





Climate change and the international process

Espen Ronneberg
Climate Change Adviser
Science and Policy Programme
Climate Change Division



Overview

- Introduction
- Background and structures
- Key issues for PICs/AOSIS
- Looking ahead to COP19 in Warsaw
- Conclusions



Introduction

- Concerns over climate change and extreme events saw establishment of Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee 1990
- Results delivered at Rio in 1992 – Framework Convention on Climate Change, signed and ratified by many, negotiations continued on rules and interpretations until last needed Party signed in 1994, first Conference of the Parties held in Berlin in 1995



Background

- Pacific islands region is highly exposed to climate change risks, as are other Small Island regions
- Lack of traction with larger developing countries in Group of 77 and China led to establishment of Alliance of Small Island States as a negotiating bloc, but works within G-77 mostly
- AOSIS established working groups to team up on different thematic issues, such as adaptation, science, legal issues, mitigation efforts, etc
- Each team seeks to have broad coverage of AOSIS regions in terms of membership – all report to plenary



Mitigation

- **Scale:** global emissions consistent with science, pathways to below 1.5° C, contribution from all bearing in mind historical responsibility, CBDR and equity
 - Globally: at least 85% below 1990 levels by 2050
- **Legally-binding mitigation commitments for all:** quantified economy-wide emission reduction commitments for Annex I (KP or equivalent), and commitments to implement NAMAs
 - Need balance between symmetry and differentiation?
- **Robust, multilaterally agreed rules for measuring, reporting and verifying emissions to ensure comparability and environmental integrity,** based on KP Art 5, 7 and 8,
 - common accounting rules
 - market mechanisms that incentivise ambition without compromising environmental integrity
 - compliance regime



Adaptation

- **Adaptation Committee** – positive progress for AOSIS on implementation of the 3-year work plan, including providing guidance to non-LDCs on Nat Action Plans and complementary role in institutional arrangements for L&D
- **NAPs** – progress in COP providing guidance to LDCs and non-LDCs on preparing and implementing NAPs and funding to support this activity
- **Adaptation science/tech**– agree on work areas that complement but do not substitute action on adaptation and loss and damage in AOSIS countries
- **Long-term funding for adaptation**
- **Adaptation under the new instrument?**



Loss and damage

- Issue got to the highest political level in Doha
- Mandate to: Establish institutional arrangements including an international mechanism at COP 19
- Expert meeting to consider future needs, including capacity needs associated with possible approaches to address slow onset events...
- Technical paper on non-economic losses
- Technical paper on gaps in existing institutional arrangements within and outside of the Convention to address loss and damage, including those related to slow onset
- International mechanism must contain 3 elements/components of AOSIS proposal
 1. Disaster risk
 2. Insurance
 3. Rehabilitation/compensation



Finance

- Securing a space for continued high-level finance discussion under the Convention (beside the ADP) build-up momentum for pledging conference in 2014
- Make meaningful and substantive progress on Long Term Fin and provide practical recommendations to the COP for rapid implementation
- Expedient operationalization of the Green Climate Fund by COP 19 (incl. agreement on termination of interim arrangements, a resource mobilization process and readiness phase)
- Keep improving methodologies for reporting of climate finance, especially how to account for private sector contributions (also linked to the GCF Private Sector Facility)
- Promote ambitious policy mechanisms and frameworks in the ADP discussion that utilize emission regulation policies and crediting mechanisms for the generation of new funding streams



Conclusions

- *FCCC process is becoming more complex for PICs negotiators, and requires a lot of research and motivation*
- *Stakes are high for PICs to be able to achieve a 1.5 degree world*
- *Financing and technical support for adaptation are crucial – as are issues related to loss and damage*
- *Media will have an important role to capture the extensive work that PICs are doing as well as the tremendous obstacles faced by small delegations*