

“Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture”

Brazilian submission on KJWA’s “Future topics not listed in decision 4/CP.23 and views on the progress of the Koronivia joint work on agriculture”

The Government of Brazil welcomes the opportunity to submit its views regarding the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture (KJWA) in the context of the joint work between the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) on issues related to agriculture. Following KJWA’s road map, this submission addresses future topics not listed in decision 4/CP.23 and views on the progress of the KJWA.

Brazil believes that the KJWA experience promoted essential discussions on the topics defined in decision 4 / CP.23. In the Brazilian view, the discussions facilitated on the KJWA road map emphasized the vulnerability of agriculture to climate change and the need to implement actions to ensure greater resilience in the sector, guaranteeing food production and global food security.

The execution of the KJWA program in the Brazilian view emphasized and reinforced issues related to agriculture and climate change as:

i. The particular vulnerabilities of agriculture to climate change and its relevance to enhance approaches to address food security;

ii. The importance of active cooperation between the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation that have been mandated to jointly address issues related to agriculture, including through workshops and expert meetings, working with constituted bodies under the Convention;

iii. That parties have participated in workshops and expressed their views, including through submissions, on relevant technical, political, and scientific elements related to agriculture and recognizing that this exercise is part of an ongoing discussion under the Convention and its Paris Agreement, in light of its objectives:

- To allow ecosystems to adapt naturally to climate change, to ensure that food production is not threatened, and to enable economic development to proceed sustainably;*

- *To consider that per capita emissions in developing countries are still relatively low and that the share of global emissions originating in developing countries will grow to meet their social and development needs;*
- *To effectively implement the fundamental priority of safeguarding food security and ending hunger, and the particular vulnerabilities of food production systems to the adverse impacts of climate change;*
- *To increase the ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change and foster climate resilience and low greenhouse gas emissions development in a manner that does not threaten food production.*

Brazil firmly acknowledges the vulnerabilities of agriculture to climate change and the growing need for approaches to address food security sustainably, and that scientific and technological development, appropriated to local climatic and social circumstances, should play in this process. Thus, Brazil emphasizes the importance of some considerations as an experience of the KJWA discussions that must continue to guide future actions on this topic, considering, recognizing, and highlighting that:

i. The different regions of the planet have diverse technological capabilities, climatic conditions, and socioeconomic circumstances that influence emissions and the adaptability of agriculture systems to the adverse impacts of climate change;

ii. Food demand on the planet will increase to address the food security needs of a growing population;

iii. International assessment¹ has recognized that reducing agricultural emissions is more challenging than in other sectors. And according to the IPCC AR5, as the observed warming at the average atmospheric temperature during 1951 and 2010 was approximately 0.6°C to 0.7°C, the stabilization of global temperature at 1.5°C can have the potential to catalyze significant additional challenges to the agricultural sector. Even with the full implementation of the Paris Agreement, which is expected to lead to a

¹ <http://capreform.eu/what-is-the-size-of-the-mitigation-potential-in-eu-agriculture-by-2030/>

temperature stabilization at 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, there will be adverse impacts over agriculture, requiring immediate effort and long-term planning to adapt;

iv. Global effort should be made to enhance the regional adaptative capacity of farmers, local population, and indigenous people to the adverse impacts of climate change;

v. The impacts of climate change are foresighted as disproportionately augmented among developing countries where resources are limited and therefore means of implementation must play a significant role in supporting the development of local knowledge, technology, human resources, and infrastructure to reduce the impact of climate change in the agricultural sector while contributing to control GHG emissions.

vi. The agreed in SBSTA 51 conclusion (FCCC/SBSTA/2019/5), in paragraph 16, that new tools could be developed for country-specific circumstances while considering the importance of sharing best practices among countries and other stakeholders, as well as the important role of science, technology, and capacity-building in facilitating data collection and adaptation assessment, and that existing tools could benefit from further adjustment;

vii. Multilateral cooperation should favor international trade and other means to support global food and fiber production where the least number of resources are needed to deliver the maximum amount of social and environmental benefits to the international community; and that strategies that aim to shift diets or reduce food production should carefully consider local socio-cultural aspects. It is unacceptable that restricted perspectives should impose the profile of diets and their sources. Food systems are very diverse, and they are embedded in social, cultural, and economic contexts. Diets are more than the sum of nutrients. They are a way of life that shapes and is shaped by how food is produced, procured, distributed, marketed, chosen, prepared, and consumed. The social, cultural and economic aspects of food systems must be considered in the dialogue on food security.

