

Opening Statement of the German Host Government

German Delegation
46th Session of the Subsidiary Bodies to the
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

8 - 18 May 2017

SBI Item 16 (d) Implementation of the Headquarters Agreement

Executive Secretary,
Chair,
Delegates,

It is my pleasure to report on the implementation of the Headquarters Agreement on behalf of the German host government:

When I last took the floor on this issue in 2015, I had the privilege to announce the completion of the new World Conference Center Bonn. In the meantime, the refurbished WorldCCBonn has proven to be an excellent meeting venue that can be adapted to different occasions. In total, this room can hold up to 7000 delegates but can also be divided into smaller meeting rooms.

The completion of WorldCCBonn has been a great leap forward in strengthening Bonn as a UN city and as a sustainability hub and establishing the place as an international renowned conference location. However, there is no room for leaning back. We are already planning and constructing new buildings.

Let me first of all update you on the long term projects. As you know, we are expanding the UN Campus further. In October 2016 we celebrated the groundbreaking ceremony for the new extension building that will meet the latest ecological standards. The 17-storey building will provide space for 330 members of staff. We are also renovating the former Wasserwerk and Pumpenhaus buildings, with which you are familiar. This will not only enlarge the Campus and allow the UNFCCC Secretariat's staff to work on the same premises, it will also create opportunities for the UN's conferences as more state of the art facilities will be available.

However, the most pressing need now is to construct the temporary structures for the COP 23 in November this year. Construction will start in August. We have taken up

the challenge to extend the current facilities and build 50.000 square metres of provisional rooms in three months.

To this process, the expertise of the UNFCCC Secretariat proves vital. We are very grateful for the dedication with which the Secretariat supports the planning of the construction. Indeed, we are extremely lucky to have the Secretariat here in Bonn already!

I am confident that we will meet your expectations and be a successful technical host this November. Thereby, we will enable the Fijian presidency, the UNFCCC Secretariat and all member states to make significant progress on the climate protection agenda this year. We will manage! Wir schaffen das!

For your own preparations of the COP 23, there will be a briefing on the technical details of the conference, such as accommodation and visa requirements. The briefing will take place on 15th of May at 1pm in room **XX**. We are looking forward to presenting to you all the details.

To conclude, I would like to thank the City of Bonn for their cooperation which, as usual, has been extraordinary.

Thank you for your attention.