

Second meeting of the Durban Forum on Capacity-building

SBI 38, Bonn, Germany

4 June 2013

Opening address by Richard Kinley, Deputy Executive Secretary United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

- Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen. Good afternoon.
- On behalf of the United Nations Climate Change Secretariat, it gives me great pleasure to welcome you to the second meeting of the Durban Forum on Capacity-building.
- I want to start by saying how essential capacity-building is to enable developing countries to meet the challenge of climate change. In particular, how critical capacity-building is to help these countries take effective adaptation measures and support the low-carbon development strategies and plans which are right now being discussed here in Bonn.
- Governments have agreed to keep the increase in global temperatures to no more than 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels. With 400 ppm CO₂ now in the atmosphere, we have entered a new danger zone, and action is more urgent than ever.
- We must above all speed up and scale up action at every level of effort and in every area of society to stave off the worst effects of climate change. This means building a bigger, faster network of climate response through collaboration, collective action and innovation.
- The Durban Forum is ahead of the curve when it comes to collaboration and collective action. It is inspiring to look around and see so many different stakeholders in one room: Parties, intergovernmental and non-governmental

organizations, young people, academics and the private sector. We need to leverage the energy and the spirit of cooperation inside this room and take it to the wider world, where cooperation at all levels of society is needed to bring about transformational change.

- It is my hope that the two afternoon sessions will provide a transparent and extensive exchange of ideas, experiences, lessons learned and good practices on the implementation of capacity-building activities in developing countries at the national level.
- I wish you much success in generating ideas, creating partnerships and catalyzing action.
- Good luck and thank you.