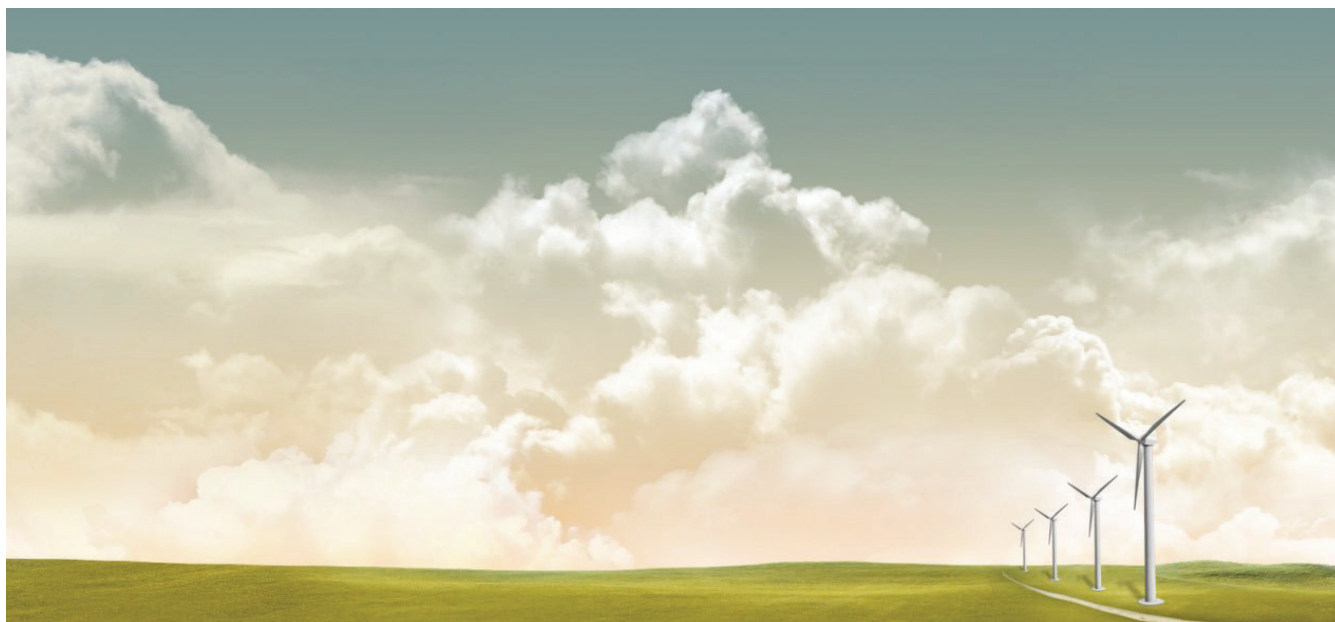


# WWF Global Climate and Energy Initiative

June 2013



## WWF Expectations for the June Intersessional of the UNFCCC

### Summary

The Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action (ADP) held its first meeting in Bonn in May of this year. It was very encouraging that Parties used the workshop and roundtable formats of ADP session to table some new proposals for addressing climate change, both for the short and long-term. WWF hopes that negotiators will retain the conciliatory approach of the May session in the SB session in June. What is needed however, is for parties to move to more concrete outcomes for agreement at COP 19 in Warsaw. To enable concrete progress in Warsaw in November WWF calls on Parties to:

1. **Identify concrete steps to be agreed at COP19 to increase the level of pre-2020 mitigation ambition**, including through increased mitigation targets in Developed countries and through enhanced nationally appropriate mitigation action in developing countries with increased support by developed countries but also through complementary measures such as enabling the rapid rollout of renewable energy and energy efficiency and eliminating fossil fuel subsidies. **WWF calls on parties to find the financing for an additional intersessional in September 2013 that would be dedicated to developing draft decisions for COP 19 on ramping up mitigation action and finance for the pre-2020 period.**
2. **Start a dedicated discussion on the equity issue in order to further explore the proposal, presented in the May session, for an Equity Reference Framework and an Equity Review process.**

