



NAVIGATING UNFCCC CLIMATE NEGOTIATIONS

**COP Negotiating Table for the Energy Sector:
Group Activity**

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Agenda

13.30 – Start

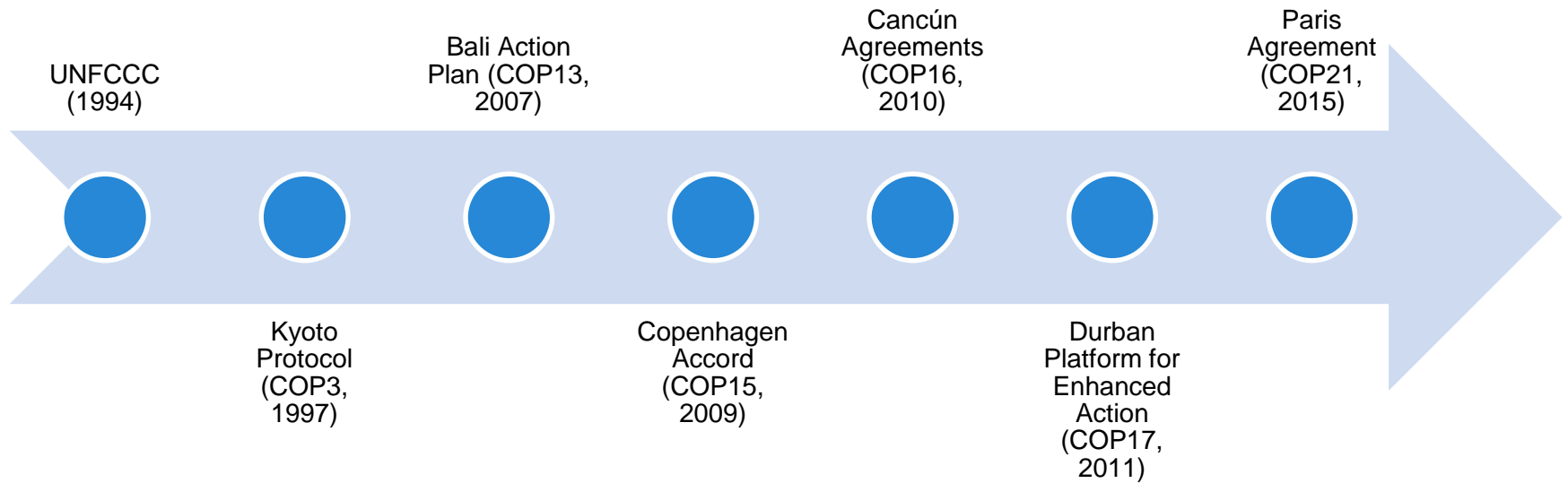
- Background to the UNFCCC
- UNFCCC negotiation history
- Negotiation blocs
- UNFCCC parties & observers
- The various COP meetings
- Outline of the Paris Agreement
- Role of Supplementary Body for Implementation
- Group activity
- Review

15.30 – Coffee/tea break

Background to the UNFCCC

- The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (**UNFCCC**) entered into force on 21 March 1994.
- Aims to "*stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system*".
- It has 197 parties and 165 signatories who meet annually at the Conferences of the Parties (**COP**).
- There are no binding limits and no enforcement measures.
- It instead leaves the parties to determine their own national emission reduction targets, called nationally determined contributions (**NDCs**).
- Each new NDC must exceed the last, and through regular "stocktaking" the parties regulate themselves in relation to the achievement of the NDCs.

UNFCCC negotiation history



UNFCCC negotiation blocs

- The UNFCCC is comprised of many negotiation blocs, allowing multiple countries to speak with one voice. The membership of some of these are looser, where one country can be a member of more than one bloc.
- The major blocs include:
 - G77 – mainly developing countries, currently 133 members;
 - Umbrella Group – loose coalition of non-EU developed countries;
 - Small Island Developing States (**SIDS**) – approx. 44 members;
 - Least Developed Countries – 48 members;
 - European Union – the EU28;
 - Environmental Integrity Group (**EIG**) – 5 members;
 - Arab Group – 22 Arab countries; and
 - Brazil, China, India and South Africa (**BASIC**).

