

Success in Paris depends on Lima- say developing countries

Bonn, June 11 (Hilary Chiew) – The upcoming 20th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 20) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Lima, Peru is a crucial phase in the run-up to the following year's COP in Paris and failure is not an option.

Expressing the importance they attach to COP 20, several developing countries warned that 'if Lima failed, there will be no Paris.' This was at the open-ended informal consultation on convened on 8 June by the President-designate for COP 20/CMP 10 Minister Manuel Pulgar-Vidal of Peru on expectations from the Lima conference.

Brazil specifically cautioned against the conduct of business at the on-going Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action (ADP), stressing that the process needs careful steering for a secured direction but it has no sense of that yet "although we counted on the able steering of the co-chairs".

Brazil said it does not envy the position of Minister Pulgar-Vidal as the method of the (UNFCCC) process has not been ideal and the presidency would have the power to steer this process carefully, which will be the difference between success and failure, adding that there is not option of failure. If Lima failed there will be no Paris, it stressed.

China also echoed similar views. It said that it could not emphasise enough the importance of the Lima conference. If there is no success in Lima, we are not going to have Paris. It welcomed the in-coming COP presidency's promise of an open, transparent and inclusive COP and hopes that that will guide the process throughout, but noted that it is not an easy task to steer the conference in that manner. It said

the presidency can count on China's support to make the Lima conference an open, transparent and inclusive one with high ambitions and standards.

South Africa said Lima is a decisive time for the development of the new climate regime and if we miss that we will not be going forward. Paris cannot happen if Lima does not succeed. It believed that the Warsaw COP (2013) had already determined how the 2015 Agreement should be conceptualised and put together. It was agreed that Parties' contribution on all aspects of mitigation, adaptation, finance, technology development and transfer and capacity building will be nationally determined based on information that Parties will determine. In Lima, it said, there should be identification and agreement on these contributions, adding that this is the most important aspect of the work this year. It, therefore, believed that decisions at Lima must consist of the minimum information that Parties must provide in putting forward the intended nationally determined contributions (INDCs) and the process when communicating this INDC as well as an ex-ante process to assist in determining the adequacy of the contribution as this is our peer-reviewed insurance policy on Parties' proposal. It warned that if we go into a world where it is free-for-all, we will not succeed in Paris and Lima must capture the elements for further refinement. If we succeed in having an ADP decision under workstream 1 (post-2020 actions), it must contain both decision on the elements as well as the information. It stressed that the INDC is the heart of the new regime and is part and parcel of the decision for a 2015 Agreement.

Nauru speaking for the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) said Lima is essentially the last opportunity to lay the foundation for the

2015 agreement and it must be guided by science and the recent Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Working Group II (Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerabilities) report. It underscored that small island developing states (SIDS) are especially vulnerable to climate change and the situation is grave even with less than 1°C of temperature rise; more intense storms were experienced, drought accelerated, rising sea level and other life-threatening impacts. It said serious mitigation can occur within reasonable costs if we act immediately.

It said the Lima outcome is important for the negotiation process going forward and it should include resource mobilisation of the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and further acceleration of its operation. It would like to see progress on transparency and scaling up of the US\$100 billion by 2020 pledge, and the fund-raising strategies of the Adaptation Fund supported. Finance, it added, is an integral building block that would build on the lessons from the pre-2020 period. It added that AOSIS is willing to leave Lima with clear elements and options for the finance chapter of the 2015 Agreement.

On loss and damage, AOSIS expects the outcome to deliver a dedicated seat for SIDS in the Executive Committee similar to the composition of the Adaptation Committee, and its two-year work plan adopted in Lima. The new protocol under the Convention must strengthen the multilateral rules-based regime based on science and principles of the Convention and is legally-binding for all Parties with participation and contribution by all in accordance with common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities. Increasing mitigation under workstream 2 (of the ADP) must continue and Lima needs to connect the technical work to urgently increase the pre-2020 ambition.

On the 2013-2015 Review to assess the adequacy of the long term global goal, AOSIS would like to see the reference to temperature increase of 1.5°C and 2°C and linkage to the ADP process, making concrete progress to ensure an ambitious and fair outcome at Lima.

Colombia representing the Independent Alliance of Latin America and the Caribbean (AILAC) is hopeful that Lima will be a great success and is positive that Parties will work together towards the Lima draft for the 2015 Agreement. It is encouraged by the preparation

and vision for COP 20. It said the Lima draft is set to be the most fundamental outcome with necessary results including a decision on information on the INDCs that will be discussed here (at the current intersessional of the UNFCCC). It is confident that we will deliver this key milestone to the legally-binding agreement that we set to achieve. It said finance is also a fundamental outcome and Lima will mark the year where the GCF's initial capitalisation will happen.

