

Roadmap for Global Climate Action Pre-2020 ambition

The Environmental Integrity Group (EIG) welcomes the opportunity to submit its views on the roadmap for the Global Climate Action, based on the questions contained in its invitation for submissions. The High-Level Champions, Her Excellency Ms. Laurence Tubiana, French Ambassador for climate change, and Her Excellency Ms. Hakima El Haite, Minister Delegate to the Minister of Energy, Mines, Water and Environment of Morocco, in charge of the environment, invited Parties to submit their views on the following topics:

The current situation (1) and the role of the high-level champions (2)

The EIG would like to emphasize the importance of enhanced pre-2020 action and agrees on the crucial role of the high-level champions to enhance climate action, both by Parties and Non-Party stakeholders in a broad manner.

Until recently, the process within UNFCCC was focused on the negotiation of a new post 2020 agreement. Now is the moment to implement climate action. In order to assure a fruitful exchange in the UNFCCC negotiation process, between Parties and Non-Party stakeholders, we have to ensure an inclusive approach that contains a broad attendance by Party representatives and an increased participation on behalf of Non-Party stakeholders. The newly nominated high-level champions play a catalysing role, by increasing credibility through greater visibility and reinforce the collective effort to combat climate change. The high-level champions will assume responsibility for the climate action process:

- to plan the Technical Expert Meetings on mitigation and adaptation on a strategic level including the selection of topics and selection of speakers or organisations to be associated;
- to chair the annual Action Day that consists of an exchange among non-state actors, reports on ongoing climate actions and the announcement of new initiatives;
- to track the Global Climate Action Agenda (former LPAA);
- to develop the program and content of the High Level Event on Climate Action;

- to help to prepare the ‘summary for policymakers’ with information on specific policies and actions representing best practices to support implementation in consultation with TEMs..

The EIG agrees that important elements of enhanced action should be the tracking of implementation of existing initiatives, the promotion of best practices and the implementation of climate change policy that will help the transition to the post-2020 regime.

Transparency and tracking (3)

The Non-State Actor Zone for Climate Action (NAZCA) portal has been a useful tool to kick-start participation of non-Party stakeholders. The former COP presidencies have developed basic criteria and selected outstanding projects to be included in the Lima-Paris Action Agenda (LPAA). As a next step, the EIG thinks that the tracking of progress of previously announced actions has to take place, which enables the sharing of lessons learned and an overview of the announced actions. Such a new program that could be called Global Climate Action Agenda will have to find a balance between the credibility of a transparency and tracking procedure and the capacities and capabilities of participating actors. We suggest that the tracking of progress of the climate actions will be done by the champions, assisted by the UNFCCC Secretariat and/or the data partners that are already involved in the LPAA.

EIG would suggest developing and agreeing on tracking criteria based on:

- a. Measurement of action/goal: comprehensive actions and quantified goal regarding mitigation efforts during a defined period;
- b. Transparency: an open, accessible, comprehensible and replicable implementation process;
- c. Completeness: sufficient, accurate and readable information that allows to compare information across time;
- d. Efficiency: arrangements for institutional support of the global climate action agenda and monitoring of transparency of actions need to be both ‘light-touch’ and efficient.

High-level event (4)

The EIG supports the idea of a high-level event that creates incentives for immediate climate action. To enhance visibility we could imagine that during COP a “Climate Action Award” is given to outstanding, innovative, replicable climate projects with a great mitigation or

adaptation potential in several categories. A special award could be dedicated to a particularly gender responsive climate action. The award winners will be chosen by a well-balanced panel/jury that might consist of the two high level champions, the SB-Chairs and three Non-Party stakeholders: one NGO representative, one representative of a subnational entity and one business representative. This event could take place the evening of the first day of the high level segment, allowing ministers and high level representatives of non-state actors to be present. The host country, represented by the COP presidency, could have a platform to showcase cultural and environmental highlights during the award ceremony.

The role of the TEMs (5)

The EIG is of the view that there has been a shortcoming of the Technical Expert Meetings on mitigation and adaptation (TEMs) with regard to participation and concrete follow-up. Therefore, we suggest the strengthening and restructuring of TEMs in order to provide a useful tool. At once, the global TEMs, at the occasion of UNFCCC negotiation sessions, should be further focused to address topics of immediate interest to a global audience. At the same time, we also suggest a restructuring of the TEM process, with its emphasis moving to regional TEMs organized by the UNFCCC Secretariat in coordination with other convention bodies, such as the Climate Technology Centre & Network (CTCN), and a host country. This will allow an exchange in a more intimate format, e.g. small roundtable format, instead of a panel format. We believe such a format would move the TEMs closer to the people implementing climate action. Through sharing of best practices on mitigation and adaptation applicable by each region, we could further strengthen the replicability and also efficacy of policies. A key condition for a valuable and productive outcome is a best practice policy approach with regional and solution oriented case studies. We would also welcome a strong incorporation of Non-Party stakeholders.