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"Responding to developing countries' needs for environmentally sound technologies" Side Event Report

Overseas Environmental Cooperation Center, Japan (OECC)
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This is a report of a side event held at the 18th Session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC (COP18) from November 26th to December 7th 2012, in Doha, Qatar.

- Title : "Responding to developing countries' needs for environmentally sound technologies"
- Date : 13:15‐14:45, Thursday, November 29, 2012
- Organizer(s) : Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
- Venue : Side Event Room 6, Qatar National Convention Center, Doha, Qatar
- Presenter(s) : [Chairs of the Technology Executive Committee]: Gabriel Blanco, Antonio Pfluger, Krzysztof Klincewicz, Matthew Kennedy and Wang Can
- Abstract: The chairs of the Technology Executive Committee reported on its work plan, progress made so far, and answered questions from the audience

Summary

1. Gabriel Blanco: "Responding to developing countries' needs for environmentally sound technologies"

- He gave a brief historical description of the TEC and CTC&N, and described functions.
- Concluded saying that the TEC is there to promote and facilitate collaboration with other institutions.

2. Antonio Pfluger: "Enabling environments and barriers to technology development and transfer"

- In response to a request by the COP to promote technology transfer, they have reported that broad involvement of stakeholders was necessary.
- In the rolling work plan of the TEC, topics such as the organization of thematic dialogues on enabling environments and barriers to technology development and transfer, were included.
- He gave examples from past dialogues such as: necessity to promote R&D, strengthening of national systems of innovation, enhancement of absorptive capacity of

developing countries, activities related to technology cycle, etc.

■ As a conclusion, the next steps consist of continuing the thematic dialogue, to further mobilize support, to organize workshops on specific issues, and to explore the possibility to develop a technical paper on enabling environments.

3. K. Krystof and M. Kennedy: "Development and use of technology roadmaps"

■ They commented regarding development of best practice guidelines as a facilitative tool for action on mitigation and adaptation, and the preparation of an inventory of existing technology roadmaps. On this regard, the outcome of this activity is to identify benefits and gaps/barriers in the development and use of technology roadmaps.

■ Krystof mentioned that they have established a task force and started to work with consultants and experts in road maps, but it was necessary to re-define the concept since the information available pointed only to the private sector.

■ Some of the key messages obtained were: 1) technology roadmaps provide a coherent basis for international and /or national policies to support enhanced action on development and transfer of technology to address climate change; 2) technology roadmaps can complement efforts and actions undertaken by various stakeholders at the international and the national levels including TNAs, NAMAs and NAPs.

■ He informed that next steps of the TEC are to continue its efforts to improve the inventory of technology roadmaps, to complete the review of technology roadmaps, to organize an expert meeting, to develop practical guidelines and relevant tools.

4. Wang Can: "Review of technology needs from various sources"

■ He informed that one of the functions of the TEC was the review of technology needs from various sources, and to provide an overview of technology needs and analysis of development and transfer of technologies for mitigation and adaptation.

■ He commented that the TEC considered the experiences and lessons learned from the TNA process. More than 100 countries already finished the 1st round of TNAs and many have already started the 2nd round, providing a sound basis for identifying technology barriers as well.

■ He also mentioned that one important conclusion obtained in several experience-sharing workshops were that further consideration was necessary to continue efforts to explore and operationalize synergies between the TNA and TAP process and other existing efforts, such as the operationalization of LEDS, NAMAs and NAPs, and for that, it is also needed to engage the financial and business communities under and outside the convention to facilitate the implementation of TNA sources.

Antonio Pfluger:

■ Closed the presentations commenting the TEC planned activities: Review of the inventory of roadmaps with a view to develop practical guidelines and relevant tools for the development and use of technology roadmaps; strategic considerations in relation to facilitate national planning; and complement NAMA planning; etc.

■ **Q&A**

Q. Representative from Climate and Environmental Initiative, Nigeria:

What have been the success stories able to share in African countries?

A. Blanco:

The technology mechanism in Africa is not fully implemented yet. Since the implementation pillar is within the CTC&N, there are several things that have not been decided yet, but that will be decided in this COP hopefully. Still, there are many things in which we are working on in relation to Africa.

Q. TNA National Coordinator of Bhutan:

There is a problem with reporting in the TNA process. There is too much to report about. The guidelines have been developed wonderfully, but it is too complex. Specifically, the prioritization process is quite complex. It this is done like in the NAPA process, it could be simpler.

A. Blanco:

The TNA process started before the technology mechanism. It started in Poznan. Now we are in trying to engage in the TNA process and coordinate with UNEP and bring some ideas in relation to TNAs, and last September we have also discussed this issue in Bangkok. However, one of the conclusions was to give continuation to the TNA process.

A. Kennedy:

From now on, the intent is to provide the best practice guidelines, that will enable countries to ensure effectiveness, facilitate national planning and get international support.

Q. Representative from Sweden:

It seems that some sectors and technologies have preference in the TNA's work. Can you explain what are the criteria to select the sectors?

A. Blanco:

The TEC just acts in response to demand coming from developing countries. This does not

mean that we are not going to take other sectors. We noticed that there were a lot of requests for adaptation, but we are going to work on mitigation as well.

Q. Representative from Zimbabwe:

In the implementation stage, integration from all stakeholders is crucial. One of the stakeholders is the financial arm. How the TEC is planning to engage this important sector.

A. Blanco:

It is obvious that we need to work with financial bodies. We are analyzing how they will engage with us or how the TEC will engage with them, so that we can assure some support. The idea of linkage is there. We are waiting for the mandate from the COP to work on these linkages in the best way.

A. Can:

As for implementation and finance, the TEC came with a clear message, and this is that financial support is crucial and early involvement is crucial. How to ensure that? What innovative financial mechanisms there are? The true is that sources are still not very clear. More work not only from the TEC but from negotiators on financial mechanisms and bodies are needed.

Q. Representative from the German Development Institute:

I can perceive that between the level of communication and decision, part of the communication is lost. Can you explain why the TEC is choosing adaptation rather than mitigation at the decision level?

A. Pfluger:

The TNA is acting in response to the 2009 Assessment. There was a clear message from developing countries that adaptation issues should be taken rather soon. However, this is under study as well and the preliminary results will available next year.

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