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AILAC  
Asociación Independiente de Latinoamérica y el Caribe

INDEPENDENT ASSOCIATION OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN  
AILAC

**Opening Statement for the SBI 40**

*June 4, 2014*

Thank you Mister Chairman.

1. I have the honor to speak on behalf of the AILAC group of countries; a group of countries fully committed to support our common effort to build consensus and achieve an ambitious outcome in the implementation of the Convention.
2. Allow me to congratulate you on your designation as Chair of SBI. We are confident that under your able guidance, the discussion will progress successfully, and we can count on our support towards that end.
3. At the outset, AILAC would like to associate itself with the statement made by Bolivia on behalf of the G77 and China.

Mister Chairman,

4. We have an ambitious agenda under the SBI this year. AILAC is conscious that our work on implementation is absolutely crucial to the progress we can make in tackling climate change with our collective efforts, and lays the foundations for the definition of the future of the international regime on climate change, including the 2015 agreement.
5. Our work on National Communications is crucial: it helps us enhance transparency, trust, and to ensure environmental integrity. AILAC would like to underscore the importance of the provision of support for developing countries for their work to prepare and present their NatComs and BURs. We are all committed to move forward with enhancing our capacity of reporting. However, the scale of the resources available for this purpose has generally been far smaller than the actual cost of preparing and presenting NatComs and BURs.
6. We have also been progressing in the work programme on NAMAs. We welcome the realization of a workshop on this issue, and the informal consultations to consider its outcomes. The report of the previous workshop on the issue was useful, and can help us move forward. We also welcome the focus on the issue of access to resources for NAMA



development and implementation, as well as on the NAMA registry as an important instrument for matching NAMA development with support. These are key issues for AILAC and other developing countries. We believe that, in addition to this, it will be very important that we start identifying the lessons learnt from this process that can be useful for the design of iNDCs on mitigation. This can add value to the work we are doing under this agenda item.

Chairman,

7. All the issues related to the KP are fundamentally important for AILAC. The implementation agenda has, at its core, the full implementation of the first and second commitment periods of the KP. AILAC would like to stress the urgent need for all countries, in particular all developed countries, to ratify, and if they have not done so, join and ratify the Doha amendment to the KP. This is the basis upon which our current regime lies, and the foundation upon which we will increase ambition in the pre-2020 period, and we will be able to progress on all the post 2020 issues.
8. On the other hand, the work on NAPs under the SBI must be highlighted. NAPs are a key tool for countries to progress in their domestic adaptation action. The Warsaw decision on NAPs was a step forward. Now, we need to dig deeper in this work, in particular in what is related to NAPs. We also need to identify how the work on NAPs can serve as a good basis for the work we are currently undertaking under the ADP on adaptation. The NAPs process can be strengthened and we need to work in that direction. At the outset, a focus on vulnerable groups, regions and sectors can help us bring the NAPs closer to local realities, and make them more relevant in implementation terms. Progressing on the implementation of NAPs and the ability of countries to access funds for this purpose is also crucial.
9. In Warsaw we also took a very significant decision on the issue of loss and damage. We made important progress and it is now time to build upon it, giving the new Warsaw Mechanism on Loss and Damage a robust framework for its activities. The SBI has an important role to play in making this mechanism useful and relevant for the Convention and in particular for the most vulnerable. For this, we also suggest that we consider adopting a new focus on vulnerable groups, regions and sectors, and that we start working on our capacity to assess the limits to adaptation capacities, which is when losses and damages start occurring. Identifying these limits will enable us to better approach the issue of loss and damage, and better prepare for catastrophic climate-related events.

Mister Chairman,

10. The SBI will also have to address the second review of the Adaptation Fund. We have agreed to enhanced terms of reference for this review, and we trust that these will help us do a



better job, that will in turn help the Adaptation Fund be more efficient, have more impact, and help the countries more in their adaptation projects. In Warsaw we met the fundraising goal of the Adaptation Fund Board of USD 100 million. This was welcomed by AILAC, thanking all those countries who contributed to this endeavor, and giving the Adaptation Fund a possibility to continue operating in support of developing countries. Yet Mr. Chairman, we cannot allow for this situation to become the rule instead of the exception: the financial sustainability of the Adaptation Fund is paramount, and must be ensured. As the situation is currently, with the carbon market failure, there are still no guarantees that we will soon be in a similar situation, fundraising for additional amounts to save the Fund. We need to avoid this and ensure that the Adaptation Fund can significantly increase its available resources in a sustained, scaled-up, predictable manner in the long term.

11. The work on technology is also fundamental. On this issue AILAC would like to stress the need to enhance our work on technology for adaptation. In the past we have significantly focused our work on technologies for mitigation. However, technology is also a necessary for successfully building resilience in a cost-efficient manner in vulnerable regions, sectors and groups. Starting a dedicated work on technology for adaptation could help us progress in this important aspect.
12. AILAC considers that the issue of capacity building is one of the most important pieces of our work, and is preparing a submission dedicated to this topic. Capacity building is a fundamental crosscutting issue for Parties, especially but not only for developing country parties. Without development of the required capacities at a national level, the enablers to catalyze actions including policy implementation, adaptation responses, and application of new technologies may be constrained. Capacity building is a foundation for effective implementation of the range of activities and investments required to actually achieve climate change – both adaptation and mitigation - objectives. AILAC is ready to deepen our work on this issue, and make it highly relevant under the SBI.

Finally, Mr. Chairman,

13. On the 2013-2015 Review, AILAC considers that the Structured Expert Dialogue must bring us to a science based review of the temperature goal, and looks forward to a process that allows us to have a more ambitious perspective towards the future. AILAC supports to limit the temperature increase to 1.5C, which would be the way to increase environmental integrity and guarantee the future generations a sustainable and prosperous life. A focus on the differentiated impacts of the 2C and 1.5 temperature goal can be useful to help us move forward in analyzing the adequacy of the current goal, and the potential need to revise it.
14. Mister Chairman, AILAC stands ready to start working immediately, and to continue building upon the progress we have made, towards an effective implementation of the Convention



at all levels. We have already started our own efforts, and are prepared to work positively and constructively with others in order to move the implementation agenda forward.

Thank you.