

G77 Loss and Damage SBI39 (June 2012)
Opening statement

Muchas gracias Sr. Presidente, Bolivia presenta esta declaracion sobre este item en nombre del G77 & China. La presentamos en ingles.

Climate change and related loss and damage is happening now - at different scales on the national, regional and international levels, that will require additional resources. The tragedy unfolding in the Philippines is a reminder of why a mechanism is needed now, and the extreme and slow-onset disasters are hurting countries, from small islands states witnessing their reefs and land disappear, least developed countries challenged to survive, and other particularly vulnerable countries seeing their every day life threatened and prospects to eradicate poverty diminished.

At the heart of the challenge of loss and damage is addressing the needs and aspirations of communities and people, who have contributed least to the causes of climate change, yet are among its first and worst victims. The urgency and importance of responding to this challenges is beyond dispute and requires real action. We reiterate our call for to an international mechanism to address loss and damage to the adverse effects of climate change.

Mr Chairman, our work needs to be meaningful and ultimately useful for developing countries struggling with how to develop and implement approaches to address loss and damage, and consideration of the financial needs associated with assessing and addressing loss and damage should be focus of the work in the near-term. We are prepared to work in a contact group, to engage in text immediately, and we ask for the proper facilities and adequate time to carry out our work.

Thanks you very much, Mr. Chair.

If he doesn't say contact group: Mr Chairman, we request that this item be treated in a contact group, with the proper facilities and adequate time to carry out our work. Please