

**Work plan on enhancing mitigation ambition to identify and to explore options for a range of actions that can close the ambition gap with a view to ensuring the highest possible mitigation efforts by all Parties:  
Options and ways for further increasing the level of ambition**

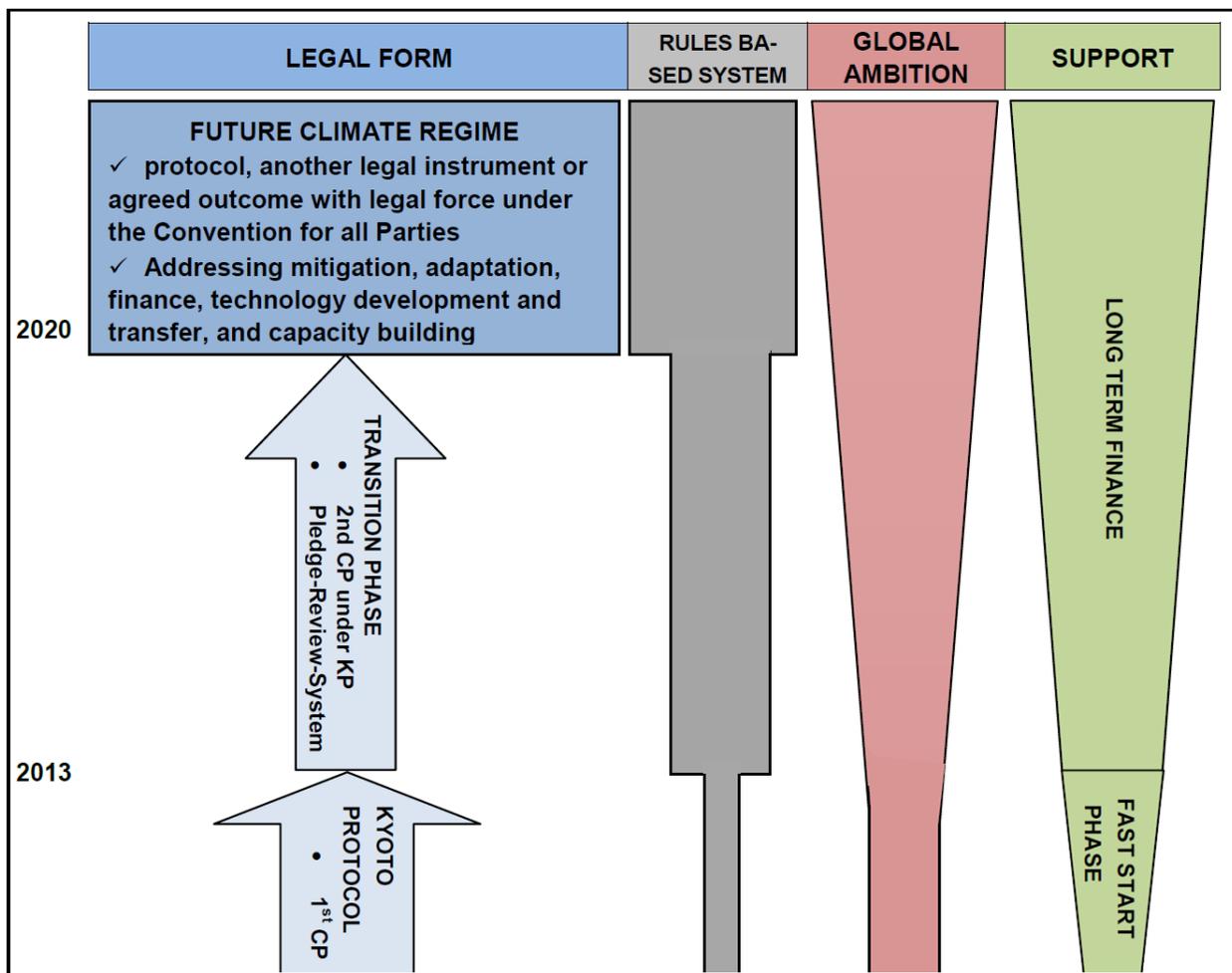
Switzerland appreciates the opportunity to provide input to the workplan on enhancing ambition. The submission outlines Switzerland’s views on ambition in the context of the evolving global climate regime, the organization of the work plan and the focus of the workshop at the first negotiation session 2012.

**Ambition post-2012 in the context of the evolving global climate regime (see figure)**

The current global level of ambition is insufficient in view of the ultimate objective of the Convention and its long term goal. An ambition level that meets recommendations of science must be achieved as soon as possible to keep the global temperature rise below 2 degrees Celsius. Accordingly, an increase in the level of ambition is necessary in the period up to 2020 and beyond. Thereby, the 2013-2015 review, the fifth assessment report of the IPCC, and new scientific evidence must be taken into account.

