

Umbrella Group – SBSTA 40 – Opening Statement

Mr Chair

I have the privilege to speak on behalf of the Umbrella Group: Canada, Japan, Kazakhstan, New Zealand, Norway, the Russian Federation, Ukraine, the United States and Australia.

The SBSTA has the vital role of providing the COP with advice on scientific, technological and methodological matters. The release of the IPCC's Fifth Assessment Report Working Group papers highlights the importance of SBSTA's work here at its 40th session in helping to advance a coordinated global response to climate change.

The SBSTA made good progress in Warsaw. We look forward to working with you and other Parties to build on that progress and lay a strong foundation for Lima.

Mitigation and transparency

We look forward to continuing the work on clarification of Parties' 2020 pledges. Recognising that almost all Annex I countries have submitted their Biennial Reports, we encourage the timely submission of Biennial Update Reports by developing countries beginning in December this year.

On the revision of Annex I review guidelines, we look forward to building on the excellent progress at recent SBSTA sessions and finalising the guidelines in Lima. Improvements to process efficiency will be crucial to ensure sustainable and robust review.

Adaptation; Loss and Damage

In Warsaw Parties decided to continue and enhance the relevance of the Nairobi Work Programme. The Umbrella Group welcomes the integration of other issues such as gender, ecosystems and indigenous and traditional knowledge under the Nairobi Work Programme. We look forward to working constructively in Bonn to consider additional activities and enhancing the modalities of the Programme.

Establishment of the Warsaw International Mechanism for loss and damage, under the Cancun Adaptation Framework, was a key decision from COP 19. We thank the interim Executive Committee for their work to date in developing the Mechanism's draft two-year work plan. We consider work at this session must focus on the mandated task of considering the composition and procedures for the Executive Committee.

REDD+

Completion of the rule-book for REDD+ at Warsaw was an important step forward. This guidance will assist developing countries in their implementation of national systems for forest monitoring, and measurement, reporting and verification of greenhouse gas emissions. We look forward to working to resolve the remaining methodological issues.

Markets

In Warsaw although we could not adopt a decision, we made progress on identifying the key elements on various market and non-market based approaches to mitigation. Here in Bonn we should build on this progress and encourage transparent actions to further our work on the Framework For Various Approaches. We would also welcome progress on establishing modalities and procedures for the New Market Mechanism as agreed in Durban at COP17.

Technical update-work Kyoto Protocol

For Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, SBSTA has an important role to play in ensuring a smooth transition from the first to the second commitment period, by finalising the technical update work and resolving the few areas of divergence remaining between Parties. We should aim to reach agreement on these issues here in Bonn, as they must be finalised in Lima.

Agriculture

The Umbrella Group is looking forward to working constructively in SBSTA on issues relating to agriculture. The in-session workshop at Warsaw demonstrated the benefit of engaging on substance and the many commonalities across Parties.

2013-15 Review

The IPCC's Fifth Assessment Report reminds us of the imperative of working on a global response to prevent dangerous climate change and reduce its impacts. Umbrella Group countries look forward the opportunity, under the Structured Expert Dialogue of the 2013-15 Review, to consider the IPCC's findings from working groups two and three in the context of reviewing progress towards the global goal.

Mr Chair, there is much to do. We give you our support and look forward to a constructive session.

Thank you