



SICA Countries Position for UNFCCC COP-20

Raddison, Fort George
Belize City
August 21 & 22, 2014



VULNERABILITY

- The Region should continue to stress the high vulnerability of SICA members states to the adverse effects of climate change, climate variability, more extreme and frequent events and slow onset events such as drought which is affecting agriculture, forest fires, forest pests and diseases, invasive species, energy, food and water security and health. The region has invested significant resources (human, financial and technical) to respond to these threats, as well as institutions for monitoring and undertaking research in these areas. These activities have helped us to cope with these adverse impacts and have also benefited the international community.
- Adaptation is therefore a priority for the region and capacity building as well as adequate financial and technical resources are required.



STRATEGIC OUTCOMES UNDER THE ADP

The negotiation process should continue under the principle and provision of the Convention, particularly equity and common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, and recognizing the urgency and most recent scientific evidence :

- Recognition of the special circumstances of SICA Countries.
- Strong adaptation and mitigation action to ensure the survival of high vulnerable countries, like SICA.
- Robust environmental integrity
- Urgent adaptation action on the ground
- Addressing L&D beyond adaptation
- Preferential access to finance (credit lines, preference treatment, etc.), technology and capacity-building
- Avoiding onerous burdens and conditionalities for SICA Countries

ADAPTATION

- The meeting noted that existing arrangements for adaptation under the Convention were mainly focused on studies, reports, pilot projects with limited resources for on-the-ground implementation
- Adaptation needs to be strengthened in the context of the 2015 agreement and the Adaptation Committee should be anchored in this agreement
- Guidelines for National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) should be strengthened to include greater focus on Adaptation action
- Ensure sufficient and adequate financial resources for enhanced actions for adaptation

ADAPTATION

Also agreed:

- Nairobi Work Programme should be brought under the Adaptation Committee
- Explore possible role for the AC in assisting parties in understanding GCF application process
- Special attention required regarding issue of conditionalities for accessing adaptation funding under GCF
- Adaptation action and supported to be included in reporting requirements but no onerous burden
- Resiliency should be a part of adaptation

ADP: MITIGATION

- Recognition of the Region's historical mitigation activities
- Aggregate level of mitigation ambition should be sufficient to restrict temperature increase to below 1.5 degrees C from pre-industrial levels
- Commitments should be inscribed in the new agreement but the region could be flexible in the form of the inscription
- Length of commitment: 5-year time frame could be useful but a longer time frame would send a positive signal to the market and the private sector

INTENDED NATIONALLY DETERMINED CONTRIBUTIONS

- INDCs should not only focus on mitigation but should include adaptation and the means of implementation including finance, technology transfer and capacity building
- The meeting noted that SICA members are undertaking significant action on adaptation and mitigation
- Members could undertake more ambitious contributions with the provision of adequate financial and technical resources
- The required information to be submitted would be based on the provisions of the convention and relevant decisions

LOSS & DAMAGE

- Political advocacy for the rapid operationalization of the Loss and Damage mechanism in Lima
- Warsaw Int'l Mechanism on L&D should be anchored in the new agreement
- The inverse relationship between Mitigation and L&D should be emphasized (more mitigation means less loss and damage)

REDD+

- The Warsaw REDD+ Framework should be anchored in the 2015 agreement
- The REDD + institutional arrangements and mechanisms be operationalized in Lima, Peru

TECHNOLOGY

- The meeting reviewed that status of the Technology negotiations and recommended that the Technology Mechanism be anchored in the new agreement
 - Technology Executive Committee (TEC)
 - Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN)

CAPACITY BUILDING

- The meeting considered the issue of capacity building and recommended that existing arrangements, including the Durban Forum, be enhanced to foster implementation
- The Ministers commended the Dominican Republic for its leadership role in pursuing issues related to education, training and public awareness and pledged the region's support in this regard.

FINANCE

The meeting:

- Noted the urgent need of Annex I parties to meet their obligations under article four of the convention (finance)
- Urgent capitalisation of the Green Climate Fund in Lima, Peru
- Noted the importance to the region of accessing climate finance and the fact that it had, for a number of reasons, not accessed adequate funding through the climate change process
- A clear definition of climate finances along with the MRV of support are required to ensure adequate financial flow
- Recommended that SICA countries make the effort to enhance their readiness to access climate finance including instituting policies and measures that could be submitted for financial support as well as the domestic institutional framework to access, programme and utilize resources
- Ensure that the availability of adaptation funding continues after 2020 and be brought under the Green Climate Fund

LEGAL ISSUES

The meeting looked at legal issues related to the ADP process and recommended:

- The new agreement should be a legally binding agreement
- A mechanism should be established to begin to consider the legal nature of the agreement


KYOTO PROTOCOL

- Highlight the urgency of raising mitigation ambition according to science
- Call all Annex I parties to immediately ratify the Doha amendment of the KP
- The meeting noted that the KP form a good basis for the new agreement

WAY FORWARD

Meeting recommended that:

- Produce draft opening statement ahead of Bonn
- The outcomes of this meeting be disseminated, to inform SICA Heads of States and Government who will attend the UNSG Climate Summit
- Details of the outcomes can be fine-tuned depending on the outcome of the Bonn climate change meeting
- CCAD and Belize summarize information from the CRRH publication on the impacts of droughts on SICA member states.
- Discuss the possibility of another meeting prior to COP 20
- SICA Side Event for COP 21, in Paris



Thank for your attention!
Gracias por su atención!

A photograph of a dense tropical forest. The scene is filled with various shades of green, from deep forest greens to bright, sunlit foliage. In the foreground, several palm trees with long, feathery fronds are prominent. The background shows a thick canopy of trees extending into the distance, creating a sense of depth and a vibrant, natural environment.

Taller de Negociadores de Cambio Climático