

### **III. Review of work programme, methods of work and schedule of further sessions**

(Agenda item 4)

14. The AWG recalled its programme of work contained in document FCCC/KP/AWG/2006/4 and took note of the views provided by Parties on the timetable to guide the completion of work.<sup>5</sup>

15. The AWG reaffirmed that the completion of its work programme will be advanced primarily through the work of Parties, and that it will coordinate its work with, and draw upon relevant results achieved and work under way in, other bodies and processes under the Convention, especially its Kyoto Protocol, with a view to avoiding duplication.

16. The AWG also recalled that its work should be guided by a shared vision of the challenge set by the ultimate objective of the Convention based on the principles and other relevant provisions of the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol. It noted the usefulness of the ranges referred to in the contribution of Working Group III to the Fourth Assessment Report (AR4) of the IPCC and that this report indicates that global emissions of greenhouse gases (GHGs) need to peak in the next 10–15 years and be reduced to very low levels, well below half of levels in 2000 by the middle of the twenty-first century in order to stabilize their concentrations in the atmosphere at the lowest levels assessed by the IPCC to date in its scenarios. Hence the urgency to address climate change. At the first part of its fourth session, the AWG recognized that the contribution of Working Group III to the AR4 indicates that achieving the lowest levels assessed by the IPCC to date and its corresponding potential damage limitation would require Annex I Parties as a group to reduce emissions in a range of 25–40 per cent below 1990 levels by 2020, through means that may be available to these Parties to reach their emission reduction targets. The IPCC ranges do not take into account lifestyle changes which have the potential of increasing the reduction range. The ranges would be significantly higher for Annex I Parties if they were the result of analysis assuming that emission reductions were to be undertaken exclusively by Annex I Parties. The AWG also recognized that achievement of these reduction objectives by Annex I Parties would make an important contribution to overall global efforts required to meet the ultimate objective of the Convention as set out in its Article 2.

17. The AWG noted the concerns raised by small island developing States and some developing country Parties with regard to the lack of analysis of stabilization scenarios below 450 ppmv of carbon dioxide equivalent. In line with the iterative approach to the work programme, the information referred to in paragraph 16 above will be reviewed in the light of information<sup>6</sup> received by the AWG, including from possible further scientific work on stabilization scenarios.

18. The AWG decided to hold the first part of its fifth session in March or April 2008 and to resume and conclude its fifth session during the first sessional period in June 2008.

---

<sup>5</sup> FCCC/KP/AWG/2007/MISC.3 and FCCC/KP/AWG/2007/MISC.6 and Add.1.

<sup>6</sup> Contribution of Working Group III to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, Technical Summary, pages 39 and 90.

19. The AWG decided to organize the work for its fifth session as follows:
- (a) At the first part of its fifth session, the AWG will initiate work on the tasks set out in paragraph 17 (b) (i)<sup>7</sup> of its work programme (FCCC/KP/AWG/2006/4), and take into account the results of an in-session thematic workshop it will conduct on these matters;
  - (b) In preparation for the first part of its fifth session, the AWG:
    - (i) Requested the secretariat, under the guidance of the Chair of the AWG, to organize the in-session workshop referred to in paragraph 19 (a) above and to facilitate the participation of relevant experts and organizations in this workshop;
    - (ii) Reminded Parties and accredited observer organizations of its invitations<sup>8</sup> to submit, by 15 February 2008, their views and information on the means to achieve the mitigation objectives of Annex I Parties referred to in document FCCC/KP/AWG/2006/4, paragraph 17 (b), and for Annex I Parties to include in their submissions information on the potential environmental, economic and social consequences, including spillover effects on all Parties, in particular developing country Parties, of available tools, policies, measures and methodologies available to Annex I Parties. It further invited them to include in these submissions their views on the topics to be covered and the experts/organizations to be invited to participate in the in-session thematic workshop referred to in paragraph 19 (a) above;
    - (iii) Requested the secretariat to prepare, by March 2008, an information note on the provisions of the Kyoto Protocol and decisions by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP) relating to means that may be available to Annex I Parties to reach their emission reduction targets, including: emissions trading and the project-based mechanisms; rules to guide the treatment of land use, land-use change and forestry; and GHGs, sectors and source categories covered;
  - (c) At the resumed fifth session, the AWG will:
    - (i) Continue work on the tasks set out in paragraph 17 (b) (i) of its work programme (FCCC/KP/AWG/2006/4), and take into account the outcomes of a round table it will conduct on these matters;

