

# **Opening statement by Ethiopia on behalf of the Least Developed Countries Group**

Forty-sixth session of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA 46)

08 May 2017, Bonn, Germany

**Mr. Chair, distinguished delegates,**

1. I have the honour to speak on behalf of the Least Developed Countries Group. I would like to associate myself with the statement made by Ecuador on behalf of the G77 and China.
2. From the outset, I would like to thank you for the various reports, analysis and compilation of information you have made available on different agenda items under the SBSTA.

Mr. Chair,

3. The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) in its State of the Climate report has confirmed that 2016 was the warmest year on record. The global average temperature is now a frightening 1.1°C above pre-Industrial levels, and the impacts of this warming are being felt in all corners of the world.
4. Last year, global sea levels reached record highs, and severe droughts and floods displaced hundreds of thousands of people, and left millions without enough food to eat. We also passed a significant threshold: atmospheric carbon dioxide levels reached new highs, exceeding 400 parts per million – a clear signal that we need to act rapidly and ambitiously to keep the 1.5°C goal within reach to minimise further disastrous impacts.
5. Given this urgency, we welcome that the Research Dialogue at this session will explore issues that are highly relevant to the 2018 Facilitative Dialogue and the options for assessing progress, as well as scientific support for adaptation and risk management. This dialogue will be a good opportunity for negotiators to engage with experts and discuss the latest scientific research and findings on these issues.

Mr. Chair,

6. Agriculture is the backbone of LDC economies and food security and plays a strategic role in the process of economic development in our countries. We share our frustration with the slow pace of work on agriculture under SBSTA. We look forward to making substantial progress on this matter here at Bonn, with a view to adopting a decision at the COP23.

Mr. Chair

7. On matters related to technology, we expect to have further clarity on the nature of the Technology Framework, its linkages with the Technology Mechanism and how it will enable effective implementation of the Paris Agreement, particularly in responding to the technology demands and needs of Developing countries, especially the LDCs. It is important that adequate support be mobilized for developing countries' access to technologies.

Mr. Chair

8. On matters related to modalities for the accounting of financial resources provided and mobilized through public interventions, we think that the accounting of financial resources is another important issue. We believe that the technical paper by the Secretariat provides a basis for taking the discussions forward. The modalities to be developed should build on existing arrangements and ensure that reports are complete, detailed and comparable. Developing these modalities should make progress here so that it can be finalized in time to feed into the transparency framework discussion.
9. We also emphasise the importance of agreeing on an operational definition of climate finance, particularly now that Parties are going to be regularly reporting on climate finance provided and received under the Paris Agreement.

Mr. Chair

10. On matters related to the Nairobi Work Programme, we look forward to exploring ways to advance its role to support enhanced action on adaptation.
11. On matters related to Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, I am pleased to inform you that LDC Group has made submissions on market and non-market approaches under the Paris Agreement. We look forward to substantive discussion on this topic at the roundtable meeting and during the negotiations.

Mr. Chair,

12. The work on the Periodic review of the long-term global goal has to be completed no later than 2018. Therefore, it is important to have further progress on defining the scope of the next periodic review in accordance with relevant past decisions. It would be useful to have an in-session workshop on the scope of the next periodic review.
13. With regard to the Technical Expert Meetings (TEMs) on both mitigation and adaptation, we are grateful to the SBSTA Chair that our concern regarding the absence of representatives of the Operating Entities of the Financial Mechanism of the Convention from the initial TEM agendas has been addressed. The engagement of representatives of the Operating

Entities is important so that participants can be informed of their contribution to facilitating progress in the implementation of policies, practices and actions identified during the technical examination process.

14. We look forward to engaging on the various mandated and special events and working with you and providing our full support.

I thank you.