

COP20 draft text agreement reached in Lima

04:11.

Lima, Dec. 14. The Conference of the Parties (COP20) agreement draft text was finally approved by member parties on Sunday morning in Lima, Peru after an extended session.



COP20 President and Peru's Environment minister, Manuel Pulgar-Vidal announced the document approval at 01:25 AM (local time). The message was followed by a round of applause.

The UNFCCC Conference of the Parties (COP20) sought to create an agreement draft to engage member nations in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The draft, now approved, will have to be inked by member nations at COP21 to be held in Paris next year.

COP20, the world gathering, began on December 1 in Peru's nation capital Lima. It was scheduled to come to an end on December 12. However, the discordances between member parties slowed down the entire negotiation process.

By the end of Friday afternoon blocs had not reached an agreement. A session was called for that night. However, the results lacked success.

A draft text was circulated at about 2:00 AM (local time) on Saturday morning, but it was unsuccessful either. After 4:00 AM (local time) the meeting was adjourned in order to let parties review the proposed document.

By 10:00 AM (local time) on Saturday the Plenary Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Action (ADP) resumed the negotiation process, which regrettably led to nowhere.

By the afternoon that same day, the Pulgar-Vidal energetically requested parties "to seek for a joint solution" and to avoid any more proposals to the draft.

He made another call to delegations participating in COP20 to let “trust” reign in the meetings, so that a consensus would be reached.

In order to ease the text creation process, Pulgar-Vidal decided to hold meetings with each negotiation bloc for 10 minutes.

On Saturday night at 11:30 PM (local time) the minister made a call to delegations to review a new document. Then, he suspended the session for one hour.

Once the session resumed, it managed to be approved due to the lack of opposition. The text will be inked next year in Paris at the COP21.

“It has been a great pleasure working with you [participants],” Manuel Pulgar-Vidal expressed.

Delegations expressed their gratitude with Peru’s hospitality, the efforts undertaken by the Peruvian government to organize the conference and the leadership displayed by the COP20 Presidency. Success was congratulated by foreign delegations.

15,000 attendees from 195 member nations arrived in Lima for the conference.

“We have achieved in Lima a very useful agreement,” expressed France's Foreign Affairs minister, Laurent Fabius. Fabius will lead the French delegation to take over the COP21 Presidency.

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<http://www.andina.com.pe/ingles/noticia-cop20-draft-text-agreement-reached-in-lima-535477.aspx>