

Third Meeting of the Cartagena Dialogue for Progressive Action 31 Oct – 2 Nov. 2010 San Jose, Costa Rica

The Cartagena Dialogue for Progressive Action is an informal space, open to countries working towards an ambitious, comprehensive and legally binding regime in the UNFCCC, and committed, domestically, to becoming or remaining low carbon economies. These countries are willing to work positively and proactively together, within and across regional groupings and traditional negotiating blocs in the UNFCCC. The aim of the Dialogue is to discuss openly and constructively the reasoning behind each others' positions, exploring areas of convergence and potential areas of joint action.

The third meeting of the Cartagena Dialogue was hosted by the Government of Costa Rica in San Jose, on 31 October – 2 November 2010. Delegates from twenty nine Parties¹ from across AOSIS, Latin America, Europe, Oceania, South East Asia and Africa participated in the meeting.

The host of the meeting, Minister of Energy and Environment, Teófilo de la Torre, set a clear tone for the three days: “all countries are part of the problem, so all must be part of the solution”. In this spirit, he underscored Costa Rica’s longstanding commitment to following a development model that is resilient and sustainable, and restated their aim of achieving carbon neutrality by 2021, with some support from developed country partners.

Areas of Convergence

Participants reaffirmed their collective desire for the UNFCCC negotiations to urgently deliver an integrated and ratifiable post-2012 legal regime, to give all countries the assurance they need regarding the limit of global temperature increases. They emphasized that substantive progress must be made at COP16, in the form of a balanced package of decisions, to provide the crucial foundation for achieving this overarching objective.

In support of this outcome, the third Cartagena Dialogue meeting was focused on building convergence around what an ambitious, but achievable, COP16 package of decisions could look like and how participant countries can work pro-actively and collaboratively to secure consensus in Cancun.

Candid and constructive exchanges on a range of *textual proposals* highlighted some shared priorities for the Cancun package:

- The anchoring of countries’ existing mitigation proposals within the UNFCCC process – without endorsing their level of ambition pending their eventual legal form – and the establishment of a process in order to facilitate collective understanding of what those proposals entail.
- The enhancement of measurement, reporting and verification procedures for developed countries’ economy-wide mitigation commitments and developing countries’ nationally appropriate mitigation actions; while respecting the need to maintain appropriate differentiation and the provision of necessary support.

¹ Antigua & Barbuda, Australia, Bangladesh, Belgium, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Guatemala, Indonesia, Malawi, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Mexico (as President of the Cancun meeting), Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Peru, Rwanda, Samoa, Spain, and UK.

- Further progress on climate finance, through: 1) ongoing and transparent disbursement of Fast Start finance; 2) noting and drawing on the work of the Secretary General's Advisory Group on Finance (AGF) in the run up to COP17, to identify long term sources of climate finance; 3) establishing a Green Fund; and 4) establishing a suitable overview function for flows of climate finance.
- Enabling an urgent and significant scaling up of the implementation of adaptation actions. This will require crystallization of what functions are needed to support developing countries and serious consideration of what institutional arrangements are best placed to deliver this, bearing in mind the possibility of establishing an Adaptation Committee.
- Achieving greater clarity around the need to produce a balanced, comprehensive and legally binding outcome for all Parties from both Ad Hoc Working Groups

Working Together

Participants also discussed at some length the many obstacles and risks that would need to be addressed in order to secure this balanced package of decisions at COP16. They expressed their determination to thwart procedural blockages and drive the process towards a successful outcome in Cancun.

Several countries also flagged concern that the *perception* Fast Start is not yet flowing could derail progress in Cancun. They emphasized the need for developed countries to continue delivering and for this to be transparently conveyed however possible, including through the Fast Start finance website set up by the Netherlands and Marshall Islands: www.faststartfinance.int

All countries agreed to meet frequently and proactively during the negotiations in Cancun to support each other, the LCA and KP Chairs and the COP Presidency.

They were also eager for the Cartagena Dialogue to meet again next year and agreed that **Malawi** will host the next full meeting in early 2011.