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INFORMATION NOTE

from: General Secretariat
to: Delegations

Subject: 34th sessions of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) and the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA), second part of the fourteenth session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention (AWG-LCA 14) and second part of the sixteenth session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Further Commitments for Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol (AWG-KP 16) (Bonn, 6-17 June 2011)
= Compilation of EU statements

Please find attached for information the opening and closing statements delivered on behalf of the European Union and its Member States at abovementioned AWGs and SBs.

34th Session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation

This statement is supported by Albania, Croatia, Iceland, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Serbia.

Bonn, 6-16 June 2011

Opening plenary on 6 June 2011

Mister Chair, distinguished colleagues, dear friends,

The SBI 34 has an important mission to fulfill. Our work can lay the foundations for important agreements in Durban.

Many delegates came to Bonn with a hope to continue the constructive negotiations and preserve the positive momentum after the Conference of the Parties in Cancun.

Let us turn these expectations into a sense of trust. We must make progress here. We need to maintain the political and public credibility rebuilt by the Cancún Agreements, which reaffirm the strength of the UNFCCC multilateral process as a means of finding global solutions to global problems. We have limited time, we should use it well.

Mister Chair, the EU stands ready and willing to work with other Parties to start the negotiations without delay.

We can support the agenda proposed by the Chair, which operationalises the outcomes of Cancun, and hope we can move swiftly into the substance of our work. Bonn is the turning point of negotiations towards Durban. Delay would put the whole process at risk. We should start immediately working on substance and the concrete deliverables we are mandated to by the Conference of the Parties.

The EU expects this SBI session to seek to further improve the transparency and the effectiveness of the process. Furthermore, climate change negotiations owe their strength to a large extent to the participation of the stakeholders. Therefore, we are very much open to explore proposals from the observers to further enhance their participation.

Let me also stress some of the issues the EU considers important and where we wish to build on the Cancun results.

The EU welcomes the process of mitigation workshops to exchange on commitment and actions by parties. The work on developing or enhancing MRV guidelines should start as soon as possible and proceed in parallel for biennial reports and national communications both for developed and developing countries. It is essential that we effectively use the time allocated under the SBI to agree on the MRV work programme and decide on the workshops and expert meetings that will be needed over the course of the year. There is no room for further delays to MRV implementation - the EU stands ready to work. In the SBI discussions we need to also progress on substance so as to further facilitate the dialogues that will take place in the upcoming technical meetings and workshops. We expect that the work accomplished under the SBI will complement and feed into the LCA MRV discussions and vice versa. The work under both groups should be geared towards achieving our overarching implementation goals and having the necessary modalities and guidelines adopted in Durban. Let us be clear that a lack of progress here could jeopardise a successful Durban outcome. We recall that the Cancun decisions provide a process to enable LDCs to prepare, plan and implement adaptation actions. We look forward to start working on this issue with a view to agreeing on the modalities by Durban. The aim is not to impose requirements on countries but rather focus on how countries' efforts can be enhanced in line with their national priorities and circumstances.

The EU considers capacity building essential to assist non-Annex I countries in implementing the Convention, and stresses that capacity building must be country-driven and tailored for the special needs of each country.

Finally mister Chair, I would like to say that the European Union looks forward to working with you and all the Parties to make the best use of our time at this meeting.

34th Session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation

This statement is supported by Croatia, Iceland, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Serbia.

Closing plenary on 16 June 2011

Mister Chair, distinguished colleagues, dear friends,

We have worked very hard this week and in our view this session has delivered some useful, constructive contributions for Durban. On behalf of the European Union and its 27 Member States, let me say thank you for the guidance that you have provided throughout the work of SBI during this session and all Parties for their constructive approach, which created a good atmosphere after a lengthy agenda discussion in the beginning. It is worrying that the process of agreeing to agendas for our work took out a heavy portion of our time, which should be used towards substantive issues. Agenda fights undermine progress and encourage the questioning of the process.

