

ARCHIE - REMARKS AT THE CLOSING PLENARY OF THE JUNE SBs

Let me start by recognising the tireless leadership of our SB Chairs - Marianne and Tosi - and the efforts of Executive Secretary Patricia Espinosa and her entire Secretariat staff to make this virtual sessional period happen.

I would also like to thank you all for your active engagement, at all hours of the day and night, to drive our process forward. As well as observers for their active participation and valuable contributions to our discussions.

Let me also recognise what has been achieved during this sessional period. We leave here with informal notes under the authority of the SB Chairs that capture important progress made during the last three weeks.

On a number of issues Parties have reached a common understanding to be formally reflected in decisions taken in Glasgow - I congratulate Parties on the 2022-23 programme budget in that context. On others we have consolidated and refined options for further deliberation, and got to a level of technical detail we had not reached before. However on some issues we have seen slower progress, and even the expansion of options in some iterations of informal notes at a time when we need to be honing in on the landing zones - not for negotiating convenience but to drive urgent climate action.

We have a lot more still to do if we are to arrive in Glasgow having done our homework. As incoming Presidency the UK welcomes the sentiments conveyed by Tosi and Marianne on the importance of continuing our work between now and COP26. Together, the UK, Chile and the Subsidiary Body Chairs - with the support of the Secretariat - will continue to collaborate, and to consult Parties as we develop plans to drive progress ahead of Glasgow.

The UK, together with Chile, will also continue to set out plans for activities taken forward under our authority as presidencies. We will use consultations, calls for submissions and other tools, and will remain guided by the principles of transparency, inclusivity and accelerating progress towards outcomes at COP26 that - importantly - leave no issue behind.

These plans will build on the monthly series of multilateral HoDs consultations we have conducted since January - and let me highlight the stocktake on the way forward on June 30th, and the focus on Loss & Damage in late July in that context.

Plans will also incorporate and build on initiatives to drive progress on specific issues, including:

- The Santiago Network for Loss & Damage - on which we hosted an informal meeting yesterday, ahead of another scheduled for 28 June.
- Adaptation - and you'll be aware of the presidencies' technical workshops on the Global Goal on Adaptation taking place in conjunction with the Regional Climate Weeks.
- And Finance: Following the comprehensive round of bilateral consultations with negotiating groups in April and May, and the multilateral HoDs consultation on May 24th, we will be publishing our presidencies' reflections note on the bilateral round of discussions imminently, ahead of sharing our plans for driving progress across the range of finance issues under the governing bodies next week.

Can I also point to the regional workshops that we're organising alongside the Regional Climate Weeks on the specific capacity building needs associated with implementation of the work we're negotiating here: on reporting, cooperative approaches, accessing finance, adaptation planning and more. So that we can move straight into implementation.

Many of you have recognised the importance of political will if we are to agree an ambitious and comprehensive set out of outcomes at COP26, that leaves no issue and no Party behind. Some of you have also highlighted specific issues on which we need political guidance from ministers, as well as certain topics not squarely reflected in our mandates for 2020-2021 but critical to COP26's success - including how we will ensure we keep 1.5 degrees within reach, following on from Working Group I's contribution to the IPCC's Sixth Assessment Report.

That is why the UK is convening a representative group of ministers for an in-person meeting late next month to discuss some of the key negotiations topics highlighted. Just days before the July 30 cut off date for your enhanced, ambitious NDCs to be included in the Secretariat's updated NDC Synthesis Report.

And why we have invited Minister Fu of Singapore and Minister Rotevatn of Norway to take forward informal ministerial discussions on Article 6, to complement the progress made under the leadership of the SBSTA Chair and his co-facilitators during this June sessional period, as well as the series of technical expert dialogues that preceded it.

These are merely the immediate next steps, and we remain committed to keeping ministers engaged throughout the period to COP26 to ensure we are in a position to reach agreement in Glasgow.

But let me reiterate. We have a lot more to do, as negotiators, to lay the groundwork for that agreement. Informal notes from this session are important but on many issues are simply not sufficient. Parties must build on and move beyond conversations held here. Using the notes produced here as tools to assist you. Recognising time is not on our side.

We are committed to working with you - and encourage you to reach out to us to share views on steps we could take as incoming presidency to facilitate further convergence across the range of issues on our shared agenda.

But we also encourage you to keep talking to one another. This sessional period felt like a Bonn session in many respects, but those bilateral discussions, corridor huddles and shuttle diplomacy need to be replicated in innovative ways in the coming months if we are to better understand areas of divergence, and test the feasibility of possible solutions. And as we enter the final few months ahead of Glasgow the UK certainly intends to increase our engagement at all levels.

Thank you to everyone who attended the logistics briefing we held during the session, and for the follow up questions. We have heard very clearly the desire for more clarity to enable you to plan accordingly. We have set out information on the venue, visas and vaccines for delegates. And we will provide more information as soon as we can.

But the negotiations are not an island. Our work over the past few weeks is a crucial element for success in Glasgow, but we must also all continue to drive forward urgent national action and commitments. We have seen some positive examples in recent weeks - including at last week's G7 meeting which committed to 1.5, net zero by 2050, and saw new financial pledges. We will continue to support, encourage and challenge everyone to fulfil obligations, enhance plans and accelerate practical inclusive climate action.

Thank you, once again, for all of your efforts over the past three weeks.