SBSTA WORKSHOP
Issues Related to Agriculture

Fred Kossam
MALAWI
ON BEHALF OF AFRICA GROUP OF NEGOTIATORS
Conceptual background

- Population of Africa is about 1.1 billion people and this is projected to reach 2.5 billion by 2050.
- Majority of hungry and malnourished people live in Africa and that calls for concerted efforts to address adaptation in Agriculture.
- Farmers depend on small scale subsistence farming and is mainly rain fed agriculture.
- Climate change will increase variability in rainfall and temperature among others.
- Agriculture contributes between 10 to over 30% of GDP and engages over 75% of Africa population directly or indirectly.
- Africa has a diverse cropping/livestock.
Experience of Africa on the application of scientific knowledge for enhancing the adaptation in agriculture

• Application of seasonal rainfall forecasting
• Use of improved seed varieties including hybrid varieties,
• Conservation agriculture
• Water management and irrigation:
  • Agro-forestry:
  • Fertilizer management
• Use of scientific and indigenous knowledge in climate risk management
• Index based crop weather insurance
Adaptation co-benefits

- Africa understands Adaptation co benefit of climate change as intervention aimed at enhancing adaptation in the agriculture sector that may have additional benefits.

These may could include;

- Opportunity for economic growth and income generation and poverty reduction

- Environmental and ecosystems sustainability
  - Sustainable land management
  - Water use Management and conservation
  - Soil health and fertility management
  - Agro forestry -carbon sequestration

- Ecosystem based management
Key messages for Africa

• The Africa Group has identified four priority areas that the international community through SBSTA could Financially and Technically support

• Capacity building on the development and application of tools and methods for climate monitoring, modelling, uncertainty analysis, downscaling and early warning.

• Assessment, development and identification of research and technological options and practices for agricultural adaptation, including understanding positive impacts, limits to adaptation, and monitoring systems for adaptation.

• Assessment of technological needs relating to adaptation and promotion of technology transfer

• Enhancing integration of indigenous knowledge and scientific based knowledge
• End