UNFCCC parties & observers

- There are five groups in relation to the UNFCCC and the related agreements:
 - Annex I parties – 43 parties, sub-grouped into:
 - industrialised countries; and
 - economies in transition (**EITs**);
 - Annex II parties – 24 of the Annex I Parties, required to provide financial and technical support to the EITs and developing countries;
 - Non-Annex I parties – all parties to the UNFCCC not listed in Annex I, which may volunteer to become Annex I parties;
 - Least-Developed Countries – 49 parties given special status due to their limited capacity to adapt to the effects of climate change; and
 - Observers – non-parties to the UNFCCC, e.g. the Holy See, UN agencies, intergovernmental organisations (**IGOs**), and non-governmental organisations (**NGOs**).

COP meetings

- The annual COP includes a number of individual meetings:
 - Conference of the Parties (**COP**);
 - Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (**CMP**);
 - Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (**CMA**);
 - Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (**SBSTA**);
 - Subsidiary Body for Implementation (**SBI**); and
 - Ad hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement (**APA**).

Outline of the Paris Agreement

1	Defintions	13	Transparency framework
2	Climate change limit	14	Global stocktake
3	Nationally determined contributions	15	Implementation and compliance mechanism
4	Global peaking of GHG emissions	16	Role of COP
5	GHG sinks and reservoirs	17	Role of Secretariat
6	Cooperation mechanisms	18	Role of Subsidiary Bodies for Technological Advice and Implementation
7	Adaptation efforts	19	Other bodies
8	Mitigation efforts	20	Signature and ratification
9	Financial support	21	Entry into force
10	Technology transfer	22-29	Administrative provisions
11	Capacity building		
12	Public education		

Supplementary Body for Implementation

- The Supplementary Body for Interpretation (**SBI**) meets annually to implement the UNFCCC and related agreements, including the Paris Agreement.
- In the context of the Paris Agreement, the question is whether the SBI confines itself to strictly interpretation of the provisions, or whether it in fact supplements the provisions.
- Agenda for the forty-seventh session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (**SBI 47**), taking place from 6 to 15 November 2017 in Bonn:
 - Opening of the session;
 - Organizational matters;
 - Reporting from and review of Parties included in Annex I to the Convention;
 - Reporting from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention;
 - Common time frames for nationally determined contributions referred to in Article 4, paragraph 10, of the Paris Agreement;

Supplementary Body for Implementation (ctd.)

- Agenda for SBI 47 (ctd.):
 - Development of modalities and procedures for the operation and use of a public registry referred to in Article 7, paragraph 12, of the Paris Agreement;
 - Matters relating to the mechanisms under the Kyoto Protocol;
 - Coordination of support for the implementation of activities in relation to mitigation actions in the forest sector by developing countries, including institutional arrangements;
 - Matters relating to the least developed countries;
 - National adaptation plans;
 - Report of the Adaptation Committee;
 - Report of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts;
 - Development and transfer of technologies;

Supplementary Body for Implementation (ctd.)

- Agenda for SBI 47 (ctd.):
 - Matters relating to climate finance;
 - Matters relating to capacity-building;
 - Impact of the implementation of response measures;
 - Ways of enhancing the implementation of training, public awareness, public participation and public access to information so as to enhance actions under the Paris Agreement;
 - Report on activities related to Action for Climate Empowerment;
 - Gender and climate change;
 - Administrative, financial and institutional matters;
 - Other matters; and
 - Closure of and report on the session.

COP negotiations

- UNFCCC COP negotiations have a number of unique features:
 - "On screen" negotiations;
 - Various parallel meetings involving large groups of parties;
 - Not all parties have same level of preparation going into meetings;
 - Language barrier;
 - Limited purview;
 - Large number of participants and need for negotiation groups to put joint positions forward;
 - Slow process due to number of parties involved;
 - Due to dynamics of parallel negotiations and text development, iterative rounds of negotiation required; and
 - Corridor position in interest trading.

Group activity

Review

Any questions?



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