

Australia – Pre-Sessional Workshop – Functions

- Thanks Chairs, Co-Facilitators , Secretariat and Participants
- It is an honour to be the first speaker this afternoon, and while I will speak about functions I wanted to quickly discuss Australia’s hopes for this workshop.
- We are eager to work with all of you this weekend and this fortnight to understand each other’s’ positions so that together we can take the necessary steps forward on the Forum that will serve the Paris Agreement. As Tomasz said, a free, open exchange of views.
- For Australia a discussion on the functions of the Forum has to answer three crucial questions:
 - o How can the Forum help all of us take the actions necessary to drive the highest level of mitigation ambition?
 - o How does the Forum allow our countries to take these actions in a way which provides sustained economic prosperity and development?
 - o How does the Forum best ensure decent and secure employment for our populations?
- Answering these questions correctly can allow us to best combine emission goals and economic goals central to our populations’ needs.
- For Australia, a forum based on paragraph 34, decision 1/CP.21 and that builds on the lessons learned from May’s ad hoc TEG, provides the way to best answer these questions.
- By working together to share an understanding of how to best transform our economies to a low-emission world, we can each drive ambition mitigation action which also meets development, economic and employment goals.
- Real world examples have proven invaluable in ensuring a smooth economic transition in other circumstances, and here it can help us minimise the benefits of mitigation action in ways which ensures the support of our populations.

- And as more mitigation action is taken by more countries, these functions can continue to be enhanced to ensure the forum contributes to the goals of the Paris Agreement.
- Once again, I looking forward to working with yo
- Steven