3. **Develop new innovative ways of working that breaks from the approaches of past negotiations**, for example, establishing solutions-seeking working groups on particular matters that could be decided without waiting for a full package of agreement. This approach would be particularly useful when dealing with the concrete and practical ideas on how to address the ambition gap in the pre-2020 period.
4. **Reinvigorate the finance discussions to ensure that a clear trajectory is agreed at COP19 for scaling up public finance towards USD 100 billion per annum by 2020.** The transition to a climate resilient low carbon future will require shifts in investment several times this amount, hence parties need to agree that the USD 100 billion by 2020 target has to be met primarily through public finance and they need to set clear interim targets to ensure that this commitment will be fulfilled. Parties need to make immediate, multi-year, scaled up climate finance commitments that are clearly additional to normal Official Development Assistance.

## Mitigation

On May 9, the daily mean concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, surpassed 400 parts per million (ppm) for the first time since measurements began in 1958. The last time CO<sub>2</sub> levels reached this level was 2.5 million years ago leading to average global temperatures that were 3 degrees Celsius warmer and sea levels that were at least 5 meters higher than they are today, covering the sites where many large cities stand today. The CO<sub>2</sub> concentration increases in this past epoch were based on million year cycles while the current increase of CO<sub>2</sub> is unprecedented in the history of the earth, with atmospheric concentrations increasing faster than ever before. The 400ppm signpost is yet another warning that we need to act urgently to reduce GHG emissions. Parties to the UNFCCC cannot continue to ignore the increasingly frequent scientific warnings and real world impacts of climate change. In the June intersessional in Bonn Parties must work on the following deliverables:

### Pre-2020 ambition under Workstream 2 of the ADP

If global GHG emissions do not peak before 2020 it will become incredibly difficult and expensive to limit global warming to well below 2 degrees Celsius. For the survival of millions of people across the world and the continued existence of low-lying island states it is critical that parties take concrete steps to close the Gigatonne gap between what the science tells us is required and commitments that are currently on the table. Concrete steps that could be taken include:

- **Signatories to the KP CP2 need to revise their 2020 emission reduction targets to the upper end of 25-40% below 1990 levels by 2014.** Current targets amount to little more than business as usual projections. **Developed countries that have not signed up to the KP CP2 must increase their 2020 emission reduction targets to the same levels under a set of directly comparable accounting rules.**
- **Developing countries that have not yet made nationally-appropriate pledges for mitigation action should do so by COP19.** Those developing countries with respective capability should indicate how their mitigation action can be enhanced through increased international support for the means of implementation.
- **All developed countries should urgently develop and implement economy-wide Zero Carbon Development Strategies and all developing countries should develop and implement economy-wide Low Carbon Development Strategies**
- **Parties should agree on specific actionable complementary measures that could increase short-term mitigation including on:**
  - **Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency:** WWF urges parties to deepen and elaborate on the suggestions on achieving greater and faster

mitigation before 2020 by scaling up renewable energy and improving energy efficiency made in the recent non-paper by AOSIS. In addition to its mitigation potential renewable energy also offers co-benefits in the areas of poverty reduction, human development, health, green jobs, and energy access.

