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Adoption of the Paris Agreement and the Next Step



久保田 泉

Izumi KUBOTA

Center for Social and Environmental Systems Research
National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES), Japan

The Paris Agreement to enter into force!



(Photo: Dr. Kentaro Tamura (IGES))



(Source: COP21 host country website)

The importance of the Paris Agreement

- i. Setting of clear long-term goals, and re-interpretation of the ultimate goal of the UNFCCC
- ii. Comprehensive and sustained international system
- iii. Reinterpretation of the Convention’s principle of common but differentiated responsibilities



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Objective of the Paris Agreement

- Article 2
 - Holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to **1.5 degrees Celsius** above pre-industrial levels, recognizing that this would significantly reduce the risks and impacts of climate change.
 - an advance on the non-binding, the Cancun Agreement, adopted by COP16 in 2010

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A long-term emissions goal

- Parties aim **to reach global peaking of greenhouse gas emissions as soon as possible**, recognizing that peaking will take longer for developing country Parties, and to undertake rapid reductions thereafter in accordance with best available science, so as **to achieve a balance between anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of greenhouse gases in the second half of this century**, on the basis of equity, and in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty. ⁵

Differentiation

- No reference to “Annex I” in the Paris Agreement
- more flexible sharing of responsibilities, “in the light of different national circumstances” (Art. 2.2).
 - Different responsibilities for developed countries and developing countries still pervade the Agreement, but not as a fixed list of countries.
- “all parties are to undertake and communicate ambitious efforts” (Art. 3).

Mitigation

- All countries (Article 4.2) will have to **communicate new NDCs every five years** (Art. 4.9), starting in 2020 (Para. 23).
 - with developed countries taking the lead (Art. 4.4).
- Countries would have to make **each round of NDCs more ambitious than the last** (Art. 4.3), in “a progression beyond the Party’s current NDC and reflecting its highest possible ambition”

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Raising ambition in the short term

- Almost all countries have pledged to take climate action after 2020, either in 2025 or 2030.
- Analysis shows that these pledges are too weak to limit global average warming to below 2 degrees Celsius.

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Mechanisms

- Countries can choose to “cooperate” in meeting their national emissions targets.
 - 1. Cooperative Approaches
 - 2. Sustainable Development Mechanism
 - 3. Non-market Mechanism

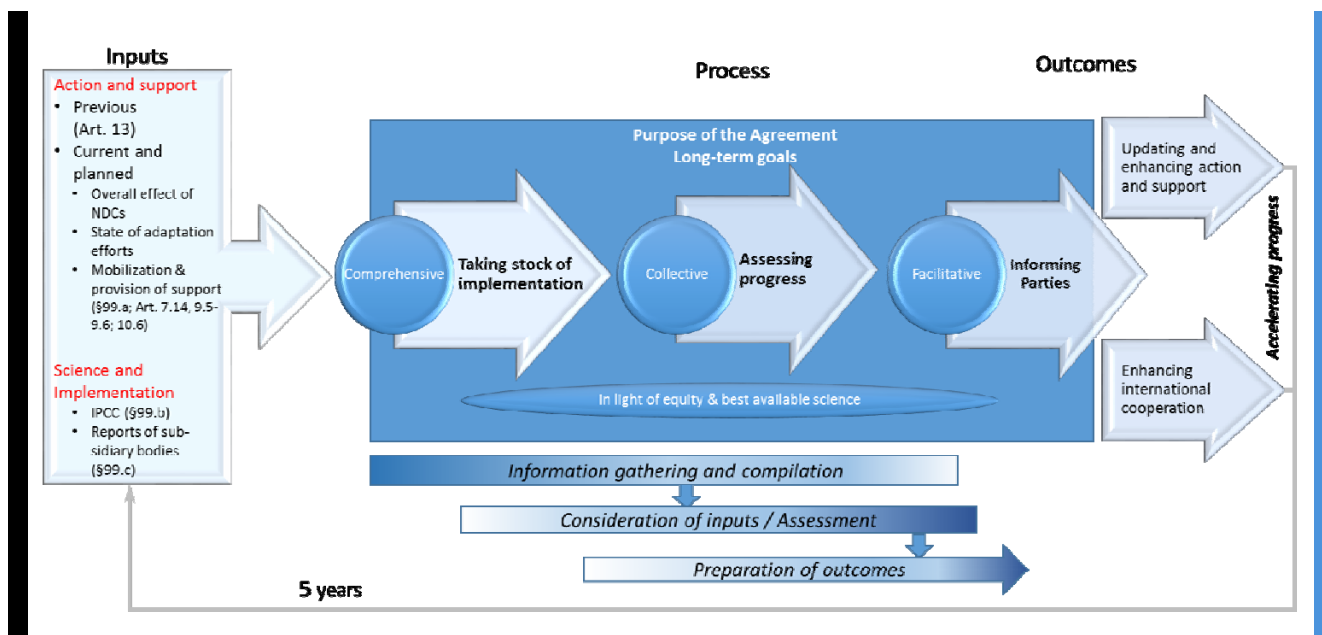
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Global Stocktake (Art. 14)

- Global stocktake on mitigation, adaptation and means of implementation (finance 9.6, technology transfer 10.6, no corresponding reference in capacity building)
- Implementation of Agreement implementation of NDCs
- Collective progress individual assessments, but transparency framework to inform global stocktake (Art.13.5 & 6)
- Sources for global stocktake to be identified – e.g. overall effect of NDCs communicated, IPCC report (decision, para.99)

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The Global Stocktake under the Paris Agreement



Source : UNFCCC Secretariat

Thank you for your attention!

Izumi KUBOTA
 izumi@nies.go.jp

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