



## Framework Convention on Climate Change

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### Subsidiary Body for Implementation

Thirty-third session

Cancun, 30 November to 4 December 2010

Agenda item 15

Arrangements for intergovernmental meetings

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#### Draft conclusions proposed by the Chair

1. The Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) considered the submissions from Parties and observer organizations<sup>1</sup> and the information provided in the synthesis report<sup>2</sup> prepared by the secretariat on ways to enhance the engagement of observer organizations. The SBI took note of the views of observer organizations expressed during the contact group on this issue, as well as during consultations with the Chair of the SBI.
2. The SBI recalled the conclusions at its twentieth session recognizing the fundamental value of effective participation by observers, both in the intergovernmental process and in responding to climate change, and the value of contributions from observer organizations to deliberations on substantive issues.<sup>3</sup>
3. The SBI recognized that the range and value of observer organization engagement is diverse, broad and rich, and that the role and contributions of observer organizations should be enhanced in the UNFCCC intergovernmental process.
4. The SBI recalled that there are currently nine observer constituencies under the UNFCCC process, consistent with the major groups defined as stakeholders in Agenda 21.<sup>4</sup>
5. The SBI recognized the important role and value of the participation of all stakeholders, both governmental and non-governmental, in the UNFCCC process in accordance with Article 7, paragraph 6, of the Convention.

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<sup>1</sup> Submissions from Parties are contained in document FCCC/SBI/2010/MISC.8; submissions from intergovernmental organizations are available at [http://unfccc.int/parties\\_observers/igo/submissions/items/3714.php](http://unfccc.int/parties_observers/igo/submissions/items/3714.php); submissions from non-governmental organizations are available at [http://unfccc.int/parties\\_observers/ngo/submissions/items/3689.php](http://unfccc.int/parties_observers/ngo/submissions/items/3689.php).

<sup>2</sup> FCCC/SBI/2010/16.

<sup>3</sup> FCCC/SBI/2004/10, paragraphs 98 and 103.

<sup>4</sup> [http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/agenda21/res\\_agenda21\\_00.shtml](http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/agenda21/res_agenda21_00.shtml).

6. The SBI noted that discussions under the framework of the preparatory meetings for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in 2012 (Rio+20) provide opportunities for broad stakeholder participation. It also noted that these discussions, including discussions between the Rio Conventions, may need to be considered under the UNFCCC process.
7. The SBI noted the developments in recent years in practices for the engagement of observer organizations in the intergovernmental process and welcomed the recent initiatives of the secretariat to improve the dialogue process with observer organizations.
8. The SBI expressed its appreciation to the Government of Mexico for its efforts to engage in discussions with observer organizations in the preparations leading up to and during the sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties and the sixth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol.
9. The SBI noted that any steps taken to enhance the engagement of observer organizations should be undertaken in full consultation with observer organizations. The SBI also noted that these steps would be subject to the availability of resources.
10. The SBI recalled its conclusions at its twentieth session that requests for submission of information and views could be extended to non-governmental organizations where appropriate and on the understanding that such submissions would not be issued as official documents, in order not to expand the volume of documentation, but would be made available on the UNFCCC website.<sup>5</sup> The SBI requested the secretariat to continue its efforts to make these submissions more accessible on the UNFCCC website.
11. The SBI recommended that, to enhance information sharing, chairs provide briefings for observer organizations at each session in order to keep them informed of the issues being discussed and of progress being made in informal discussions.
12. The SBI agreed to continue to address further ways to enhance the existing means of participation for observer organizations, particularly ways to increase opportunities for interventions and other substantive inputs. Efforts should also be made to enhance the use of technical means for participation.
13. The SBI also recognized the need to take into account best practices from other processes within the United Nations system. The SBI requested the secretariat to keep under review good practices relating to observer organizations in the United Nations system, with a view to benefitting from the experiences of other forums to further enhance the participation of observer organizations in the UNFCCC process. The SBI requested the secretariat to report back on these practices to the SBI at its thirty-fourth session.
14. The SBI agreed to convene an in-session workshop in 2011 to further develop ways to enhance the engagement of observers as defined under Article 7, paragraph 6, of Convention, including ideas for enhancing the existing means of participation, taking note of the discussions during SBI 33, and requested that the report on the workshop be presented to the SBI at its thirty-fourth session.

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<sup>5</sup> FCCC/SBI/2004/10, paragraph 104.