

Making Sense of Copenhagen – Next Steps for Agriculture?

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History of agriculture in the current round of negotiations



- June 2008 - work programme agriculture proposed in SBSTA as part of Socio-Economic and Technical Aspects of Mitigation agenda item - could not reach agreement, but agreed to reconsider the item in June 2010 - rationale was that the AWG LCA was addressing mitigation
- June 2008 - AWG LCA agreed on the production of a technical paper on Challenges and Opportunities for Agriculture Mitigation to be completed by COP 14 December 2008 (Poznan)
- August 2008 - AWG LCA agreed to hold workshop during March 2009 session (Bonn I)
- April 2009 – in-session workshop on Challenges and Opportunities for Mitigation in the Agriculture Sector (Bonn I)
- June 2009 – informal dialogue on agriculture started (Bonn II)
- August 2009 – second informal dialogue on agriculture (Bonn III)
- September/October 2009 – third informal dialogue on agriculture and beginning of negotiations on agriculture under 1 b (iv) of the Bali Action Plan (Bangkok)
- November and December 2009 – negotiations on agriculture continue under 1 b (iv) (Barcelona and Copenhagen)



AWG KP - outcome for agriculture



Land use, land use change and forestry (for KP Parties):

- Status quo for agriculture soils (grazing land management and cropland management) with the question of voluntary vs mandatory accounting still to be decided (Annex I Parties only).
- Possible programme of work to look at a more comprehensive accounting in the future (including land-based accounting).
- Scope of Clean development mechanism (CDM) status quo (i.e. limited to afforestation and reforestation activities).
- Possible programme of work on possible additional activities in CDM – including soil carbon activities.



AWG LCA - Outcome for agriculture



Shared Vision

- Preamble of the LCA notes the important role of food production systems in mitigation and adaptation efforts

Adaptation

- All Parties to enhance adaptation action....projects and programmes.....on agriculture and food security.

Mitigation

- Sectoral approaches and sector-specific actions in the agriculture sector ... promotion and cooperation in research, development, including transfer, of technologies, practices and processes....particularly ... efficiency and productivity of agricultural systems ... sustainable manner ... support adaptation ... food security livelihoods.
- Programme of work on agriculture



State of play



- Copenhagen Accord – nothing specific on agriculture
 - Convention (AWGLCA) negotiations
 - Will resume as mandated by COP15
 - Kyoto Protocol (AWGKP) negotiations
 - Will resume as mandated by CMP5
 - SBSTA work programme
 - Wasn't formally decided at COP15 – but no obvious opposition to it
- Note:
- It can be independent from the LCA process
 - Should facilitate and inform a future climate agreement, not just be an outcome of an agreement