

# STOCK-TAKING MEETING BY THE PRESIDENT

Monday, 8 December 2014, Plenary 2, 19:00-20:00

## Statement by the Chair of the SBSTA

Thank you very much, Mr. President, distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, good evening.

- I am here to report on SBSTA-related work. I would like to summarize developments in the following manner: **First, the success we were able to achieve; second the challenges we encountered and third the regrets we had to face.**
  
- **On my first point, Mr. President, the success,** I am pleased to let you know that the SBSTA has:
  - **Opened and closed** its forty-first session in a **timely manner** and **in line with the time management considerations** we had agreed upon during our first Bureau meeting, and in a manner we adopted at the opening plenary of SBSTA;
  - **SBSTA launched and conducted its work by maximizing available time**, opening on Monday, starting 13 groups that same afternoon and adopted 19 conclusions and decisions as presented within one hour;
  - **Following that, SBSTA was able to accommodate all statements and still was able to close largely before our projected time which was roughly at 5.00 o'clock.** Let me share with you that I already received feedback from delegates that SBSTA has thus helped the process to focus on issues of importance under the ADP.
  
- **Mr. President,** on Saturday evening you honored me and the SBI Chair with your trust, in **mandating me to conclude pending issues** carried over to this week under your authority, which brings me to my **second point, the challenges:**
  - **These are, for the SBSTA: sub-item 10 (a) Annex I Review Guidelines and 11 (a) Articles 5, 7 and 8.**
  - I am now providing a short update on where we stand on these items. Since this morning, I have held **briefings with facilitators on these pending issues.** I have also attended the **opening of the corresponding groups** to inform Parties about my mandate, to pass it on to facilitators and to **encourage Parties to finish today.**
    - **Agenda sub-item 10 (a) of the SBSTA: Annex I Review Guidelines** - The group progressed well during the day; all Parties were able to engage and work constructively. However, Mr. President, still, the amount of technical work remains considerable (about 20 complex paragraphs remain bracketed and require in-depth discussion). Nevertheless, the group works hard, even now as we speak, and aims to complete the work as soon as possible;
    - **Agenda sub-item 11 (a): Articles 5,7&8 under the SBSTA** – Again, Mr. President, also this group progressed well and discussed a compromise text that would allow the clearance of the remaining bracketed paragraphs in the draft decisions text from Warsaw. Parties seem to be willing to agree on a compromise text, but some Parties need to consult further before giving their final agreement. We are hopeful that with an additional meeting of one hour tomorrow morning the issue would be concluded.

- **We also have two further issues for both, the SBSTA and the SBI.** These are item 7 Loss and Damage and item 9 (a) Response Measures. As the SBI Chair was chairing the Multilateral Assessment, I have agreed upon his request to conduct his work also on his behalf.
  - **Regarding Loss and Damage –** Mr. President, Parties have been engaging in this issue and are committed to conclude this issue and are having currently discussions amongst themselves on the remaining issues. We will be meeting once more in the morning to see if we can conclude those outstanding issues under this item.
  - As for the **Response Measures** - Parties will be engaged in this issue and are committed to conclude this issue and are having currently discussions amongst themselves. I must mention, Mr. president, that this issues remains complex and difficult for the Parties but we are still hopeful that the issue could be concluded tomorrow as well.
- **Mr. President,** this brings me to my **third point, the regrets despite all efforts and my personal engagement.** We have a few items which **were, unfortunately, not able to conclude, despite many Parties being very much motivated to do so.** Therefore, the SBSTA will take up these issues again at the next session.

**I thank you, Mr. President.**