Panama said regardless of the complexity, Parties must not forget the ultimate goal of the Convention. It said adaptation, loss and damage and the implementation of reducing emission from deforestation (REDD-plus) cannot be part of an ideal scenario for some Parties. It urged for momentum to achieve a Lima draft (for the 2015 Agreement) as an outcome of COP 20.

Chile echoed South Africa in terms of the mandate ahead and the set of decisions and elements that will be the measure of success for Lima. It completely agreed about upfront information for INDC which it thinks is a key cornerstone of the new legally-binding agreement that we try to come to achieve in Paris. It said the peer-pressured and peer-reviewed ex-ante process will guarantee success and should be covered in the Lima decision and it envisaged one decision that covers the two aspects of elements and upfront information.

Saint Lucia speaking for the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) reiterated its call for a meaningful process which consider the special circumstance of SIDS. It is eager to see progress of the Warsaw international mechanism on loss and damage, decision on elements and information for the INDC, and the pre-2020 actions under workstream 2 of the ADP.

Dominican Republic said it understood that there will not be any decision from you (the Peru presidency) that did not come from us. It looked to Lima to describe the long term signal on work that will carry us forward. It said Lima cannot be a business-as-usual COP that keeps pushing decisions to the next COP and soon we will be running out of places (to push decisions). It wanted a firm outcomes out of Lima.

The European Union said COP 20 will be critical to strengthen the implementation (of decisions) of the past few years. It would like to stress the provision of the proposed mitigation

commitment by the first quarter of 2015 and for all major economies to do so as well. It said Lima must prepare the draft negotiation text that is applicable to all Parties, describing the means of implementation and the MRV (measurement, reporting and verification) of the compliance regime that strengthens the multilateral rules-based regime that would foster climate resilience and send a strong signal that we are committed to achieving the below 2°C objective. It also wants the upfront information for the INDC to ensure quantifiability of the commitments.

Enhancing pre-2020 mitigation ambition is vital to address the gap by making full use of the process to also consider other actors like cities to scale up action, said the EU. It also said Lima should capture the results of 2014 and catalyse real work and actions to raise ambition and mobilise finance, development and diffusion of technologies.

On finance, it said (the Lima outcome) should include actions by all Parties and transformational investment, noting that not all Parties will take the same actions. It is confident that Lima can welcome initial pledges for the GCF which is an important step to make GCF the major player in climate finance post-2020.

In acknowledging the challenges, **Minister Pulgar-Vidal** said the Lima conference is obviously a big challenge not just to the country but also a personal and professional one. However, he felt he has the support after hearing the views of the Parties and will put all efforts and capacity to deal with every problem and bring solution to bring the Parties closer.

He assured Parties that (the COP) is a Party-driven process and the only way is to work together although there are some differences as there is no other way.

He noted that many regarded the Lima COP as the last opportunity (to secure the new agreement in Paris) and he felt the same. He said the Lima conference is the process to fulfil mandates; mandate on information for INDC by the first quarter of 2015, mandate related to National Adaptation Plans etc. Our first obligation is to fulfil the decisions we had taken or else we will lose the confidence of the people. He said he will work hard to reach a draft agreement in Lima that is ready to be signed in Paris.

A civil society organization representative, Asad Rehman of **Friends of the Earth International**, a member of Climate Justice Now! stressed that transparency, legitimacy and credibility of the outcome are key – we do not wish to see a repeat of Copenhagen or Cancun where these were lacking.

He recalled that many civil society groups walked out of the Warsaw COP in frustration because of the backward progress on reduction of emissions by developed countries, backward progress on climate finance, and a loss and damage mechanism that was an empty shell. He also said civil society groups have this week expressed our collective views in the ‘Volveremos’ Declaration that was delivered to the presidency.

He stressed that for us Lima is an important moment to redress that lack of progress including progress on pre2020 ambition in line with climate science and fair shares, end the broken promises of developed countries on climate finance – the capitalisation of the GCF must be a key benchmark, concrete steps on energy transformation – in particular support for community power and energy access for the billions without, and concrete steps to address needs of impacted communities and people in the loss and damage mechanism.

The role of the Presidency is CRITICAL in setting a standard and influencing the discussion over civil society participation and urge you not lock out civil society groups in Lima, said Rehman.

Proposals tabled by the Secretariat to charge civil society groups \$1000 to hold a side event – 5 times the minimum monthly wage in Peru – effectively privatises the UN and silences the voices those most impacted by climate change. It makes this only a space for only the rich and corporate interests – this must be rejected, he said further.

He also expressed civil society groups’ call for an end to any suggestion that there will also be additional restrictions on the numbers of civil society participants at the COP venue, adding that we look for you to guarantee our rights of expression and assembly and improve our ability to engage in the progress including intervention rights and not restrict them.

The “Social COP” in Venezuela provides us a rare and unique opportunity to engage as equal partners in this process. We urge the Presidency

to ensure that the outcomes of this important gathering are formally incorporated into the

Lima COP as well as that outcomes of the Peoples Summit in Lima, Rehman said.