

*Breakout group on agenda item 6(b) Paris Agreement, intervention by Mr. Ignacio LORENZO, Executive Secretary - National Climate Change Response System / Coordinator for Adaptation and Loss and Damage of G77 China from Uruguay (AC 9 – 3 March 2016)*

Thank you Mdm. Chair, and congratulations on your designation.

Regarding your questions, I will like to express a general message in my national capacity, of trust and empowerment to the Adaptation Committee.

I do believe the AC has a complex task ahead, which requires a lot of work and heavy thinking. Each and all of you need to build a shared understanding on quite complex issues. This also requires, what Mdm. Co-Chair and Mdm. Chan were saying, a fresh comprehensive understanding of the logic and spirit of the Article that emerged from Paris, in this sense you need not only to properly understand your tasks, but to do that in the context of a comprehensive understanding of the Article and the whole Agreement.

Nevertheless the difficulty of these tasks, my view is that the AC has evolved, it has experience, is it strengthened, it has delivered in the past, and I see it ready to take on these tasks. Its membership is highly qualified for these tasks: all of you are experts in adaptation, you are diverse in your capacities, in your background, and you have diverse regional perspectives. Also most of you are related to adaptation negotiations, and some of you both developed and developing country members, were significant negotiators whom directly contributed to crafting the Paris Agreement.

I am very confident the Parties have made the right choice when requesting the AC on these tasks. In a way, we are also empowering the AC since the COP requested the AC for very strategic substantive work, and that is good news. My view is that the process to implement Article 7 has already started right here on Tuesday.

In this regard you may use several procedures to have inputs in order to build and enhance the AC common understanding: such as Party's submissions, workshops, document search, request for experts presentations, etc.; from a technical perspective there are many procedures around to gather inputs, and you need to establish the procedures in a way to have a better grasp on those, and my suggestion of approach will be to use as many and diverse tools as possible in a comprehensive strategic way. You need to start working, and in every stage you need to narrow the questions, you need to exercise and exercise again possible understandings.

Also you need to make procedures in a way that the AC does not become a negotiation table itself. I completely agree with Mdm Co-Chair, that you have a technical work in front of you, and that you are also appointed in your personal capacities. Your task is to prepare recommendations; Parties will have time for negotiations in the CMA, if it is needed.

Regarding the Adaptation Futures, I believe that the Forum is also a place to look for inputs all across the event; the programme of the event is impressive, has so many presentations across several adaptation topics; nevertheless I will like to place a mark

on the time slot for this discussion: my view is that the time slot is way too short, to match such deep questions.

Comming back to the general issues, my general suggestion is for you to dive into these mandates, taking the adequate time and space for a deep discussion to build on your understanding, in a trusting and constructive approach. I also agree with Mdm. Chan in the way, that you need to do this not only online, but also face to face. You need to do this in a very wise way that allows you to build this understanding under a very positive spirit.

We have an Agreement, which is a breakthrough, which has raised the political profile of adaptation and that has achieved a definition of a Global Goal on Adaptation. So the spirit of your task should be informed by this positive perspective, you need to understand your task in a way that the political profile of adaptation keeps increasing, and that adaptation action is enhanced worldwide, if you do this in that way, your recommendations will indeed help to provide for more adaptation, it will help Parties to better achieve the Global Goal, and will clearly assist in the process to provide for the right implementation tools for the Agreement.

Saying all that, I would like to express that we are here to support your work in a constructive and respectful way.

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