Session I: Proposals for enhancing existing means of participation

Andrea Bacher on behalf of Business and Industry SBI in-session workshop, 8 June 2011

Proposals for enhancing existing means of participation

- Preserving and strengthening what has worked well
 - Building on existing arrangements, e.g. the communication channel between the Secretariat and the focal points;
 - Retaining the NGO guidelines;
- Continuing progress to increase value and effectiveness of engagement for government delegations and observers
 - encourage informal dialogues such as the public-private Mexican Dialogues or the Business Days through acknowledgement and participation;

Proposals for enhancing existing means of participation

- Exploring how the existing models can be enhanced by new technologies and innovative approaches, such as
 - the new on-line registration system
 - **news flashes** also for the constituencies, e.g. on interventions;
 - web page for each constituency where the Secretariat can put information accessible to all;
 - During meetings (COP and SB) all online applications should be maintained we would propose:
 - **documents** should be uploaded online at the same time when they are distributed so everyone can have access to them;
 - existing **IPad** application which is very useful should be well maintained during COPs;
 - good online connection;
 - extending broadcasting of meetings on CCTV;
 - However, while new technologies can address some challenges of participation, they <u>cannot</u> <u>be</u> <u>substitute for in-person attendance</u> and should not be used as a justification for limiting public participation.

• Ensuring that business from around the world can participate and be heard

- We suggest the SBI to explore possibilities for observers to allow better access, for example
 - through new technology possibilities allowing for "virtual interactions" where appropriate,
 - and opportunities for **capacity building**, including through partnership between the UNFCCC Secretariat and constituencies;