

New Zealand INTERVENTION 15-06-11

Developing countries - ICA

Thank you, co-facilitator.

International consultation and analysis of developing country biennial update reports is a critical part of the package agreed in Cancun. We are happy to explore its modalities here in Bonn and prior to the next session.

New Zealand believes we should aim to reach agreement in Durban on the modalities of ICA in parallel with guidelines on biennial reporting. A robust process of reporting and verification is essential to ensure high-quality inputs to the 2013/2015 Review.

The principles associated with ICA in decision 1/CP.16 are worth repeating. They're important because they should give developing countries comfort as to the type of process envisaged. The ICA process is to be non-intrusive, non-punitive, and respectful of national sovereignty. We also think this process should be facilitative in nature, advisory, and informative. Any Party that sees ICA as a trial or some kind of court misunderstands the purpose – ICA is a process of transparent information sharing.

We understand ICA as having a technical component (the “analysis”) followed by a more consultative/public component (the “consultation”).

The technical component involves “analysis” by a technical assessment team of the country’s biennial update report. The component parts of the biennial update report would be examined through the exchange between the country and the expert assessment team.

The country concerned could respond to the questions or suggestions of the expert assessment team. The outcome would be recorded in a report – this report would be publically available. This exchange would be in accordance with the principles I outlined earlier.

The consultation component of ICA would be conducted under auspices of the SBI and would consider the Biennial Update Report and the report of the Expert Assessment Team. To ensure enhanced transparency this consultation phase would be very much a public process. This phase would also be in accordance with the principles I outlined earlier.

The consultation would include opportunities for questions and response.

The consultation would also result in an objective record of the discussion and a final summary report. We suggest that the Secretariat could produce this final summary report.

To summarise - We envisage a technical assessment of the biennial update report, followed by consultations, including questions and responses from Parties in an open forum conducted under auspices of the SBI. Outputs of the ICA process would be a technical assessment report, an objective record of the consultations, and a summary report.

Thank you, co-facilitator