# Overview of the Forum's Work to Date

#### Aaron Cosbey Joint SBI/SBSTA Forum on the Impact of the Implementation of Response Measures 12 November, 2013, Warsaw COP-19

#### Context: The Mandate of the Forum

"Acknowledging Parties' repeated calls for a continued and structured exchange of information on both the positive and negative consequences of response measures and on ways to maximize the positive and minimize the negative consequences for Parties, ..."

"Adopts a work programme ... with the objective of improving the understanding of the impact of the implementation of response measures." (8/CP.17)

### a) Sharing of information and expertise

- Central to the mandate of the Forum
- What types of sharing?
  - Impacts (pos. & neg.) of response measures to date
  - Alternative measures with lower impacts
  - Adaptive initiatives to lower vulnerability to impacts (incl. economic diversification)
- Need to improve reporting requirements (incl. having developing country reports on impacts)
- Important to discuss policies at design/consultation stage

## b) Cooperation on response strategies

Precise scope of discussions yet to be resolved. Ideas:

- The value of a structured process for cooperation
  Preference for multilateral cooperation, consultation, in design of policies
- Low-carbon development strategies as cooperation

#### c) Assessment and analysis of impacts

- Division of scope between this and area e)
- Assessment/analysis: at domestic level, or multilateral/international?
- Different locus for ex ante (in country of implementation) and ex post (in country of impact)?
- Subsequent discussion in Forum-like setting
- Need to set priorities based on types of measures, impacts
- Web-based platform as repository of information?

## d) Economic diversification, transformation

- Unique problem for those over-dependent on vulnerable export streams
- Facilitative role at international level, execution at national level (with support)
- International level tasks:
  - Search for best practice lessons of experience
  - Identify non-domestic barriers to diversification
  - Identify ways to boost FDI to non-traditional sectors
  - Facilitate technology transfer, technical assistance, financial support

d) Economic diversification, transformation (contd)

- Economic diversification as part of broader process of sustainable development
- Need for approach tailored to individual countries
- What other international expertise, organizations, might form valuable collaborators? What roles?

## e) Economic modeling, socio-economic trends

- Fundamental to discussions, mandate of Forum
- Need both ex ante and ex post analysis
- Model both negative and positive impacts
- Need to augment capacity for analysis in developing counties
- Need to involve experts in this area, such as IPCC, Energy Modelling Group – clarify the significance of key assumptions, model types

## f) Implementation of Decisions, treaty obligations

- Discussion: implementation still in progress? Adequate?
- Need for a review mechanism, but is the scope limited to the Forum's mandate?
- Highlighted gaps in implementation centring on reporting requirements

## g) Just transition, decent work, quality jobs

- Changes driven by both climate change and response measures to climate change
- Measures needed at the national level to ensure just transition
- Need for national experience, best practice
- Support needed from international level

h) Learning, toward transition to a low GHG-emitting society

- Discussion: definition of a low GHG-emitting society?
- Platform for sharing of experience and best practice – many countries are in the process of moving to a green economy
- Some highlighted formal domestic learning programmes to educate in this area

### Looking forward

- Satisfaction with the Forum as a venue to address the needs expressed in mandate
- Based on discussions, submissions, several areas of ongoing need:
  - Improving reporting guidelines on response measures
  - Assessment and analysis of the impacts of response measures
  - Best practice in managing the impacts of response measures
  - A Review of efforts with respect to obligations

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