Decisive elements for an increase in the level of ambition are foremost the political will of the international community, but also costs to be incurred (mitigation costs and co-benefits) as well as readiness to do so (key in this regard are national policies and implementation plans, technical knowledge and means, financial means and capacity for implementation). Consequently, it is crucial that the climate regime under the Convention as well as work undertaken elsewhere address these areas and build mutual trust, promote policy and various approaches that reduce emissions cost-efficiently and support sustainable development, and – last but not least – strengthen international cooperation with respect to the implementation of actions. Switzerland’s input to the workplan on mitigation ambition (below) stands in the outlined context.

To achieve a sufficient level of ambition, it is, moreover, inevitable to agree on legally binding



mitigation commitments by all Parties. It is legally binding commitments by all Parties that strengthen mutual trust, allow for a well functioning of cost-efficient approaches such as market mechanisms, and foster a race to the top of global efforts. Furthermore, the level of ambition must be backed by common underlying accounting rules and robust MRV. Therefore, it is also inevitable to further strengthen the rules based system under the Convention. The long term vision is equally elementary. Agreement on multilaterally agreed timeframes for global peaking of emissions and global emission reduction goals for 2050 as well as the development and the implementation of low emission development strategies (LEDS) and low carbon development strategies (LCDS) are crucial building blocks of an effective regime to combat climate change. Moreover, support to developing country Parties that need such support in their mitigation and adaptation efforts and thereby operationalizing CBDR/RC and equity, as well as increased international cooperation among all countries are key for a rapid and efficient global response to climate change.

### **Workplan on enhancing ambition to identify and to explore options for a range of actions that can close the ambition gap with a view to ensuring the highest possible mitigation efforts by all Parties**

The work undertaken under the workplan on enhancing mitigation ambition must inform Parties on options and ways to increase the level of ambition and foster enhanced mitigation action at the global level in the period up to 2020 as well as beyond. The workplan must deepen technical understanding of options and ways to increase action as well as bring the adequate political attention to the issue, taking into account CBDR/RC and equity. To this aim, Switzerland suggests a technical and a political dialogue under the workplan and the following focus of work.

A **technical dialogue** on **mitigation potential, costs** (mitigation costs and co-benefits) and **readiness** (national policies and implementation plans, technical knowledge and means, financial means and capacity for implementation). The technical dialogue may be structured around **thematic areas** (see below) to allow for a focused analysis and sharing of information and best practice. Basis of work may be presentations/submissions by Parties on national possibilities for mitigation action, including information on correspondent costs and co-benefits, conditions and needs, their perspective on best ways of international cooperation, and best practice examples. Further, an analysis of mechanisms and measures, including at international level, and consideration of their mitigation effect is necessary. In addition, to the inputs of Parties, submissions from and presentations by relevant experts, technical papers prepared by the UNFCCC Secretariat and other relevant information will be helpful. An early integration of stakeholders with relevant expertise, including those with the potential to provide financing for climate measures, will benefit the process.

The work under the technical dialogue should start at the workshop at the May session in Bonn and continue until a global ambition level according to the recommendations of science is met. According to the urgency of the matter, Switzerland suggests to hold workshops or other activities under the workplan on a frequent basis and at least at the occasion of the regular negotiation sessions throughout the year. Findings of the workplan activities should be summarised and reported to the COP.

*Thematic areas of interest for the technical dialogue:* sectors and approaches with considerable global mitigation potential and areas where experience sharing is particularly helpful. This includes global approaches to mitigate emissions from international aviation and maritime transport in close cooperation with the relevant global organizations representing these sectors (ICAO and IMO), the phasing down of the production and the consumption of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), and the mitigation of emissions from the agriculture sector, including consideration of synergies with adaptation efforts. It also includes the design of the new market mechanism, approaches such as removal of fossil fuel subsidies, promotion of enabling environments for the implementation of clean technologies and climate-friendly investments, and the elaboration of ecological standards and development of global environmental labels through a multistakeholder process.

A **political dialogue** between Parties on options and ways to increase global ambition, taking into account CBDR/RC and equity, including through the deepening of mutual understanding of Parties' opportunities and conditions to increase their national efforts and to engage in international measures and initiatives. The political dialogue may be held at high level "Roundtables on Ambition" on an annual cycle at or prior to the COPs or as deemed timely. The first Roundtable may be held prior and/or at COP18. The discussions should be informed by the technical dialogue and summarised in a report made available to all Parties. The COP may consider the work and progress achieved under the workplan and provide guidance on further activities.

**The first activity under the workplan on mitigation ambition: the in-session workshop on options and ways for increasing ambition and possible further actions, May 2012, at the occasion of the regular negotiation session in Bonn**

The workshop in May 2012 should start the technical dialogue on mitigation potential, costs and readiness and allow Parties to introduce their views on options and ways to increase mitigation ambition. The workshop may benefit by a structuring of the dialogue around thematic clusters and include presentations by Parties and relevant experts. Further, next steps under the workplan on mitigation ambition should be considered at the workshop, including possible issuance of technical papers by the secretariat.