At the same time, the EU welcomes that this SBI session did consider proposals to enhance the participation of observer organisations. We cannot stress it enough that climate change negotiations owe their strength to a large extent to the participation of stakeholders. Observers presented to us very concrete proposals to enhance their involvement. However, the conclusions of this SBI meeting only partially live up to our expectations. Nevertheless, while we did not come to an agreement to change some existing working methods, we count on it that in practice we will make future meetings more open and increase the input of observers. We also welcome further initiations in Durban.

Let me also stress some of the issues the EU considers important and where this SBI session successfully built on the Cancun results.

In particular, we find it encouraging that we were able to start our work to implement the mandate given by the Cancun decisions to develop a process to enable LDCs to prepare, plan and implement adaptation actions. We got closer to outline the way forward to a country-driven process to tackle the challenges LDCs and other developing countries face in adapting to the adverse effects of climate change by focusing on how countries' efforts can be enhanced in line with their national priorities and circumstances.

The EU equally welcomes the discussions on the work programme to address loss and damage associated with climate change impacts. Although, we have not been able to advance our work as much as we would have wanted, we welcome the progress made. Regarding the lengthy debate yesterday, we find it important to emphasise that we believe response measures is a mitigation issue, and should not be addressed under any agenda items related to adaptation.

Although, the EU is of the opinion that the subsidiary bodies have essential role to play in the implementation of the Cancún Agreements, we are happy to see the work on MRV progress under the AWG-LCA, and that it proceeds in parallel for both developed and developing countries. It is essential to proceed swiftly on these issues so that we can adopt the necessary guidelines in Durban. We would also like to take this opportunity to recognize the important role the Secretariat has played in supporting the existing MRV processes under the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol through—among others—the preparation of a number of extensive technical reports, and we look forward to see this important support continue as we move forward.

The EU considers capacity building essential to assist non-Annex I countries in implementing the Convention, and stresses that capacity building is cross-cutting issue to be integrated in all relevant decisions in UNFCCC. Capacity building must be country-driven and tailored for the special needs of each country. Therefore, we appreciate the progress made here in Bonn and look forward for the completion of the 2nd comprehensive review of the Capacity Building Framework in SBI35.

Finally Mister Chair, the European Union is hopeful that the positive outcomes achieved during this SBI session will be reflected in the spirit of our discussions in Durban.

**Thirty-fourth Session of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice
(SBSTA 34)
Bonn, 6-16 June 2011**

This statement is supported by Croatia, Iceland, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia and Turkey.

Closing plenary on 16 June 2011

Mister Chair, distinguished Colleagues, dear Friends,

On behalf of the European Union and its 27 Member States, I would like to thank you, Mister Chair, for the guidance you have provided and the systematic transparency you have ensured throughout the work of SBSTA during this session.

The EU notes with great concern that the process of agreeing to agendas for our work took a heavy portion of our time. Such extensive and difficult discussions of the agenda - instead of substantive issues – undermine progress and encourage the questioning of the process.

We also regret that we have not yet found a way to address agriculture in SBSTA.

However, the EU is satisfied that the SBSTA has started operationalising the Cancun Agreements on a number of important issues. We appreciate the flexibility of all the Parties and the common will to achieve progress and concrete deliverables.

In particular, the EU is pleased with the progress made on revising the reporting tables. We encourage Parties to keep up the constructive and good spirit in order that, after a hopefully successful autumn workshop, we could finalize and adopt the revised guidelines on annual inventories for Annex I Parties in Durban.

The EU was delighted to join other Parties in welcoming the IPCC's Special Report on Renewable Energy Sources and Climate Change Mitigation. The Report clearly shows the significant technical and mitigation potential of renewable energies, and the wider benefits they can afford – including for health and energy security. It is clear that Renewable Energies can provide substantial contribution to achieving our shared goal of limiting the global temperature increase to less than 2°C above pre-industrial levels.

