Talanoa Dialogue – Guidance for Parties

Approach

The Paris Agreement prescribes warming goals to hold the increase in the global average surface 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. The Talanoa Dialogue (TD) will be conducted in a manner that promotes enhanced ambition and will consider, as one of its elements, the efforts of Parties on action and support, as appropriate, in the pre-2020 period.

The May 2018 Inter-sessional TD will be the first opportunity for Party and non-Party Stakeholders to interact in a forum that is constructive and non-judgmental, and to engage in story telling with a purpose. As part of the preparatory phase, it will include an opening plenary of the TD, a day of working groups (organised into three separate sessions) addressing the three overarching questions of the Dialogue, a plenary reporting session and a closing plenary.

Based on Decisions 1/CP.21 and 1/CP.23, the Fijian and Polish Presidencies will synthesize the information and insights gained during the preparatory phase to provide a strong evidence-based foundation for the political phase of the TD.

Since the launch of the Talanoa Dialogue at the beginning of the year, the Presidencies have received requests from Parties and non-Party stakeholders for guidance on how to approach the three questions of the Dialogue.

In response to this request, the Fijian and Polish Presidencies have prepared this note. Our intention is to provide generic questions under each overarching question of the Dialogue as guidance to Parties.

With a view to having a fruitful dialogue which is constructive, facilitative, solutions-oriented and in which no individual Parties or groups of Parties are singled out, we encourage Parties and non-Party stakeholders to address these questions from their own perspective. We invite everyone, from their own standpoint, to reflect on where they are, where they want to go and how will they get there.

The additional guiding questions provided below are optional and are put forward in an effort to assist Parties and non-Party Stakeholders in formulating their stories and making submissions. Parties may consider these questions but are not obliged to answer them specifically.
Where are we?

1. What are the main sources of emissions and their current and future trends? What are the underlying drivers?
2. What are the current sectoral, national and international legal and policy frameworks for addressing climate change? Do they adequately address national and international climate change goals?
3. What are the current main initiatives and actions from government, leading private industries and other non-Party stakeholders to address climate change? Which ones have worked and what obstacles or barriers have been encountered?
4. What “best practice” examples and business models have successfully driven climate change action?
5. What available technologies can be game changers for addressing climate change today? Can they be easily implemented and what are the anticipated costs?
6. How has the financial sector responded to date on opportunities to address climate change within the different sectors? What models have worked and under which conditions?
7. What are examples of successful partnerships between governments and non-Party stakeholders? Which modalities have proven to be effective (e.g. contracts, blended financing, joint investments, etc.)?
8. What roles have women, local communities and indigenous people including youth played in the transition to low emission and carbon resilient society? What should be their future roles?

Where do we want to go?

1. What is your short-term (e.g. by 2030) and long-term vision (e.g. by 2050 and beyond) for climate resilience and for achieving a balance between emissions and removals in the second half of this century?
2. What scientific evidence is required to engage leaders and other actors into such vision?
3. What is the near-term scope for increasing national ambition?
4. What is required for encouraging governments and non-Party stakeholders to do so?
5. Where should efforts be focused (sectors, regions, practices) in the short, medium and longer terms?
6. What are the modally-specific near, medium and long-term targets that can be identified and supported consistent with achieving a balance between emissions and removals in the second half of this century?
7. Are there fundamental technology barriers preventing a determined response to climate change in any sector? If so, what are the best ways to overcome them?
How do we get there?

1. What fundamental changes are required for the vision described under “where do we want to go” to be realized? What factors would enable the realization of this vision?
2. What legal, policy and fiscal frameworks are required to achieve this vision?
3. What technological advancement/development (by sector) is needed to achieve this vision?
4. What level of investment and what should the sources be in order to meet the Paris Agreement’s long-term goals?
5. What is the foreseen role of the financial sector, including to support technological innovation? What external and internal reforms and incentives would accelerate the flow of capital towards a more sustainable sector?
6. What new engagements and/or partnerships between Parties and non-Party stakeholders can be promoted for increasing ambition and achieving the objectives of the Paris Agreement?
7. Which actions could be taken by leaders from national and local governments, regional development banks, private financial Institutions, companies and associations and others in order to contribute to the realization of this vision?
8. What would be the role of the UNFCCC and what actions can it take?