

SUBMISSION BY SAUDI ARABIA

Submission of views on Area (h) – Building collective and individual learning towards a transition to a low greenhouse gas emitting society

Saudi Arabia welcomes the opportunity to submit its views on the above specific thematic area of the work program of the forum on the impacts of the implementation of response measures.

The forum on the impacts of the implementation of response measures is a dedicated platform for interaction to develop ideas and joint action. The new forum will improve understanding of this important issue to the developing countries and assist them in understanding the scope of the adverse impacts associated with climate change mitigation actions. Saudi Arabia looks forward to continuing to build on these efforts and believes that all Parties should utilize this platform as means to avoid or at the very least minimize those impacts in developing countries. We expect the forum to fully engage stakeholders in concrete and in-depth discussions on sharing information and expertise, including reporting and prompting understanding of the impacts of response measures, and bring forward common views and issues to the attention of the Subsidiary Bodies.

Guiding Principles:

The right to development; the principles of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities; and the sovereign right of States over their natural resources; and avoiding adverse impacts on developing countries should be the guiding principles in the discussion of the above thematic area. For developing countries, eradicating poverty remains the overarching challenge and the top priority objective to achieve sustainable economic growth.

Evaluation / Analysis:

Firstly, a further evaluation and common understanding of the above new concept: '*transition to a low greenhouse gas emitting society*', will need to be established based on practical realities, particularly regarding implementation, while taking into account its potential consequences, especially for developing countries. This concept shall build on the differentiation between countries included in Annex I of the Convention and those that are not.

In doing so, it is necessary to set realistic objectives for sustainability in that any commitment or effort, particularly with respect to developing countries, should be based on national circumstances and realities, be affordable and practically implementable. There is a need to consider the full set of energy technologies, including advanced fossil fuel technologies, and their impact in terms of development and the environment, based on the circumstances and

existing natural resource base of individual countries. Technology dissemination and capacity building should be based on national priorities and should include the promotion of heightened awareness, investment and infrastructure development, as well as education and training.