- **International Shipping and Aviation Sector:** The international transport sector accounts for about 5-8% of global emissions with strong growth projections and it is critical that this sector be included in the work of the ADP. 2013 is a key year for action in these sectors as the three-yearly International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) general assembly is taking place in September 2013 and discussions on emissions are on-going in the International Maritime Organisation (IMO). WWF calls on parties within the UNFCCC to send a strong signal to both the IMO and ICAO to look at measures that can deal with emission reductions and mobilise climate finance at the same time.
- **Short-lived climate forcers and other greenhouse gasses not covered under the Kyoto Protocol present a key opportunity to reduce several additional gigatonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent in the immediate future.** Specific measures that the UNFCCC could take this year include ensuring that COP19 sends strong signals to the relevant bodies to progress work on targets for addressing the emissions of HFC and NF<sub>3</sub> gasses as well as the sources of Black Carbon and reducing greenhouse gas emissions from coal mines and processes related to the production and transportation of oil and gas.
- **Phasing out of fossil fuel subsidies:** Fossil fuel subsidies encourage long-term lock in to carbon intensive infrastructure and delay investment in clean energy. Conservative estimates show that in 2012 world governments spent 775 billion US\$ on such subsidies, more than twelve times the amount provided to renewable energy. The phase out of fossil fuel subsidies would reduce global carbon dioxide emissions by nearly 6% by 2020. The ADP could develop pathways for phasing out fossil fuel subsidies and identify options to shift these subsidies to additional mitigation activities in developing countries and to ensure that there is no net effect on the poor.
- Other measures that could be considered include, for example; **Phasing out inefficient coal-fired power stations, increasing energy efficiency standards for appliances and vehicles, improving global markets for renewable energy technologies, voluntary initiatives from key, carbon intensive global sectors and municipal-level initiatives**

Ramping up short-term mitigation is the most critical element of the current negotiations. WWF calls on parties to agree to an additional intersessional in September 2013 that would be dedicated to developing draft decisions on ramping up mitigation action and finance for the pre-2020 period. With well-developed options available at COP19 it would be much easier for parties to agree to the rapid actions that is required to ensure that global emissions peak within the decade.

### **Towards a 2015 Agreement in Workstream 1 of the ADP**

While the pre-2020 ambition negotiations work towards limiting the build-up of greenhouse gasses in the atmosphere Parties need to ensure that there are no further delays in agreeing on a comprehensive approach to addressing climate change. If an effective climate agreement is to be put in place in 2015 and implemented by 2020 Parties need to work towards the following elements for a COP19 outcome under Workstream 1 of the ADP:

1. **Identify the key elements to be included in a new global agreement. These elements should also serve as the basis for all discussions under Workstream 1 of the ADP after June 2013.** This should not be the usual long list of issues that gets put on the negotiation table. Parties should prioritize those elements that are fundamental to the achievement of keeping temperature rise well below 2°C as well as dealing with already felt impacts of climate change. Examples include:
  - **A long-term vision, carbon budget and global mitigation goals**
  - **Application of the Equity and CBDRCC principles**
  - **A monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV) system that ensures accountability and transparency**
  - **Implementation guidelines for Zero and Low Carbon Development Strategies.**
  - **Building resilience and addressing impacts of climate change**
  - **Ensuring the efficacy of institutions set up under the UNFCCC (e.g. the Green Climate Fund (GCF), Adaptation Committee (AC) etc.)**
  - **Enhanced and scaled-up means of implementation such as climate finance and technology transfer to assist developing countries to make the transition to low carbon development pathways.**
2. **Explore options for the architecture of a new agreement**
3. **Establish concrete milestones and timelines for the years leading up to 2015 to ensure that a global agreement can be adopted in 2015.** Parties should avoid the usual practice of “nothing is agreed until all is agreed” and be prepared to reach agreement on some issues when there is consensus.

Given that the two weeks in June may be the last negotiating time before the COP it is imperative that negotiators make progress on these elements in order to ensure that Parties can move to agreement in Warsaw.

## Adaptation

In the ADP 2 session in Bonn many parties emphasised that Adaptation and Mitigation were two sides of the same coin. Although it was encouraging to note that there was some consensus on the need to include adaptation elements in the post 2020 package **it is also imperative that Adaptation be given consideration under the pre-2020 discussions.** If pre-2020 mitigation action keeps the window for successful climate action open, pre-2020 adaptation is the element that protects those bearing the brunt of already unavoidable climate change impacts. To work towards sufficient protection for the most vulnerable the following must be achieved in June in Bonn:

- **Parties need to start outlining the principles, functions, and institutional arrangements of the International Mechanism on Loss and Damage under the UNFCCC** so that they can reach an agreement by COP19.
- Formal opportunities must be created to **review the IPCC findings on the potential loss and damage impacts of climate change**, when released, so that the latest scientific findings can inform further deliberations.
- **Setting up financial arrangements for the implementation of National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) for Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and development and implementation of NAPs for Non-LDC countries.**
- **Scaling up the adaptation finance for the implementation of NAPAs (National Adaptation Programmes of Action) for least developed countries.**

