

# **Copenhagen: Accord, Discord and Beyond**

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# Pre-Accord Copenhagen Negotiations

- **Bitter division from early on due to**
  - Insistence by some countries for a one-track process – Japan, Canada with hidden support from others such as USA
  - Vigorously opposed by LDCs, G77+China, Africa Group
- **Issues related to what should be role of developing countries in mitigation efforts**
  - NAMA and how to MRV since Bangkok
- **G77+China and LDC differences on**
  - special status for LDCs in finance for adaptation
  - timing, extent and speed of mitigation

# Sticking Points 1

- **What future temp're rise acceptable?**
  - 2, below 2 or 1.5 degrees Celsius
- **How much C in atmosphere acceptable without dangerous consequences**
  - 350, 450 ppm or between
- **How much to cut and when**
  - 80% over 1990 level by 2050 or 95%?
  - 40 or 45% by 2020?
- **When to peak?**
  - By 2015? 2017 or 2020?

# Sticking Points 2

- **And 64 mn \$ question is who will cut?**
- **Group politics and positions matter**
  - **G77 and china – subsumes LDC, AOSIS, Africa Group – want burden to be on developed countries**
  - **Annex 1 – wants BASIC to share**
  - **USA – a group in itself – position as A-1**
  - **Umbrella group, Environmental Integrity group – as A-1**
- **2 basic conflicts**
  - **G77+China vs Annex 1/USA;**
  - **LDC/AOSIS vs G77+China non-LDC**

# Sticking Points 3

- **NAMA**
  - **Supported and unsupported unilateral actions**
  - **MRV**
- **A lot of wrangling and hand-wringing about MRV – Bangladesh showed a way in Bangkok which is part of Accord**

# Copenhagen Accord & Discord

- A political decision – not a decision of COP – hence has no force of law – but can provide a framework for negotiations ahead
- Hammered out finally by 5 countries – USA and BASIC with inputs at various stages from other countries including Bangladesh
- Bitterly opposed by several
  - allegations of non-transparency
  - references to betrayal for 30 pieces of silver, coup d'etat, holocaust for Africa
- Even those in favour all agreed that it is a kind of *moth-eaten* political deal

# The Accord – What It Contains

- **Clear statement on keeping temp rise  $< 2^{\circ}$  C & examine 1.5 degree case in 2015, at insistence of Bangladesh – provides parameters for future emission concentration & thus emission cut**
- **All Parties to tell how much they will cut**
- **Preferential treatment for LDCs in finance and technology for adaptation**
- **US\$ 30 bn for 3 years and 100 bn /yr by 2020**

# The Accord – Problems

- **Not legally binding - Still have to finalise negotiations on two tracks**
- **Future funds – Will LDCs benefit, not clear**
  - Fund earmarked for mitigation in developing countries
  - Later references to adaptation – not clear about priority Significant (?) part through a new channel: Copenhagen Green Climate Fund under Convention
  - Where will the rest go? Who controls? Historical parallel with PL 480? Unless you behave...
  - US newspapers say clearly that USA not to allow Convention to have a major say
- **Level of funding not commensurate with need**

# Opposition to Accord

- **Much of the opposition to Accord due to its legal nature**
  - non binding
  - mitigation details not finalised, nor therefore shared vision
- **Rights to development of developing countries and sharing the atmospheric space**
- **NGOs such as CAN and CANSA in forefront – but many are inconsistent**

# Views on Opposition to Accord

- **Many are valid points – but misses the spirit of the Accord**
- **Issues such as legality is misplaced**
- **This Accord certainly can not be a legal document given its major drawbacks related to mitigation commitments by developed and mitigation actions by major developing Parties – legality must wait the proper end of negotiations under the two track process of AWGLCA and AWG-KP encompassing all issues related to adaptation, mitigation, finance, tech transfer and development as well as capacity building**

# Bangladesh Response to Accord

- Bangladesh was a party to the deliberations leading to the Accord and supported it in Plenary in Copenhagen
- Also, subsequent to a letter from Secy General, UN and Danish PM formally expressed willingness to continue negotiations for a legally binding agreement or treaty in Mexico – but no fig on mitigation

# Bangladesh Priorities 1

- **Need to decide the principle of approach – rights based may be the answer, after all one must practise at home what it preaches globally – the actions, interventions must be people-centred**
- **Operationally, BCCSAP 2009 provides basic ideas for action in next few years**
- **But urgency of matter not yet clear to many in Govt**
- **Five sectors are critical – water, agriculture, health, local government, disaster mgmnt and energy – policy harmonisation need**

# Bangladesh Priorities 2

- **Prioritisation of programmes by sector as well as principles behind priority setting needed – also by location as well as gender**
- **Integration of public/NGO/private and national/local initiatives- how to do that remains to be worked out**
- **Capacity building needs – multidisciplinary human and institutional - preparatory works based on NCSA – but prog'me & project formulation incl costing needed**
- **A lot of uncertainties – need for continuous monitoring, research and knowledge management**

# Bangladesh Priorities 3

- **Mainstreaming CC into 6<sup>th</sup> Plan – some ideas put to PC – but huge practical awareness and hands on project formulation exercises needed**
- **A highly simplified but transparent process of project approval needed – present format followed for Trust Fund disbursement not helpful**
- **On ground capacity needs –local govt and institutions incl community –role of CBOs**

# Bangladesh Priorities 4

- **BD at present not short of utilisable funds, but operationalisation is yet to start in earnest**
- **Also need to estimate future resource needs**
- **Recent estimates put it at nearly 9.5 bn US\$/yr for adaptation and mitigation by public, private and NGO sectors**
- **Generating this level of fund is a very challenging task – more challenging is its utilisation**
- **Unless steps taken to raise absorption capacity, CC will become and remain a difficult impediment to growth and poverty eradication**

**THANK YOU**