---

<sup>7</sup> Analysis of means that may be available to Annex I Parties to reach their emission reduction targets, including: emissions trading and the project-based mechanisms under the Kyoto Protocol; the rules to guide the treatment of land use, land-use change and forestry; the GHGs, sectors and source categories to be covered, and possible approaches targeting sectoral emissions; and identification of ways to enhance the effectiveness of these means and their contribution to sustainable development.

<sup>8</sup> FCCC/KP/AWG/2007/2, paragraph 24, and FCCC/KP/AWG/2007/4, paragraph 24.

- (ii) Initiate work on the tasks set out in paragraph 17 (b) (ii)<sup>9</sup> of its work programme (FCCC/KP/AWG/2006/4), and take into account the outcomes from an in-session workshop it will conduct on these matters;
- (d) In preparation for the resumed part of its fifth session, the AWG:
  - (i) Invited Parties to submit to the secretariat, by 15 February 2008, their views on the topics to be covered and the experts/organizations to be invited to participate in the round table referred to in paragraph 19 (c) (i) above;
  - (ii) Requested the secretariat, under the guidance of the Chair of the AWG, to organize the round table referred to in paragraph 19 (c) (i) above, and to facilitate the participation of relevant experts and organizations in this round table;
  - (iii) Also invited Parties to submit to the secretariat, by 21 March 2008, their views and information on methodological issues relevant to matters raised in paragraph 17 (b) (i) and (ii) of document FCCC/KP/AWG/2006/4, as well as on the topics to be covered and experts/organizations to be invited to participate in the in-session workshop referred to in paragraph 19 (c) (ii) above;
  - (iv) Requested the secretariat, under the guidance of the Chair of the AWG, to organize the in-session workshop referred to in paragraph 19 (c) (ii) above, and to facilitate the participation of relevant experts and organizations in this workshop;

20. The AWG decided to hold the first part of its sixth session in August or September 2008 and to resume and conclude its sixth session during the second sessional period in December 2008.

21. The AWG decided to organize its work for the sixth session as follows:

- (a) At the first part of its sixth session the AWG will:
  - (i) Initiate consideration of information on the potential environmental, economic and social consequences, including spillover effects on all Parties, in particular developing country Parties, of available tools, policies, measures and methodologies available to Annex I Parties;
  - (ii) Adopt conclusions on the tasks set out in paragraph 17 (b) (i) and (ii) of its work programme (FCCC/KP/AWG/2006/4);

---

<sup>9</sup> Consideration of relevant methodological issues, including the methodologies to be applied for estimating anthropogenic emissions and the global warming potentials of GHGs.

- (b) In preparation for the first part of its sixth session, the AWG requested the secretariat, under the guidance of the Chair of the AWG, to:
  - (i) Compile and synthesize, by July 2008, the submissions referred to in paragraph 19 (d) (iii) above and the material presented at, as well as the outcomes from, the round table referred to in paragraph 19 (c) (i) above;
  - (ii) Prepare, by July 2008, a technical paper, with the participation of relevant experts and organizations, including from developing countries, on matters related to the tasks set out in paragraph 17 (b) (i) and (ii) of its work programme (FCCC/KP/AWG/2006/4);
- (c) At its resumed sixth session, the AWG will:
  - (i) Continue and adopt conclusions on its consideration of information on the potential environmental, economic and social consequences, including spillover effects on all Parties, in particular developing country Parties, of available tools, policies, measures and methodologies available to Annex I Parties;
  - (ii) Revert to and adopt conclusions on the tasks set out in paragraph 17 (a) (i) <sup>10</sup> and (ii) <sup>11</sup> of its work programme (FCCC/KP/AWG/2006/4), and take into account the outcomes from an in-session workshop it will conduct on these matters;
  - (iii) Consider its programme of work and decide on activities to be undertaken during 2009;
  - (iv) Initiate consideration of the scale of emission reductions to be achieved by Annex I Parties in aggregate;
- (d) In preparation for the resumed part of its sixth session, the AWG:
  - (i) Invited Annex I Parties to submit to the secretariat, by 5 September 2008, additional and updated available information and data related to the tasks set out in paragraph 17 (a) (i) and (ii) of its work programme (FCCC/KP/AWG/2006/4); and on the scale of emission reductions to be achieved by Annex I Parties in aggregate; as well as on the topics to be covered and the experts/organizations to be invited to participate in the in-session workshop referred to in paragraph 21 (c) (ii) above;

