

WWF POLICY BRIEFING ON GENEVA TEXT SECTION A. PREAMBLE

KEY POINTS TO BE CAPTURED

WWF believes that the Preamble has to set the scene for the rest of the document while being concise and not reopening already agreed matters. The overarching aim should be to provide the broad context of the climate change challenge by reflecting the history of the UNFCCC discussions and outlining the scope of the key areas to be included in the rest of the text. Therefore we believe that the following aspects must be addressed briefly in the preamble without unnecessarily repeating content that is better captured within the operative sections that follow later in the document:

- 1. Recalling key stipulations of the Convention in order to provide the context whereupon the rest of the text is predicated. This should include
 - a. Article 2 of the convention which states the ultimate aim of all activity under the convention.
 - b. Article 3 of the Convention which outlines the agreed principles for climate change action. In order to prevent renegotiation of the priorities of principles it would be best to recall the Article as a whole without restating any of the specifics.
- 2. Recognising that the COP21 decision is based on years of negotiations and preceding COP decisions. This can be captured in one catch-all sentence without referring to specific decisions that may lead to difficult negotiations about what should be specifically mentioned and what should be excluded.
- 3. Outlining the key foundations for the mitigation decisions by:
 - a. Recognising the global scale and urgency of the challenge faced
 - b. Specifically referencing the 2°C temperature limit as well as the 1.5°C objective called for by the most vulnerable countries limits (details on carbon budgets or emission reduction targets are better placed in Section C: General/Objective).
 - c. Acknowledging the urgent need to close the gap between the current and pledged efforts and what is necessary to keep warming below the temperature limits according to the latest climate science.
 - d. Acknowledging that countries will have to act in accordance with equity and their respective responsibility and capability.
- 4. Recognising the unique role of the land use and forestry sectors
- 5. Recognising the urgent need for continued efforts to scale up pre-2020 actions.

- 6. Emphasizing that adaptation must be addressed through global cooperation and that there is an integral relationship between the level of mitigation action and the need for adaptation
- 7. Loss and damage must be recognised independently to reflect that this topic deals with irreversible impacts of climate change where adaptation is no longer possible.
- 8. As in the Convention, the COP21 decisions must call on countries with high responsibility and capability to deliver finance, capacity building and technology support to others that have contributed much less to the problem but that have to find alternative development pathways.
- Recognise a rights-based approach with respect for human rights, gender equality and a just transition of economies.



Why we are here

To stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature.

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT

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