



Climate Land Ambition and Rights Alliance

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**Non-Market Activities to Help Countries Reduce Emissions are Ready to Go,
But Only a Last-Minute Compromise Preserves Some Progress as Bonn Climate Talks Wrap Up;
Meanwhile, Market Rules May Take Years to Finalize**

BONN, June 16, 2022 – After developed countries tried to block progress on the framework for non-market approaches in Article 6.8 of the Paris Agreement, advocated by developing countries since 2013 and approved last year at COP26 in Glasgow, a last-minute compromise was reached as the Bonn Climate Change Conference concluded today, according to [CLARA](#), the Climate Land Ambition and Rights Alliance.

Article 6 of the Paris Agreement proposes three mechanisms for delivering ambition on mitigation. Article 6.2 will govern cooperation between countries using internationally traded mitigation outcomes (ITMOs). Article 6.4 creates a new international carbon market for the public and/or private sectors. Rules on ITMOs must still be written, and a great deal of work remains to be done to create rules for carbon credits and offset markets. And neither of these market approaches will deliver the ambition needed to address the climate crisis.

The non-market approaches described under Article 6.8, however, can be made operational at COP27, to be held five months from now in Sharm El-Sheik, Egypt. It is part of the 'balanced package' agreed in Glasgow. It focuses on Resilience and Joint Mitigation and Adaptation. It does not require detailed rules on monitoring, reporting, and verification (MRV) for carbon credits.

On Tuesday, June 14, developed countries led by the US, Canada, and the EU attempted to block text, led by Bolivia on behalf of the bloc of Like-minded Developing Countries, that reflects the many opinions on Article 6.8 expressed by countries here during two weeks of negotiations.

[Compromise text](#) was hammered out Wednesday allowing 14 pages of "[Informal Notes](#)", a compendium of countries' wide-ranging views on the types of initiatives and programs to be included in the framework, the web-based registry to house those views, and the timetable for the framework, to be taken up again at COP27.

According to Souparna Lahiri, Climate Policy Advisor, Global Forest Coalition:

"The Glasgow Committee Work Programme under Article 6.8, which provides wider opportunities to developing countries to raise ambition and promote climate justice, will remain vulnerable to opposition from the developed countries, as the Bonn negotiations revealed. Developing countries have to unite strongly to overcome that opposition."

On "Emissions Avoidance" in Articles 6.2 and 6.4

Particularly concerning in these ongoing negotiations is the possibility that activities under both 6.2 and 6.4 could include "emissions avoidance," meaning a reduction in emissions from planned levels only and not an actual reduction in emissions. The Informal Notes on [6.2](#) and [6.4](#) to be considered again at COP27 still contain numerous references to emissions avoidance.

According to Peg Putt, Coordinator of the Forests, Climate and Biomass Working Group at the Environmental Paper Network: “Avoided emissions are a scam. A country projects future emissions under “business as usual” and then claims a reduction in those future emissions. This can result in a credit for reduced emissions even though emissions *increased* – just not by as much as they allegedly would have.”

On “Agroecology” in the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture

The Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture was expected to conclude in Glasgow, but the decision was made to hold it for COP 27. Since COP 26 though, there has been some concerning backsliding amongst parties on their support for the inclusion of agroecology in their conclusions. Furthermore, some negotiators are advocating for the inclusion of climate-smart agriculture. CLARA members are strongly opposed to climate-smart agriculture, a false solution that further deepens farmers’ dependence on expensive inputs such as proprietary fertilizer/pesticides and seeds.

Jazmín Rocco Predassi, Climate Policy Co-coordinator for FARN says:

“The [conclusions](#) from the final workshops — extra to the Koronivia ‘road map’ and proposed by New Zealand — contain a few good elements such as the recognition of indigenous knowledge and some principles of agroecology, but there is no specific use of the word ‘agroecology.’ The conclusions also lack any meaningful reference to gender mainstreaming, and a mention of food loss and waste refers only to ‘sustainable’ food systems. The [draft text](#) to report back to the COP prepared by the co-facilitators was not considered here in Bonn, and will be taken up in Egypt.”

Teresa Anderson, global lead on climate justice for ActionAid International says:

“It’s time to address the conundrum that agriculture is both a major driver of emissions, and highly vulnerable to the impacts of a warming planet. We urgently need policy makers to bring about a shift away from industrial agriculture systems that depend on fossil-fuelled fertilisers, towards agroecological farming approaches which use natural materials to improve yields, increase resilience to climate impacts, and reduce emissions. With the conflict in Ukraine driving up the price of fossil-fuelled fertiliser, the need to wean food systems off self-destruction is more urgent than ever. Unfortunately at climate talks in Bonn, agriculture negotiators didn’t take the steps needed to make food systems fit for purpose for an era of climate change.”

On “Net Zero” and Land Accounting in the Global Stocktake

The Global Stocktake began at this session with a series of technical roundtables, and governments are still working to define how it will be conducted next year. The Global Stocktake is an extremely important process as it must result in an increase in ambition on climate action towards all the goals of the Paris Agreement. Significant concerns remain on how it will utilize the false concept of Net Zero, and on how to fix aspects of accounting for emissions in the Agriculture, Forestry and other Land Use (AFOLU) sector. Talks will continue at COP27.

About CLARA

[CLARA](#) (Climate Land Ambition and Rights Alliance) is a global civil society alliance with more than 40 members from conservation, agroecology, land-rights, faith-based, and forest restoration organizations and communities. CONTACT: Don Lehr / dblehr@cs.com / +1.917.304.4058

This briefing does not necessarily express the opinions of all CLARA members.

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