Moreover, the EU welcomes the significant progress made on the Nairobi Work Programme during this session. Parties agreed to finalise the review, to have a joint SBI/SBSTA in-session workshop to consider the outcome of the NWP so far, on interim activities to strengthen dissemination of products prepared under the NWP, and to inform on ecosystem based approaches to adaptation. In addition, Parties started a process to define future activities which will address also food security and infrastructure and human settlements. We also welcome the explicit request to strengthen the inclusion of water-related issues in the Nairobi Work Programme.

To conclude, the European Union appreciates the advances achieved at this session. We thank also the co-facilitators, the secretariat and all negotiators for their efforts. We are looking forward to an effective and efficient continuation of SBSTA's work in the subsequent sessions.

Fourteenth Session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention (AWG-LCA 14)
Bonn, 7-17 June 2011

This statement is supported by Albania, Croatia, Iceland, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Serbia.

Opening plenary

Mr Chair, distinguished colleagues, dear friends,

Mr Chairman, I am speaking on behalf of the EU and its 27 Member States.

Scarcely six months ago, the international community united in a cooperative spirit which enabled the success of the Cancun Agreements. In Cancun, we all made progress towards an ambitious, comprehensive and legally binding framework in line with the 2°C objective. It also demonstrated that the UNFCCC can deliver on climate change. However, we recognise that there is still much to be done. Science tells us that the window of opportunity to keep the 2°C objective within reach is rapidly closing. The IEA recent findings suggest that energy-related carbon-dioxide (CO₂) emissions in 2010 were the highest in history. This means that over the next ten years, emissions must rise less in total than they did between 2009 and 2010. This is a tall order, but not impossible: as the IPCC special Report on Renewable Energy shows that there are effective solutions available to reduce these emissions and move to a sustainable emissions pathway.

We hope very much that Bonn will rekindle the Cancun spirit, make up for the time we lost in Bangkok, and get straight into discussion of substantive issues. There is a lot to do and limited negotiation time left before Durban. We cannot waste time.

In order to do this, we need to speed up work on the implementation of the Cancun agreements in all the areas, which are close to all of us.

For the EU this is particularly urgent on mitigation and MRV. The Mitigation Workshops in Bangkok were a useful start in clarifying pledges. We hope very much that the second round of workshops here in Bonn will help us better understand assumptions made in these pledges – particularly on accounting, use of offsets, and BAU assumptions. If we are to stay below 2 degrees, Parties will need to increase the overall level of ambition. We hope that this second round of workshops will further increase the understanding of these pledges. The EU would also like to see the outcomes of these workshops inform the negotiation process here in Bonn, and so drive us forward towards a successful outcome in Durban on mitigation.

A robust Measurement, Reporting and Verification Framework is key to the credibility of any future legally binding agreement. It is essential that here in Bonn we call on the SBI to agree on a work programme including a series of technical workshops and to commence discussions on substance so as to ensure that the main elements of an enhanced MRV framework are already adopted in Durban. In order to ensure that time is used efficiently Parties should be requested to make submissions that will inform the technical work that lies ahead of us.

Further progress is also needed on the other building blocks for a balanced package in Durban that is acceptable for all, including on international aviation and maritime, HFCs and agriculture. In our view these items should be duly addressed by these negotiations.

However, simply implementing Cancun – important as that is – is not enough. We also need to turn to the business we left unfinished in Cancun.

For the EU, a key issue that needs attention is the question of legal form. The EU's ultimate goal remains the achievement of a comprehensive and legally binding global framework for combating climate change which covers all major emitters. We look forward to engaging in discussions with fellow Parties on how to progress on this issue.

Dear Friends,

We must get down to business. The world will not understand if we cannot progress. Our aspiration is to leave Bonn with draft text on all key issues, including mitigation and MRV.

The EU has always been and remains a fervent advocate of joint international action on combating climate change. We stand ready to work hard with all of you over these next two weeks to ensure that Durban can deliver.

Second part of the sixteenth Session of the Ad hoc Working Group on Further Commitments for Annex I parties under the Kyoto Protocol (AWG – KP 16)

Bonn, 7-17 June 2011

This statement is supported by Albania, Croatia, Iceland, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Serbia.

