



STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE EU AND ITS MEMBER STATES

Fortieth session of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA40) Closing Plenary, 15 June 2014

Mister Chair, distinguished Colleagues, dear Friends,

I am delivering this statement on behalf of the EU and its 28 Member States.

Let me thank you, Mr. Chair, for the guidance you have provided throughout the work of SBSTA in this session and Parties for their constructive approach. We also thank the co-facilitators and the secretariat for their efforts. We have worked hard during these two weeks and we now welcome the progress achieved on a number of agenda items.

With regard to the 2013-2015 Review, we are very pleased with the good exchanges we had in the Structured Expert Dialogue and with the conclusions of the Joint SBI/SBSTA Contact Group setting out the next steps we will undertake in order to successfully close the review. The EU reiterates that science is fundamental to this process and looks forward to the publication of the IPCC's synthesis report of its Fifth Assessment Report in October.

The EU is pleased to see further progress in the item of agriculture and thank all parties for the constructive spirit shown during this session.

While we note that the shape of the future climate regime and the general role of markets remains to be decided, we are happy that progress was achieved on the market and non-market mechanisms and look forward to addressing potential building blocks for the 2015 agreement in Lima.

The EU welcomes progress made under the Nairobi Work Programme, in particular the agreement on specific activities related to ecosystems, human settlements, water resources and health. All Parties, including the EU, showed great amount of dedication and flexibility. We are looking forward to continue with discussions under this important adaptation-related agenda item.

However, we also need to highlight one particular issue about which the European Union has serious concerns.

We are extremely disappointed that we have not made progress at this meeting on the finalisation of the rules to implement the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol. These rules, which are essential for the accounting system for the second commitment period, must be finalised in Lima. Without them, we are unable to fulfil our obligations – including transferring the share of proceeds – nor will we be able to ratify the Doha amendment unless this issue is resolved ~~very soon~~.

To conclude, the European Union overall appreciates the results achieved at this session but looks forward to an effective and efficient continuation of work in the run-up to and during the sessions in Lima and beyond.

Last but not least, we would like to congratulate the Group of 77 on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of their foundation.