

Canada's submission on possible elements of the gender action plan to be developed under the Lima Work Programme on Gender

Introduction

Canada welcomes the progress made at COP22 on gender and climate change. The COP22 Decision on gender, with its new activities and the call to develop a gender action plan, constitutes a determined and renewed engagement for Parties and non-Party stakeholders to further their efforts to turn the elements contained in the gender decisions into action.

Canada is pleased by the decision to continue and enhance the Lima Work Programme on Gender (LWPG) for a period of three years. The COP22 gender item outcomes are unprecedented and demonstrate Parties' commitment towards achieving gender equality through the development of impactful activities. Despite this major step forward, gaps remain in achieving the goals identified in the LWPG and implementing activities identified in gender-related decisions.

Canada welcomes the opportunity to submit its views on the matters to be addressed at the in-session workshop during the forty-sixth sessions of the subsidiary bodies, as invited in paragraph 30 of the Decision 21/CP.22. This submission aims to suggest: 1) key considerations for the gender action plan; 2) a format for the above mentioned workshop, and; 3) a monitoring and review plan for the gender action plan.

Guiding considerations on the gender action plan

For the gender action plan, Canada's view is that the development of the priority areas and activities should be guided by the following key considerations:

- It is an integral part of the extension of the LWPG.
 - The action plan and its priority areas, activities and monitoring and review should be developed and undertaken in a three-year timeframe.
- It should identify concrete, verifiable and achievable activities Parties and non-Party stakeholders can undertake in advancing gender equality, focusing on advancing the implementation of the LWPG.
- It should be flexible enough to allow for an iterative process, be participative, inclusive and sensitive about gaps and needs.
- It should be developed taking into consideration existing tools and initiatives in this area of work.

Bonn SBI46 workshop

The SBI46 in-session workshop will be key in advancing and defining the elements of the gender action plan in order to adopt it at COP23. This will allow Parties and non-Party stakeholders to start implementing the plan in a timely manner.

The workshop should be open to non-state actors, subnational and local decision-makers, and should facilitate the participation of gender experts, as well as local and indigenous women to ensure their knowledge and perspectives are integrated in the gender action plan.

Canada suggests the workshop be structured as follows:

- 1) Taking stock of views from Parties and non-Parties stakeholders;
- 2) Developing principles and priority areas for the gender action plan;
- 3) Engaging in breakout groups to discuss activities that will contribute to the priority areas of the gender action plan;
- 4) Presenting the conclusions of the groups to serve as a basis for the Secretariat to prepare a summary on the outcomes of the workshop for consideration at SBI47.

Monitoring and review of the gender action plan

Given that Canada understands the gender action plan to be a component of the LWPG, its review should be conducted at COP25, as part of the LWPG's review. The review should take stock of the outcomes of the LWPG, including the gender action plan.

Based on previous experiences, we think it would be useful to consider submissions from Parties, observers and other stakeholders to report on their actions on gender and climate change in 2019, in line with the gender action plan/LWPG. These would serve as a source of information to assess the results of the gender action plan/LWPG.

Another way of monitoring the gender action plan in a structured way could be to conduct a survey in early 2019, using the network of national focal points for gender. Parties could answer specific questions with regard to their actions and programmes undertaken and planned in response to the priority areas of the plan.

Conclusion

Canada is eager to work with Parties, organizations and other stakeholders going forward. We are motivated by the COP22 decision on gender and will continue working for the empowerment of women and gender-equality in climate action.