

COAST Trust, Dated 20 December 2018

Report on CoP-24 Participation

The 24th CoP (Conference of the Parties) is held in Katowice in Poland with participation of around 195 countries and their representatives from government official, climate scientist, civil society and development activist and campaigners. I have also participated in this two week long global event since 1-15 December. The CoP mainly facilitated the discourse on the implementation of Paris Agreement especially (globally agreed document in 2015 in CoP-21 climate change conference) reducing global warming and fighting climate change impacts. Here I have tried to put my observation and progress of this global negotiation;

1. Major focus and Civil Society's demand in CoP 24

Recently (In October 2018), the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) has published a Special Report "1.5°C" on Global Warming. There are many messages provided in this report, but its core is surely that the Paris temperature goal in keeping "the global average temperature to well below 2°C" while "pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C" be an aspirational one.

Based on the report, the IPCC scientists have made it very clear that; the world must come together taking with serious action to stop global warming. As climate change have been affecting the countries over the world especially the MVCs (Most vulnerable Countries) are mostly affected. This impact deprives the most vulnerable groups from basic universal rights, particularly people living in coastal areas along with women and girls.



Apart, the Paris Agreement (PA) has been charted a new course actions forward, but it is very much unfinished. The most obvious problem is that, even though all countries are now start their act, Paris Agreement will be failed to deliver the scaled-up action that needed to meet its necessarily ambitious goals.

So the civil society groups from different position calls upon climate negotiation leader and governments, in particular of developed countries and emerging economies, to accelerate their climate action as urgent basis to reduce emissions by next 10 years along with specific support commitment for MVCs on finance, technology and capacity building areas.

2. Progress on the Issues at COP24:

a. Adopting the Paris Rule book (As renamed as "Katowice Climate Change Package")

Achieving the outcome, UNFCCC (United Nation Convention on Climate Change) said that there have adopted a robust set of guidelines for implementing the landmark 2015 Paris Climate Change Agreement. The implementation of the agreement will benefit people from all walks of life, especially the most vulnerable. The agreed 'Katowice Climate Package' is designed to operationalize

the climate change regime contained in the Paris Agreement. Under the auspices of the United Nations Climate Change Secretariat, it will promote international cooperation and encourage greater ambition. The guidelines will promote trust among nations that all countries are playing their part in addressing the challenge of climate change.

The President of COP-24, Mr. Michal Kurtyka of Poland, said: “All nations have worked tirelessly. All nations showed their commitment. All nations can leave Katowice with a sense of pride, knowing that their efforts have paid off. The guidelines contained in the Katowice Climate Package provide the basis for implementing the agreement as of 2020”. The Katowice package includes guidelines that will operationalize the transparency framework. It sets out how countries will provide information about their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) that describe their domestic climate actions. This information includes mitigation and adaptation measures as well as details of financial support for climate action in developing countries.

The package also includes guidelines that relate to:

- The process for establishing new targets on finance from 2025 onwards to follow-on from the current target of mobilizing USD 100 billion per year from 2020 to support developing countries.
- How to conduct the Global Stock-take of the effectiveness of climate action in 2023.
- How to assess progress on the development and transfer of technology.



The UN’s Climate Chief, Ms. Patricia Espinosa said: “This is an excellent achievement! The multilateral system has delivered a solid result. This is a roadmap for the international community to decisively address climate change”.

Though it’s said by the CoP President that interests of all the parties have been taken into account in the “Katowice Package in a sustainable and honest way”, but there is a big disappointment that developed countries have resist the attempt to include equity and CBDRRC principle as a holistic consideration in the global stock take (GST), which would form the basis for enhancing action.” (Article 14.1 of the PA stipulates that the GST, which is an assessment of the collective progress of Parties towards achieving the purpose of the Agreement and its long-term goals, has to be carried out in light of equity and which will take place in 2023.)

b. Commitment on Financing: deprived MVCs interest

At COP24, there was a demand to developed countries will provide clear signals that they intend to scale up support for developing countries, including to funds that explicitly support the Paris Agreement. Specifically, richer countries will give commitment to an ambitious replenishment of the GCF (Green Climate Fund) as one of the dedicated climate funds.

Regarding the issue at Katowice negotiations, the adopted Rulebook that don’t made any clear disclose on the exact amounts of money demanded by the civil society and MVCs for climate finance, especially to cater for adaptation and loss and damages.