Considering agriculture particular vulnerability to climate change and the importance of food production, Brazil reaffirms its commitment to the climate change agenda and extends its sectorial policy, the “ABC Plan”, for another ten years based on robust results from its first cycle. Known as “Brazilian Agricultural Policy for Climate Adaptation and Low

Carbon Emission - 2020-2030" (ABC+), this new cycle aims to combat the adverse impacts of climate change on an ongoing basis, promoting increased resilience and sustainability in the agricultural sector and providing economic and food security nationally and worldwide.

The ABC+ build on the experience of previous ten years that has been vital for deeply aligning productivity and sustainability in Brazilian agriculture. A solid package of sustainable technologies is efficiently applied and mainstreamed. Since its inception in 2010, the ABC Plan, with its deliverables, has significantly contributed to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular for both SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDG 13 (Climate Action).

Unique for its scope and reach, the ABC+ represents a deep commitment from the Brazilian farming sector to support global efforts to tackle climate change. It promotes the use of production technologies adapted to the tropics and the continuous improvement of agricultural production systems on a sustainable basis. Supported by strong scientific evidence and focusing environmental gains, both strategies allow for greater productive efficiency, expansion of socioeconomic gains, increased resilience of agriculture, and mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions, among other benefits.

Besides supporting the adoption and maintenance of consolidated technologies proven to be sustainably efficient in the previous cycle, ABC+ will strengthen climate adaptation strategies and foster the implementation of the "Integrated Landscape Approach" (ILA), placing the country in the mainstream of major internationally recognized governance.

Over the medium and long run, adaptation strategies will be of paramount importance. In the agricultural sector, especially strategies concerning risk management, resilience, and adaptation are essential. The Brazil's long-term vision for sustainable agriculture and a safer world for future generations is deep-seated in the ILA by fostering resilient systems that promote water, soil and biodiversity conservation and contribute to control GHG emissions.

Considering the positive and intense exchange of experiences made possible in KJWA, Brazil suggests its views on the progress of the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture by

creating the Koronivia Action Plan (KAP). The proposed KAP is aligned with the meaning of “implementation” which refers to the “creation of an enabling environment for developing countries Parties action in Agriculture to adapt to climate change, obtain mitigation co-benefits and improve food security” and is also aligned with technical and scientific advice on specific elements related to food security, agriculture and its particular vulnerability to climate change.

The KAP should be established through a COP decision based on arrangements that will deliver a set of action modalities to enhance effective and meaningful implementation, technical support, advise and encourage countries to implement actions to tackle climate change, foster the resilience of agriculture, mitigation co-benefits and food security, with indicators tailored to local conditions.

The KAP should be open to all Constituted Bodies, Parties, the research community, farmers, the financial entities under the UNFCCC, and other relevant registered stakeholders and organizations.

The KAP should prioritize and consider pillars including but not limited to capacity building adapted to regional circumstances and climate specificities and vulnerabilities, share of technical and scientific knowledge, and means of implementation.

The KAP should include workshops and expert meetings to advance knowledge and understanding of agriculture related to climate action.

In this regard the KAP should represent a way forward for discussions related to agriculture under the UNFCCC, particularly the decision 4/CP.23 taking into consideration the vulnerabilities to climate change and specificities of agricultural systems, approaches to addressing food security, adaptative capacity of agriculture to climate change, reinforcing means of implementation as a significant role to support the development of local knowledge, science and technology, human resources, and infrastructure to reduce the impact of climate change in the agricultural sector while contributing to control GHG emissions.

References

UNFCCC. SUBSIDIARY BODY FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE. **Report of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice on its fifty-first session, held in Madrid from 2 to 9 December 2019.** 2019. FCCC/SBSTA/2019/5. Available at: <https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/sbsta2019_05E.pdf>. Accessed on May 4th, 2021.

UNFCCC. CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES. **Koronivia joint work on agriculture.** 2017. FCCC/CP/2017/11/Add.1. Available at: <https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/docs/2017/cop23/eng/11a01.pdf?download>. Accessed on May 4th, 2021.