

# Conference on Innovation and Climate Change

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## Opening remarks: COP 17 PERSPECTIVE : FROM COPENHAGEN - CANCUN –DURBAN, South Africa

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# TOPICS COVERED

1. STATUS OF NEGOTIATIONS GOING TO CANCUN
2. CANCUN OUTCOMES AND DURBAN
  - 2.1 SHARED VISION
  - 2.2 MITIGATION
  - 2.3 ADAPTATION
  - 2.4 FINANCE
  - 2.5 TECHNOLOGY
  - 2.6 REDD( Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation)++
3. SUMMARY



# 1. NEGOTIATIONS GOING TO CANCUN

- Bali Roadmap provided for a two-track negotiation platform to cater for developed countries that did not ratify the Kyoto Protocol and enhanced implementation of the Convention, towards a binding outcome
- Copenhagen Accord, was a political understanding reached in COP15, introducing an approach of concrete steps that are incremental in nature
- Addressing the-Competing paradigms???



## 2. CANCUN OUTCOMES

- The decisions have 3 types of outcomes;
  1. Capturing and **reflecting agreement** that has been reached in the negotiations thus far (e.g. To establish a Green Climate Fund or the Cancun Adaptation framework)
  2. Where necessary, **setting up a process** to elaborate the governance and operational modalities/procedures of the agreed outcome (e.g. Modalities for the transitional committee of the Green Climate Fund or the Adaptation Committee)
  2. Thirdly, for elements that do not yet have full agreement among Parties to, **forward** these for further work to either the AWG's (Ad Hoc Working groups) or the Subsidiary Bodies of the UNFCC



## 2.1 SHARED VISION

- Shared vision addresses the global goal for emission reductions, including peaking year and **scale of support** for developing countries
- Copenhagen reached a political agreement on 2 deg C (shared vision) with a review in 2015 towards 1.5 deg C based on 5<sup>th</sup> assessment Report of IPCC (5AR)
- Cancun agreed on a global peaking of emissions taking into account **equitable access to sustainable development**
- Discussions going to Durban-South Africa, will therefore have to deal with the issue of **equity** for resolution of this aspect



## 2.2 MITIGATION

- Mitigation addresses modalities of emission reductions under the Convention by ALL and the Kyoto Protocol, specifically for **developed countries**
- In Copenhagen, pledges were made by most countries, however the **pledges had no status** in the formal process, however they are now part of Cancun Agreement
- These pledges are referred to both under Long-term Cooperative Action (LCA) and the KP. The **level of ambition** by developed countries is 15% at best compared to the 40% required by science
- Resistance to pledge under KP means uncertainty with a caveat of the **CDM (Clean Development Mechanism)** with potential loss of a **rules based system; lack of clarity of conversion to QELROS (Quantified Emissions Limitation and Reduction Objectives)**



## 2.3 ADAPTATION

- Adaptation deals with the response to adverse impacts of climate change, particularly important for developing countries\*
- In Copenhagen, there was general agreement on the need for enhanced support of adaptation activities, Cancun further agreed on **an Adaptation Framework and Committee + work programme for Loss and Damage**
- This year, most work will be on **further elaboration** of the Framework and Committee, the legal stature of adaptation, and **exclusion of economic losses as part of vulnerability**
- Implication is that the elaboration will provide clarity on the **governance, flow of technology & financial support**



## 2.4 FINANCE

- Finance in this context is in terms of support of developing country actions on climate change in line with Convention principles
- Copenhagen reached understanding on \$30 billion FSF by 2012 and \$100 billion by 2020, this was **formalised** in Cancun, and Green Climate Fund
- Outstanding issues pertain to, **design of the Fund, finance between 2012 and 2020, and sources of finance** ((to ensure meaningful mitigation action and transparency on implementation; and explore further sources for long term financing) )
- Implications on design are on access, whilst it is on sources for some **sectors** such as aviation, marine transport that may be affected





## 2.5 TECHNOLOGY

- Technology transfer and deployment for adaptation and mitigation is central to ability of developing countries to effectively respond to climate change
- Copenhagen agreed on the establishment of a Technology Mechanism, and Cancun formalised that including an Executive Committee
- This year much of the work will be on further elaboration of the mechanism and IPR (Intellectual Property Rights) as the latter is central to ability of developing countries to act
- Implications of this discussion include employment creation and ease of access to CDM and other mechanisms



## 2.6 REDD/LULUCF

- Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD), is particularly important for rainforest nations
- Copenhagen made provisions for financing of REDD activities, with Cancun making provision for **modalities and guidelines** for REDD actions and MRV
- On LULUCF (Land use, land-use change and forestry), under the KP, methodological issues are being discussed with Cancun having agreed on some definitions
- However it is important that accounting rules are further discussed, regarding the reference level, force majeure, harvested wood products as these can **change meaning of pledges**



# 3.CONCLUSION

- We should apply ourselves in terms of,
  - Emerging paradigms and response by participating countries
  - Input into the various thematic areas
  - What we envisage as an outcome for Durban





# THANK YOU!



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