Though Germany has led the way by declared \$1.7 billion a doubling of its first commitment to the Fund in 2014 and World Bank committed to provide 200 billion dollar, but this has not gone well with civil society expectations and have demanded the fulfilment of the pre-2020 climate finance commitments at the onset of the negotiations earlier in 1st week.

We were expected that, developed countries will also make pledges to the Adaptation Fund and Least Developed Countries Fund, which support vulnerable countries with much-needed adaption efforts. Finally, countries need to finalize technical details for the Adaptation Fund to serve the Paris Agreement.

We think that as CSOs observer, the developed countries have backtrack on their commitment to provide finance. The Loss and damage is absolutely neglected; vulnerable developing countries largely left on their own to address the impacts of climate change.

As regards to another one decision on finance, on the issue of ex-ante (predictable) information to be provided on the projected levels of public financial resources to developing countries and MVCs under Article 9.5, developed countries are requested to provide the information starting in 2020. On setting a new collective quantified goal on finance, Parties agreed to initiate in Nov 2020, deliberations on the goal from a floor of USD 100 per year. However, developed countries seen as reluctant to make progress on the finance issues until they had a clearer view of where developing countries stood on the other matters related to the PAWP, especially on NDCs and the transparency framework.

c. Worrying trends in the disbursement figures by GCF

Despite numerous COP decisions urging to developed country parties to provide climate finance in a balanced manner between adaptation and mitigation, and then to significantly increase adaptation finance, but the problem persists. According to the GCF portfolio information, the fund disbursed 39% to mitigation and only 25% has gone to adaptation.



d. Climate finance: Developed countries arguing with OECD report favouring their position

In the negotiation developed countries reiterating the OECD released [report](#) (Climate finance from developed to developing countries Public flows in 2013-17) on “climate finance from developed to developing and MVCs” stating that public climate finance reached \$56.7 billion in 2017. It is not the first time that the OECD published figures claimed as relevant for the [\\$100 billion a year promise](#) that was first made in Copenhagen in 2009 and reiterated several times since then. But civil society position that the OECD report will not go well at the time as demand of financing through GCF is core issues.

3. Progress on other MVCs' Issue

a. Displacement issue: Recognition and Ignored simultaneously

We expected that COP-24 will represent a unique opportunity for MVCs and developed country Parties to the UNFCCC to move from recognition of climate change related human mobility

(migration, displacement, planned relocation) to concrete action in view of noted of the Paris agreement, the Cancun Adaptation Framework and the Doha decision on loss and damage.

Regarding the issue TFD (Task Force on Displacement, a wing of WIM that work on displacement management) has worked and drawn some recommendation for the parties to adopt. The Katowice negotiation has adopted these recommendations of TFD but unfortunately it didn't included as standalone and separate issue in the Paris Rule-book and Transparency mechanism. That's why it would be very difficult to turn into action of adopted recommendations.

b. Loss and Damage: emerges as crunch item at CoP 24

Loss and Damage has now become an important and urgent issue of the UNFCCC process, alongside mitigation and adaptation. But unlike mitigation and adaptation with their promised \$100 climate finance, there are currently no sources of finance for loss and damage. The work-stream of Paris rule book didn't include loss and damage explicitly as an agenda point, meaning loss and damage has not get a major space in the political dialog under UNFCCC current negotiation process. MVCs and developing countries both have fought to include the issues as



integrated across the board with respect to the implementation of Paris Agreement but didn't get momentum. Civil Society group call the next year CoP-25 as "Loss and Damage" CoP. So that we have to prepare in fact our government will have to prepare strongly for creating expected outcome on loss and damage management and ensuring financial support from developed countries.

3. EquityBD Activities at CoP-24

EquityBD has been participating in CoPs since 2007 regularly and conduct some event to draw global attention to vulnerability of Bangladesh as a land of "Climate Ground Zero". This year CoP-24, EquityBD has participate and conduct two press conference, one side event (Seminar on Climate Displacement) with PDD (Platform of Disaster Displacement) and NRC (Norwegian Refugee Council). EquityBD also conducted a photo exhibition at CoP-24 premise focusing the climate impact as titled "Vulnerability & Resilient in Bangladesh". This photo exhibition was two week-long event and illustrated one video documentary and 12 still photography those has been draw the attention of thousands of visitors and stakeholders participated in CoP-24 event from many countries.

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