

SUBMISSION FROM NORWAY

AWG-LCA - Sectoral Approaches

1. Norway welcomes the invitations contained in the Bali Action Plan and in the conclusions of the first and second sessions of the AWG-LCA to submit views on the elements contained in paragraph 1 of decision 1/CP.13 (the Bali Action Plan), and notes the conclusions of the third session of the AWG-LCA held in Accra 21-27 August where the group invited its chair to prepare a document assembling the ideas and proposals presented by Parties received by 30 September 2008.
2. As a follow up of the constructive workshop on cooperative sectoral approaches held in Accra, Norway believes that sufficient time should be provided for further exploration of this issue as the AWG-LCA continues its deliberation of enhanced national/international action on mitigation of climate change.
3. There is need to discuss and consider specific proposals from Parties for sector based approaches and mechanisms in this respect. Discussions so far in the AWG-LCA show that there are various proposals for sector based approaches, but also that there is a large degree of convergence around the basic principles that should guide sector based approaches.
4. Based on solid scientific message provided by the IPCC deep cuts in global emissions are necessary to avoid dangerous climate change. In order to limit the increase in global mean temperature to 2 degrees Celsius compared to pre-industrial level it is essential that countries, sectors and emission sources are given incentives to appropriate mitigation actions in a future climate change regime. A future climate change regime should therefore aim towards a comprehensive coverage including as many emission sources as possible.
5. Sector based approaches should be in line with the principle of “common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities” and should not replace economy wide and quantified reduction targets under the Kyoto Protocol/UNFCCC. It is further essential that robust schemes for monitoring, reporting and verification are established to ensure environmental integrity and compliance.
6. The right to economic growth and poverty eradication is fundamental for developing countries. Hence, the need for economic growth in an environmental sustainable manner should be reflected in the discussions on sectoral approaches. The concept of crediting mechanisms, including emission trading systems, as a means to provide incentives for actions are among the issues that should be explored further. Sector based approaches could be a means for the transfer of resources from developed countries to developing countries in the context of moving towards a low-carbon economy.
7. New mechanisms must be created in order to facilitate a policy establishing incentives to appropriate mitigation actions. Norway is especially interested in further exploring sector based approaches and mechanisms that can contribute to nationally appropriate mitigation actions in a measurable, reportable and verifiable manner. In our view the present project based mechanisms will not be sufficient to achieve the necessary global emission reductions and do not to a sufficient degree involve the authorities in the countries concerned.

8. Due to their particularities Norway suggests that international transport should be treated separate from other sectors in the discussions.
9. Some of the issues that should be discussed in the further process under the AWG-LCA are:
 - Identification of various options for creating incentives for mitigation action, including sector based emission objectives.
 - Common definition of sectors in the economy
 - Measurement, reporting and verification
10. Norway looks forward to engaging in constructive discussions on the concept of sectoral approaches.