---

<sup>10</sup> Analysis of the mitigation potential, effectiveness, efficiency, costs and benefits of current and future policies, measures and technologies at the disposal of Annex I Parties, appropriate in different national circumstances, taking into account their environmental, economic and social consequences, their sectoral dimensions, and the international context in which they are deployed.

<sup>11</sup> Identification of possible ranges of emission reductions by Annex I Parties, through their domestic and international efforts, and analysis of their contribution to the ultimate objective of the Convention, ensuring due attention to the issues mentioned in the second sentence of Article 2 of the Convention.

- (ii) Invited Parties to submit to the secretariat, by 3 October 2008, their views on further activities to be undertaken during 2009, in accordance with the work programme of the AWG;
- (iii) Requested the secretariat, under the guidance of the Chair of the AWG, to update, by October 2008, the technical paper on information relevant to the mitigation potential and to the identification of possible ranges of emission reduction objectives of Annex I Parties,<sup>12</sup> with the participation of relevant experts and organizations;
- (iv) Further requested the secretariat, under the guidance of the Chair of the AWG, to organize the in-session workshop referred to in paragraph 21 (c) (ii) above, and to facilitate the participation of relevant experts and organizations in this workshop.

22. The AWG agreed that its seventh and eighth sessions will be held and concluded in 2009. At these sessions, the tasks of the AWG will be to:

- (a) Adopt conclusions on the tasks set out in paragraph 17 (c)<sup>13</sup> of its work programme (FCCC/KP/AWG/2006/4);
- (b) Adopt conclusions on the legal implications arising from the work of the AWG pursuant to Article 3, paragraph 9, of the Kyoto Protocol;
- (c) Forward to the CMP at its fifth session the results of its work on the consideration of commitments for subsequent periods for Parties included in Annex I to the Convention under Article 3, paragraph 9, of the Kyoto Protocol, for consideration by the CMP, with a view to their adoption.

23. In preparation for the resumed parts of its seventh and eighth sessions, the AWG invited Parties to submit to the secretariat, by 15 February 2009, their views on:

- (a) Legal implications arising from the work of the AWG pursuant to Article 3, paragraph 9, of the Kyoto Protocol;
- (b) The scale of emission reductions to be achieved by Annex I Parties in aggregate and on options for the allocation of the corresponding mitigation effort and their contribution to the global effort to reach the ultimate objective of the Convention.

24. The AWG requested the secretariat to schedule all meetings and activities under the AWG, to the greatest extent possible, in conjunction with meetings and activities of

---

<sup>12</sup> FCCC/TP/2007/1.

<sup>13</sup> Consideration of the scale of emission reductions to be achieved by Annex I Parties in aggregate and of the allocation of the corresponding mitigation effort, and agreement on their further commitments, including new quantitative emission limitation or reduction commitments, and on the duration of the commitment period(s), taking into account the analyses described in paragraph 17 (a) and (b) of document FCCC/KP/AWG/2006/4.

other relevant processes under the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol, with a view to ensuring the efficient use of resources.

25. The AWG noted that its requests to the secretariat, as specified in paragraphs 19 (b) (i), 19 (b) (iii), 19 (d) (ii) and (iv), 21 (b), 21 (d) (iii) and (iv) above, as well as the scheduling of additional sessions (see paragraphs 18 and 20 above), are additional and subject to the availability of supplementary funding. The secretariat informed Parties of supplementary funding requirements.

26. An overview of activities of the AWG is provided in annex I.