

S.A proposes balanced outcome that establishes a second commitment period under the Kyoto Protocol.

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Cancun, Mexico, December 8, 2010 (ECA) -South Africa this week urged Parties to the Cancun climate change negotiations to work towards a balanced outcome that also establishes a second commitment period under the Kyoto Protocol.

Sources told correspondents of the Information and Communication Service (ICS) of the UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) that South Africa which is tipped to host COP19 in Durban in 2011 “acknowledged the need for an agreement, while highlighting that the matter is broader than just the Ad Hoc Working Group and Long-term Cooperative Action (AWG-LCA's) outcome”.

During the evening contact group, Chair Michael Zammit Cutajar (Malta) reiterated that the six proposals submitted by parties under Convention Article 17 (protocols) remain on the table until the next COP and that new proposals are also possible.

He noted parties' divergent views on the legal form of the AWG-LCA's outcome. Grenada submitted a proposal for a draft COP decision, containing a request for the AWG-LCA to “continue its work, with a renewed sense of urgency” in order to present to COP17 “a legally-binding instrument under the Convention as its final agreed outcome” , according to news reports.

They say Costa Rica and a number of AOSIS members also urged the AWG-LCA to continue working with a clear mandate to adopt a legally-binding instrument at COP 17 in Durban.

The EU suggested adding language on a legally-binding outcome under the two tracks. Likewise, Venezuela called for text to be added to reinforce the current legal regime, as well as a reference to the Kyoto Protocol.

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