Plenary on 7 June 2011

Mister Chair, distinguished colleagues, dear friends,

I am speaking on behalf of the European Union and its 27 Member States.

We would like to welcome you, Mr Chair and welcome all our friends in the room.

We arrived in Bonn with great expectations on starting substantial work immediately. We need to work with a view to laying a good foundation on which a balanced Durban outcome can be built.

Bearing in mind the very limited time available, we would like to express support for your scenario note. Firstly, we are ready to build on the Bangkok discussions and to continue exploring the overarching political questions. We need clarity on the future of the Kyoto Protocol. The EU has clearly expressed its willingness to consider a second commitment period in the context of the previously stated requirements. These conditions are genuine, challenging, but they are not impossible to meet.

But solving the issue of the second commitment period alone, especially with limited participation of Parties with commitments, cannot keep the 2° C objective within reach. Whether or not to do a second commitment period is a very difficult decision for the EU and will not be taken lightly. We need to ensure that all major economies take ambitious mitigation actions. We need assurances that the overall level of ambition will reach an adequate level. Our leaders will need to be satisfied that making such a commitment is part of securing a wider framework that is consistent with achieving the 2° C objective.

Secondly, we need to establish spinoff groups and continue working on the rules without delay. We need to resolve as many of the outstanding issues as soon as possible. We need to close topics where decisions can be made at technical level and we need to frame the more political questions for Ministers' consideration. In Cancun we made good progress, and a number of fresh ideas emerged that need further substantive work in the coming days in order to arrive to Durban well-prepared.

Finally, Mister Chair, let me emphasize again that stable and robust rules in conjunction with ambitious targets are essential for the environmental integrity of the future framework. These rules should also serve as a basis for the parallel work under the LCA. We need coherence between the outcomes of the two processes. We need to ensure that 1 tonne remains 1 tonne in any setting. The best means to achieve this is by continuing our work on the details in a Party-driven, inclusive manner. We need input and active, constructive participation from all Parties.

Mister Chair, we have a lot of work to do in Bonn. Let us start as soon as possible and do the utmost to prepare the ground for a balanced package leading to a successful outcome in Durban. Thank you.

Second part of the sixteenth Session of the Ad hoc Working Group on Further Commitments for Annex I parties under the Kyoto Protocol (AWG – KP 16)
Bonn, 7-17 June 2011

Plenary on 17 June 2011

This statement is supported by Albania, Croatia, Iceland, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Serbia.

Mr Chairman, I am speaking on behalf of the EU and its 27 Member States.

Mister Chair, distinguished colleagues, dear friends,

We arrived in Bonn with great expectations to start substantial work on outstanding technical issues. We also looked forward to discussing the broader political context of our work. We made some limited progress in the spinoff groups, allowing for a better understanding of some of the unresolved matters, notably regarding methodological issues and LULUCF. We are eager to continue and speed up these discussions when we next meet. We see enormous value in the existing Kyoto Protocol architecture and instruments, and a lot of work is under way to improve it further. It is our firm belief that it is the best basis for developing a common, rules based framework for all major emitters.

We have also been ready to engage in policy discussions conducted in the broader contact group, with a view to exploring a balanced outcome for Durban, covering both tracks and capturing progress on the issues most central to these negotiations. It was one of the fora that gave Parties an opportunity to start discussing the necessary linkage between the outcomes of the two tracks in Durban. Progress on a legal framework wider than just the Kyoto Protocol is essential to keep the 2° C target within reach. This is crucial for our political leaders to consider a 2nd commitment period. In addition to the political aspects, we also need to work on the technical questions related to this matter. We have seen a number of developed country Parties expressing the interest to consider the proposals on the table. We very much wish to constructively engage with developing country Parties as well.

As it is not a closing plenary, it is not our intention to give a long speech. We are looking forward to the resumed session of the ad hoc working group on KP with the firm expectation that we would see substantial discussions on a number of technical issues, as well as continued efforts to understand the political context of a 2nd commitment period and further explore how it would fit into the broader picture. We are convinced that doing so could significantly contribute to the balanced outcome we all wish for in Durban. Thank you.
