

BASIC EXPERTS MEETING

New Delhi,
26th February, 2011

PART I

**Equity and Equitable Access to Sustainable
Development**

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

BACKGROUND

Recalling the Basic Ministerial Meeting statement from Tianjin:

Ministers emphasised the importance of the issue of equitable access to sustainable development as a central element in building a comprehensive and balanced outcome for climate change negotiations.

CANCUN DECISION

And recalling the Cancun decision in Para 6
(in the AWG-LCA):

....In this context, further agrees to work towards identifying a time-frame for global peaking of greenhouse gas emissions based on the best available scientific knowledge and equitable access to sustainable development, and to consider it at its seventeenth session;.....

Following up on Tianjin meeting and the Cancun outcome

- i) Clarifying the meaning of equitable access to sustainable development
- ii) Potential acceptability of an equitable access paradigm.
- iii) Immediate plans for joint publication

Clarifying Equitable Access

Post-Cancun there is an immediate need to clarify the meaning of “equitable access to sustainable development”

Key fact of carbon space – Severe over-occupation of carbon space by developed countries

Sustainable, low-carbon development for BASIC & developing countries is a necessity and not a choice

Clarifying Equitable Access (contd.)

Because of this, equitable access to carbon space is a principal component of "equitable access to sustainable development." Another principal component is the time for development which was discussed in relation to the low carbon pathways in the second part of the meeting.

Technical work has been carried out in comparing different schemes of allocation of carbon space entitlement in the budget approach.

Clarifying equitable access (contd.)

Work will be continued towards the comparison and convergence of the carbon budget and burden-sharing approaches using a common set of parameters.

Equitable access as a reference framework

A single analytical framework of allocation of carbon space may not work for some developing countries or meet their development needs.

In practice, we will need a formula-plus approach which takes national circumstances of particular countries into account.

Example (in the budget approach)

Total no. of developing countries with more than 50% of their budget already consumed = 29

Cumulative emissions from these countries (2009) = 23.2 Gt of C

Future entitlements = 5.6 Gt of C

Carbon space may be transferred to these nations by other developing nations from their entitlements

BASIC Expert Meeting

Part II Low Carbon Strategies

Summary of Discussion

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Background: Low Carbon Strategies (Cancun LCA document)

Para 6 – ‘...low-carbon development strategy is indispensable to sustainable development..’

Para 10 – ‘...requires a paradigm shift towards building a low-carbon society ...’

Para 45 - ‘Decides that developed countries **should** develop low-carbon development strategies or plans;’

Para 65 - ‘**Encourages** developing countries to develop low-carbon development strategies or plans in the context of sustainable development;’

Report back of Low C strategy discussion

- Participants discussed extensive and on-going work in BASIC countries on low-C strategies and exchanged their diverse experiences:
 - SA has completed LTMS process and is currently translating it into sectoral implementation plans and national policy.
 - China has incorporated low-C targets into 12th five year plan (2011-15) for reaching its emissions intensity target by 2020. The low-C plan is being disaggregated at the sectoral and regional level.
 - India is developing a comprehensive low-C strategy, under the Planning Commission, which will serve input for the 12th plan (2012-17). This complements the existing National Action Plan for Climate Change.

Report back ... continued

- Integrating low-C opportunities with development priorities is a complex planning process.
- National circumstances place significant constraints on low-C pathways.
- Developed countries must take the lead and demonstrate the feasibility of low-C pathways and assist developing countries with low-C planning.
 - They should also provide support, especially for high-cost mitigation actions.
- South-South cooperation and exchange can also help improve our low-C planning.

BASIC Expert Workshop, Feb. 25, 2011, New Delhi, Participants List

India

- T Jayaraman, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai.
- Girish Sant, Prayas Energy Group, Pune.
- Ambuj Sagar, IIT Delhi,
- Sunjoy Joshi, Observer Research Foundation, New Delhi

China

- Jiahua Pan, Institute of Urban and Environmental Studies, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS),
- Yongsheng Zhang, Development Research Centre, Beijing.

South Africa

- Harald Winkler, Energy Research Centre, University of Cape Town, Cape Town.
- Andrew Marquard, Energy Research Centre, University of Cape Town, Cape Town.
- Stefan Raubenheimer; South-South North