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Thirty-ninth sessions of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice(SBSTA 39)

Opening plenary on 11 November 2013

Mr. Chair, distinguished Colleagues, dear Friends,

This statement is on behalf of the EU and its 28 Member States.

The EU continues to acknowledge the significance of the work under both Subsidiary Bodies for the implementation of the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol. We recognize the solid progress made on a range of agenda items in Bonn under SBSTA and look forward to advancing all issues under consideration by both SBSTA and SBI. Both permanent subsidiary bodies are vital to the implementation and enhancement of our international climate regime. Therefore, we are fully committed and urge all Parties to work constructively in all the areas.

The SBSTA has to deal with a number of important issues here in Warsaw over a short period of time. Among these let us highlight two areas that we find of particular importance.

Firstly, the methodological issues related to the update of the reporting and accounting regime under the Kyoto Protocol. As we are already implementing our mitigation commitments for the second commitment period, it is essential to have a fully operational, up-to-date accounting and reporting framework in place already in 2014.

Secondly, the EU welcomes the agreement reached in Bonn on a way forward for the New Market Mechanism, Framework for Various Approaches and non-market approaches. Still, we see the need for much further work in order to secure a common, reliable and transparent accounting framework. Following up on the discussions at the Joint workshop on the framework for various approaches, non-market-based approaches and the new market-based mechanism held in Bonn in October, we welcome the Secretariat's technical synthesis and look forward to engaging constructively in the discussions.

Furthermore, Mr. Chair,

On REDD+, we need to focus our work on MRV and finalizing the negotiations on the outstanding reference level decisions in order to be able to move to the implementation phase. The EU also welcomes the opportunity to discuss the institutional arrangements.

Regarding the Nairobi work programme we are looking forward to a decision that will support continuation of the work program's activities as well as reflect on current adaptation architecture in line with its mandate.

On agriculture, we trust that the good working spirit of all Parties, experienced in Bonn, will continue in Warsaw. The EU stands ready to carry on with the drafting of a work programme that addresses both mitigation and adaptation and matters relating to capacity building, technology transfer and finance.

We are eager to carry on with work on Reporting under the Convention.

We particularly look forward to continue discussions on the guidelines for the review of National Communications and Biannual Reports. We hope that these discussions will lead to an agreement on this issue here in Warsaw.

We also seek to finalise discussions on the MRV of domestically supported NAMAs on the basis of the compromise text agreed in Bonn.

The EU would also like to highlight the need to achieve progress as regards the 2013-2015 Review and to do so in an efficient and focused manner, keeping science at the core of the discussion.

Mr. Chair, the EU supports the proposed agenda for SBSTA39 and looks forward to constructively working with you and all Parties to make the best use of our time at this session.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.