



## **Workshop on the UNFCCC budget 2020-21**

**Opening remarks by**

**Mr. Michał Kurtyka**

**President of the COP 24/CMP 14/CMA 1.3**

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- Dear colleagues, I am very pleased to see so many of you here. Your presence is a very good indication of the active engagement that we will need to ensure a successful outcome of the discussions on the budget at the SBI sessions in June this year.
- Following the adoption of the Paris Agreement and the successful outcomes in Katowice, we are at a crucial moment in our efforts to address climate change. Climate change continues to be an ever more urgent global and geopolitical challenge that no nation can address on its own.
- In this context, the budget for the period 2020-21 has special significance as it provides the basis for important action to be taken by Parties in the coming two years.
- Let me stress that this is YOUR budget. Its purpose is to enable the UNFCCC secretariat to support the mandates you, the Parties, have collectively provided through decisions of the COP, CMP and CMA for activities in 2020-21.
- The budget is not the place to re-negotiate decisions you have taken. It is the place to ensure that the secretariat has the level of resources required to provide you with the support you need in a sustainable and predictable manner.
- What we need is a balanced, holistic budget that will help you the Parties take forward all aspects of the decisions you have taken, and which present the collective wisdom of all Parties.



- I said that this is your budget. It is also YOUR secretariat, a secretariat that I am sure you will agree has served you well over so many years and that is presenting information at this workshop to help you agree on such balanced, holistic budget.
- I very much appreciate the approach taken by secretariat to enhance transparency and share information well before SBI 50. It is a sign that the secretariat is keen to make sure Parties have time to understand and discuss the budget amongst each other. This should help more effective negotiations among Parties in June.
- I urge all of you to engage pro-actively and constructively in this informal workshop to lay the ground for reaching agreement on the budget 2020-21 in June.
- I wish you all a productive workshop.