

SUBMISSION BY ROMANIA AND THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION ON BEHALF OF THE EUROPEAN UNION AND ITS MEMBER STATES

SBI 50 and SBSTA 50 opening statement

Bonn, 17 June 2019

SB Chairs, distinguished delegates,

This statement is delivered on behalf of the European Union and its 28 Member States.

At COP24, Parties reached a successful outcome by agreeing on a rulebook that brings the Paris Agreement to life and makes it operational. The Katowice rulebook enables Parties to implement and report on their commitments under the Paris Agreement in a transparent, complete, comparable and consistent manner with an ambition mechanism at its core. It is a major achievement and we look forward to its swift implementation.

We remain determined to deliver on our pre-2020 commitments, which the EU has been implementing, and look forward to entering a new phase under the UNFCCC, a phase focusing on implementation and action. At this meeting - after a long negotiation process behind us - we can now focus on the technical work under the subsidiary bodies agenda. We are also pleased to see that the newly created bodies (those on Response Measures and Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples) already had fruitful first meetings prior to this session.

On the road to Santiago and already at this session, Parties will address important political and technical issues in the UNFCCC process. **Allow me to highlight a few of these.** We will be uploading a more detailed and comprehensive version of this statement online.

- Firstly, we are ready to work with all Parties to reach agreement on **Article 6** at COP25 and support the SBSTA chair's proposal for how to conduct work during this session. Ambition, environmental integrity and avoidance of double counting must be at the core of rules guiding voluntary cooperation under Article 6. We need to turn the page and deliver a transition from the Kyoto Protocol to the Paris Agreement, adopting comprehensive and robust accounting guidance, and replacing CDM (and JI) with a more ambitious mechanism, one that reflects the goals of the Paris agreement and the new context where all Parties involved have targets and their efforts need to show a progression over time. In this context we would underline that the CDM cannot continue to issue credits in respect of emissions reductions beyond 2020, or continue operations beyond the end of the second commitment true-up period. The time has now come to consider winding it up, and redeploying the considerable accumulated surplus for administrative expenses in the CDM trust fund.
- The review of the Warsaw Implementation Mechanism on loss and damage is important and we wish to give it all the attention it deserves. We aim to engage constructively with colleagues to swiftly agree on **Terms of Reference for the second review of the WIM on loss and damage** that are clear and focused, and congruent with the mandate of the WIM, while avoiding pre-empting the outcomes of the review.

- We expect to make good progress on a number of **transparency-related agenda items** and continuing the useful sharing of experiences under the **Multilateral Assessment and Facilitative Sharing of Views**. In particular, we are looking forward to beginning our discussions on making the enhanced transparency framework operational, respecting the balance of the decisions reached both in Paris and Katowice.
- We also look forward to engaging on the issue of **Arrangement for Intergovernmental Meetings (AIM)** and how we can make the UNFCCC process fit for purpose in the long term. We should ensure the UNFCCC is a process that drives climate action in delivering the long-term goals set in Paris. This would mean a UNFCCC process that puts the ambition cycle at its center, that is outward looking, that offers formats to exchange know-how for spurring implementation and that works in partnership with non-Party stakeholders and youth.
- And last but not least, the **budget** of the UNFCCC secretariat which we expect to conclude. We support the Secretariat's approach to better reflect the decisions adopted by all Parties; we see great value in its proposal to undertake the compulsory mandates of the UNFCCC under its core budget and wish to ensure it effective and efficient functioning. We call on all Parties to clear their arrears.

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- *We welcome the organization of the **special event on the 2019 refinement to the IPCC inventory guidelines**, which we consider as a first step towards the application of these guidelines under the Paris Agreement and under the Convention.*
- *We welcome the continuation of the **Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture**, and the organization of two workshops on agriculture during this session. In addition, we are looking forward to both **Technical Expert Meetings on Mitigation** focusing on agri-food chain, and on adaptation focusing on **Adaptation finance**, including the private sector and we are willing to continue engaging in discussions, with the good spirit and collaboration that we had in the past.*
- *We continue to support the **Nairobi Work Programme**, which has a unique role as a knowledge-for-action hub for adaptation and resilience, with a view to further improving its relevance and effectiveness in the light of the Paris Agreement.*
- *During this meeting, the 11th Research Dialogue will take place and we expect a rich exchange of information by the participants. We recall that during the previous meeting no conclusions could be reached on the items related to **science and research**. We are open to continue the discussion, keeping in mind that we will continue acting to strengthen scientific knowledge on the 1.5 degrees goal.*

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To conclude, we value the inclusiveness, transparency and openness of the UNFCCC process. We look forward to continued guidance and leadership of the chairs of the subsidiary bodies, as well as good cooperation with all Parties at this session, and on the way to COP25.

Once again, 2019 is a critical year for accelerating domestic climate action and raising global ambition in the context of the pursuit of sustainable development, with the leadership of the United Nations. The EU looks forward to the UN secretary General's Climate Action Summit in September as a platform for demonstrating our commitment to enhancing global climate ambition in line with the Paris Agreement.

We reaffirm that the EU and its Member States are committed to scale up the mobilization of international climate finance, as part of the collective developed countries' goal to jointly mobilize USD 100 billion per year by 2020 through to 2025 for mitigation and adaptation purposes, from a wide variety of sources, instruments and channels.

On behalf of the EU, I would also like to congratulate and welcome Chile as the incoming COP Presidency. We look forward to working with you in the run-up to COP25 in Santiago and praise you on your decision to remind the world that it is "time to act".

Thank you chairs.