Keidanren's Views on the Increased Engagement of Observer Organisations - How to Improve the Role of Observers at the UNFCCC -

16 August 2010 Nippon Keidanren

Nippon Keidanren (Japan Business Federation) is a comprehensive economic organisation which represents the overall Japanese business community. Its membership sums up to 1,601 (1,281 companies, 129 industrial associations, and 47 regional economic organisations, as of 15 June 2010).

Its mission is to accelerate growth of Japan's and world economy and to strengthen the corporations to create value to transform Japanese as well as global economy into ones that are sustainable and driven by the private sector, by encouraging the idea of individuals and local communities.

We are pleased to submit our views to the Subsidiary Body on Implementation (SBI), which is responding to the paragraph 19 of document FCCC/SBI/2010/L.21 concerning "engagement of observer organizations."

Industries play key role to realize global low-carbon society as the source of technology and innovation. To tackle climate change, especially in the long run, it is imperative that they disseminate and make maximum use of existing technologies and develop innovative technologies.

Industries, also, have keen interests in the international framework on climate change since it widely affects economic activities in both domestically and internationally.

It is, therefore, crucial that the engagements of observer organizations including industries in intergovernmental process is continued and promoted.

These engagements contribute to bring transparency and legitimacy as well as technical viability and practicality into the process.

Keidanren has to date contributed to the intergovernmental process through informative side events held at annual COP meetings as well as the policy proposals.

Further, we are determined to promote public private partnership through such frameworks as in-session workshops where business representatives will be invited to have interactive discussions with the public sector during AWG meetings.

Keidanren is prepared to work with governments to play a constructive role at Cancun and beyond. It is expected that the UNFCCC as well as governments recognise and embrace business engagement and expertise as the climate negotiations unfold. We believe that reforms should be implemented so that the international process can take better and more explicit advantage of the range of technical expertise that industries can provide. The Japanese business community will welcome both formal and informal roles in the UNFCCC.

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