## Finance

To prevent a 2 degree Celsius temperature increase developing countries must increase their efforts to shift to a low carbon development path. However, this will require developed countries to, first, increase their own mitigation efforts and convincingly take the lead in reducing emissions, and second, provide confidence that financing will be available to developing countries for their NAMAs and adaptation efforts. While private investments will play an important role in mitigation efforts, **scaled up and reliable flows of public finance are a crucial pre-condition for scaling up mitigation efforts by developing countries.** This year **developed countries must set out a concrete roadmap to scaling up public financing to meet their \$100b commitment by 2020.** This commitment must be primarily fulfilled through increased public finance as part of a strategy to mobilize much greater amounts of private finance investment shifts. Delivery on finance commitments is one prerequisite for developed countries to build trust and confidence among developing countries.

The Work Program on Long Term Finance, should provide the basic building blocks for such a roadmap this year while the Ministerial meeting on Finance at COP 19 must bring together Ministers of Finance, Environment and other relevant Ministries to hammer out a financing package that will deliver on the \$100b commitment in 2020. The Bonn meetings of the Subsidiary Bodies and the ADP can lay the groundwork for this by agreeing to:

- **Significantly scaling up concrete commitments for contributions from national budgets,**
- **Rapid progress on sources of additional public finance such as carbon pricing for international transport, and financial transaction taxes.**
- **Commitment by developed countries in Warsaw to collectively contribute at least 60 billion in public finance for the period 2013-2015,** including concrete pledges to the Green Climate Fund for this period, as the first step to scaling up to \$100 billion by 2020.

## Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+)

If global emissions are to peak well before 2020 it is imperative that tropical deforestation must stop by 2020. Without finalization of the design elements of REDD+ and without a clear mechanism to support its implementation, limiting the rise in global temperatures to 2 degrees Celsius will not be achievable. In Bonn and towards COP19, Parties must deliver an **integrated, ambitious package of REDD+ elements in line with the** Bali Action Plan, the Cancun Agreements and the Durban Platform. To achieve this, the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) must prioritize its work in a way that advances the following:

- Complete its work on guidance for National Forest Monitoring Systems (NFMS) and Measuring, Reporting and Verifying (MRV);
- Finalize guidance on how to address drivers of deforestation and forest degradation;
- Finalize guidance on Safeguards Information Systems
- Consider how non-market-based approaches (such as a joint mitigation and adaptation approach) could be further developed to reduce deforestation
- Carry out work on methodological issues related to promoting other benefits beyond carbon reduction, such as biodiversity conservation, watershed protection, forest governance, etc.

Furthermore, Parties in Bonn will have to commence work under the **joint SBSTA/SBI process** to:

- Find ways to improve the coordination of support for the implementation of REDD+ activities;
- Ensure the provision of adequate and predictable support, including financial resources and technical and technological support, to developing countries for the implementation of those activities;



- Consider the need for specific institutional arrangements or potential governance alternatives for REDD+, such as a REDD+ board or committee where decisions about allocation of resources and other implementation decisions can be made.

To date REDD+ has been approached as a fairly independent negotiation subject. Though this has allowed Parties to make faster progress than they have on other issues we have now reached a point in the negotiations where important decisions on REDD+ cannot be taken if there is no alignment with the broader climate architecture, particularly regarding NAMAS, MRV, finance, the new market-based mechanism, etc.

## Conclusion

All recent evidence points to the fact that we are not doing nearly enough to address the threat of global climate change. While it is critically important that Parties to the UNFCCC work in earnest to ensure that a new comprehensive climate agreement is put in place in 2015, action cannot be delayed until the new agreement enters into force in 2020. Countries will have to urgently stem the tide of increasing global greenhouse gas emissions by ensuring that they peak before the end of the decade. WWF has presented proposals on how this can be achieved. There are many other proposals on the table as well. The time for action is now.

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