

Environmental Integrity Group (EIG) comprising Liechtenstein, Mexico, Monaco, the Republic of Korea and Switzerland

EIG's views on how to progress work after APA 1-3

April 2017

The EIG is pleased to present its views in relation to the above mentioned issue.

Deliverables at COP23

The COP23 (2017) is a crucial step in order to deliver on the work program mandated by 1/CP.21 by 2018.

In order to resolve the numerous tasks at COP24 (2018), the negotiations in 2018 must be based on draft texts. COP23 must deliver this basis. It will be important that for each agenda item the best form of a draft text is chosen. The form of the draft texts will be best identified through the negotiations under the respective agenda items. The EIG fully trusts the able Co-facilitators and Co-chairs to guide us to the most workable outcome under each agenda item. Hence, the EIG envisages a set of draft texts rather than one draft text as the outcome of the APA work at COP23.

The current year 2017 must be used effectively to advance the technical work under the various agenda items. We believe that after a conceptual phase in 2016, the APA is entering a technical phase throughout 2017, before a text based negotiation phase will follow in 2018. It is important that we provide for sufficient time for technical work without rushing to texts. In this regard, inter-sessional technical workshops may be recommended. We strongly believe that there is room for convergence in 2017 if we do not rush to drafting of texts that will end in numerous options and brackets.

One additional meeting in 2018 may be needed

In the phase of technical work throughout 2017, Parties will need to do a lot of homework by developing and reworking proposals, digest considerations and suggestions by other Parties and engage informally. Hence, the EIG currently considers no additional meeting of the APA necessary in 2017.

In 2018, one additional meeting of the APA may be necessary in the second half of the year. However, such a decision can only be taken at the end of the April/May 2018 session.

Co-Chairs of the APA: continuity until end 2018

The work under the APA is a continuum until COP24 (2018). Hence, the EIG trusts that the most adequate way would be to continue with the current APA Co-Chairs remaining in their guiding role until the end of 2018.