



Options for Issue-Linking between the WTO and the UN Climate Regime.

Perspectives from the ADAM Project

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**ADAM-UNEP Workshop on Post-2012
Climate and Trade Policies,
08-09 September 2008**



Tyndall°Centre
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ADaptation And Mitigation
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change is funded by the EU under
FP6

Structure

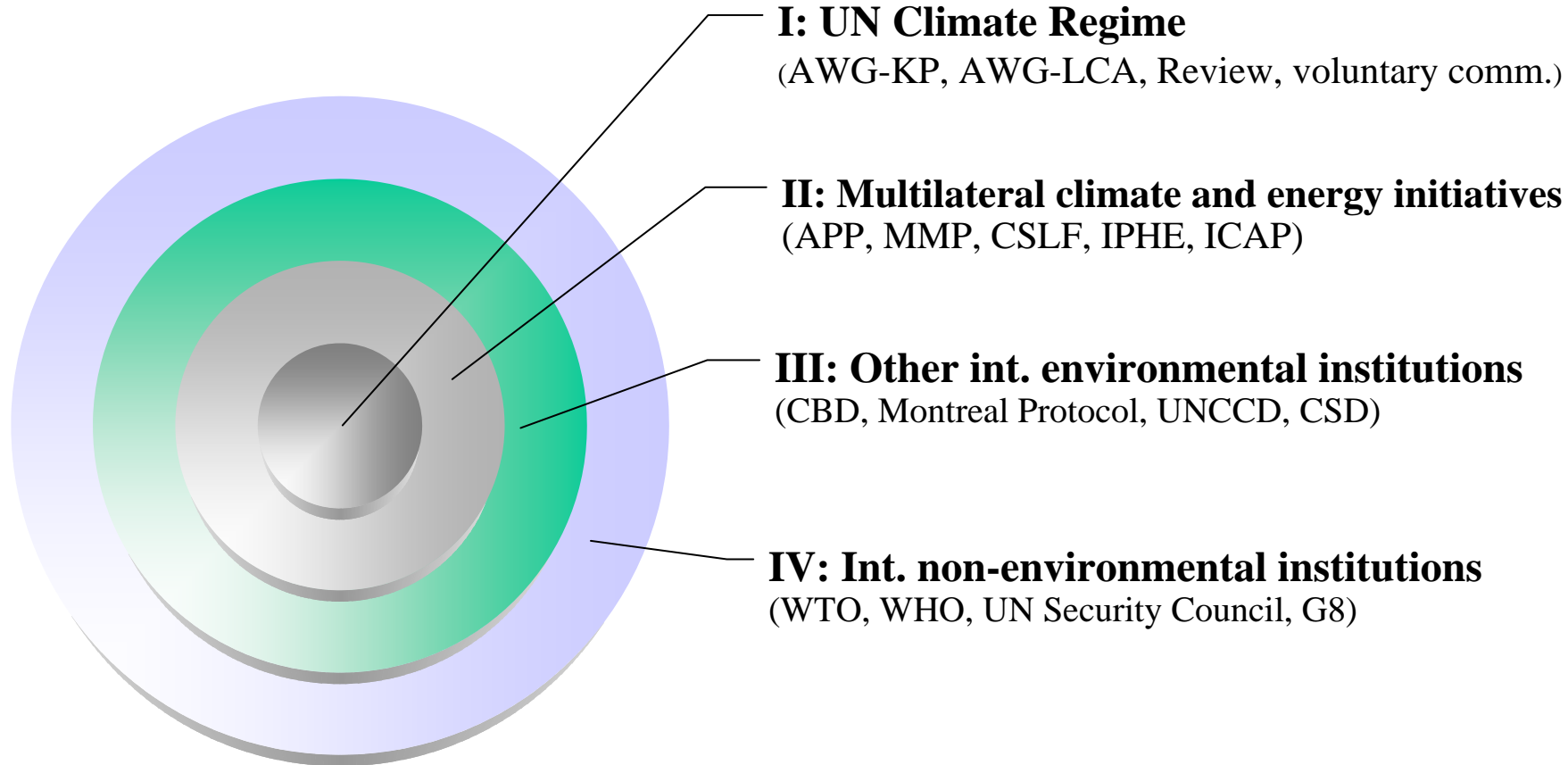
1. ADAM Research on Fragmentation of International Climate Architecture
2. Rationale behind Issue-Linking
3. Options for Issue-Linking

What is Fragmentation ?

= Diversity of international norms and institutions

which overlap in their mandates and functions for addressing climate change.

Fragmentation of Climate Change Architecture



Effects of Fragmentation (I)

Advantages of Fragmentation:

1. Involving more state and non-state actors
2. Division of labour
3. Circumventing stalemates
4. Reinvigorating debates in larger institutions

Effects of Fragmentation (II)

Disadvantages of Fragmentation:

1. Serving particular interests
2. Adding to coordination gap
3. Regulatory uncertainty
4. „Chill effects“ / affecting development of other institutions
5. „Forum shopping“

Suggestion: Strategic Issue-linking

Rationale:

- Integrated strategies across related debates
- Facilitating balanced gains for country coalitions – each gaining on a different issue
- Overall constellation more conducive to cooperation

Suggestion: Strategic Issue-linking

Caveats: Avoid overburdening negotiations

- Similar discussions in different forums / docking points
- Similar constellations of countries in these forums
- Account for diversity and nature of preferences
 - Ensure benefits for all players
 - Account for imbalance of trade and climate concerns
- Choice of appropriate forum

Dovetailing Country Strategies on Transfer of Climate-friendly Goods and Services, IPRs, plant genetic resources, and STOs

- DDA = single undertaking
- *Para. 31(i):* GATT exceptions for specific trade obligations (STOs) in MEAs?
- *TRIPS Council:* TRIPS exceptions for CBD?
- *Para. 31(iii):* TRIPS exceptions for transfer of climate-friendly goods and services?
- **Suggestion:** *Integrating strategies for exceptions / clarifications*

Dovetailing Country Strategies on Transfer of Climate-friendly Goods and Services, Biofuels and Farm Subsidies

- DDA = single undertaking
- *Para. 31(iii)*: removal of trade barriers for EGS – EU and US as demandeurs
- *Farm subsidies*: removal of trade barriers for agricultural goods – developing countries as demandeurs
- *Biofuels*: relate to both debates
- **Suggestion**: *Integrating strategies; EGS deal as trigger for larger Doha debate?*

Questions for Discussion

- Which topics are suitable for ‘docking’ in a meaningful way?
- What level of ambition could such attempts have?
- What are caveats or barriers?
- What are North-South implications of issue-linking?

THANK YOU !!!

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