



**Statement by the Democratic republic of  
Ethiopia on behalf of the LDC Group  
Joint Opening session for SBI, SBSTA and APA  
April 30 2018. Bonn, Germany**

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Distinguished APA co-Chairs, distinguished SBI and the SBSTA Chairs, Excellencies, colleagues, Ladies and gentleman.

I have the privilege to speak on behalf of the Least Developed Countries Group at the opening of this forty-eighth sessions of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI 48) and Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA 48) as well as the fifth part of the first session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement (APA 1-5).

Co-Chairs and Chairs,

1. The five-year global average temperatures between 2013 and 2017 made up the hottest five-year period on record.
2. Climate change is already affecting the health of hundreds of millions of people through heat waves, reduced crop yields, spread of infectious diseases, air pollution and more frequent and more severe extreme events, among others. Vulnerable populations and those living in low- and middle-income countries are the most affected.
3. Despite these impacts, we are not on track for meeting the temperature goal set in Paris. Under the current ambition level set in the NDCs, we will see warming of 3.2°C by the end of the Century. At this level of warming the impacts will be devastating.
4. Global GHG emissions continue to increase, although the rate of increase has slowed in recent years.
5. We are at the important juncture, where there is no fallback option. The deadline that we have set to complete the rules of the Paris Agreement by 2018 at COP24 is crucial. The world is watching us and we have to act.
6. Under the APA, we are pleased to have made some substantive progress in our work at COP23 to deliver the Paris Agreement Work Programme. But we have far to go with little time to do it.
7. Therefore, we must stress that we are *not* on track to fulfil the mandate of completing the Paris Agreement Work Programme by the end of this year. Adopting a complete set of implementation guidelines by COP 24 is not optional, and we need to reflect that **urgency** in our plans and expectations for this session, including in the need to shift to textual negotiations as soon as possible.

8. **This session is crucial**, and we should use it to work expeditiously in continuing to develop the various informal notes, but must move towards narrowing options and overlaps, further identifying key elements and developing textual iterations wherever possible.
9. In Bonn we must ensure that all elements of the **Paris Agreement Work Programme** progress to the point where we can create a solid basis for textual negotiations by the start of the next session at the latest.
10. To do this, we crucially need progress on APA agenda item 3 in particular and urge all Parties and Groups to clarify the *key* elements that need to be included in the final guidance and to commit to making progress on this issue here in Bonn. This could require additional time during this session for this work specifically.
11. We might also need additional time for particularly complex issues, such as the negotiations on transparency.
12. Secondly, we also need to ensure that the set of implementation guidelines we will adopt at COP 24 **effectively operationalise the Paris Agreement**.
13. We understand this to mean that each element of the Paris Agreement Work Programme must be elaborated to a sufficient level of specificity so as to allow the various mechanisms, systems, processes and institutions under the Paris Agreement to begin to fulfil their roles in a coherent manner.
14. On the **global stocktake**, we wish to reiterate our concern with slow progress on this agenda item. We need to move discussions forward without repeating ourselves and ensure the views of all Parties are reflected in the co-Facilitators' informal notes. The LDC group is concerned that issues relating to loss and damage, that we continue to put forward, are not accurately captured in the informal note by co-facilitators. Once the inputs of all Parties have been included, we look forward to moving into textual negotiations.
15. Interlinkages are also crucial. We have identified many of them in discussions under all the APA agenda items but we are not yet at the stage of bringing those linkages to life in the informal notes. This needs to be one of the priorities for this session.
16. We will need to bring together the various strands of negotiations on related issues under the APA and the subsidiary bodies, and provide a forum for those joint discussions to happen.
17. Regarding the **Talanoa Dialogue**, we are ready to engage in the dialogues prepared for this session. However, we are concerned about the lack of clarity around the process and outcome and expect the COP 23 Presidency to take a more proactive role in providing further clarity on the process and outcome.

<<< Subsidiary Bodies>>>

18. There are a number of important issues our Group would like to consider under the permanent Subsidiary Bodies. Both Subsidiary Bodies also have a number of agenda items related to the **Paris Agreement Work Programme** which must be completed by the end of this year. We look forward to making substantive progress on all agenda items under the Subsidiary Bodies, including items related to Paris Agreement Work Programme at this session.
19. The Group welcomes the informal documents released by the SBSTA Chair to capture the progress made so far on issues related to **Article 6** of the Paris Agreement. Our group strongly emphasizes the need for providing sufficient guarantee to preserve Environmental Integrity when elaborating elements of market mechanisms and non-market-based approaches.
20. Our group appreciates SBSTA 47's outcome on the **modalities of financial resources provided and mobilized through public interventions** in accordance with Article 9, paragraph 7 of the Paris Agreement. LDCs are ready to work on the informal note issued by the co-facilitators as a good basis to refine and finalize the work at SBSTA 48.
21. It is critical that Parties make significant progress on this issue at this session so that the modalities to be developed are completed as soon as possible to feed into the Enhanced Transparency Framework. Furthermore, we would like to stress that the modalities that are to be developed should provide us with clarity on what counts as scaled-up, new and additional climate finance.
22. We encourage the SBI to address the **matters related to the ex-ante information** to be provided by developed countries on their projected level of public financial resources to developing countries to improve the predictability of financial flows (article 9.5 of PA), to consider and adopt the outcomes at CMA1.3 (December 2018).
23. The LDC Group is of the view that a standing Subsidiary Bodies agenda item is needed to consider the implementation of Article 8 on **Loss and Damage**. The Group appreciates the COP23 decision to organize the **Suva Expert Dialogue** in conjunction with the SB 48 and looks forward to its conclusions and their implementation. We trust the Suva Expert Dialogue during the 48<sup>th</sup> meeting of the subsidiary bodies will lay strong foundations for delivering concrete action and support for vulnerable developing countries to cope with loss and damage.
24. Chairs, The LDCs group appreciates the work done at COP 23 to adopt the historic COP decision on issues related to **Agriculture**. Agriculture is a key issue for the LDCs given many countries' economies depend on it and the sector is highly exposed to climate vulnerabilities. We are looking forward to the work of SBs in addressing jointly and continuously issues related to agriculture as requested by Parties.
25. We welcome the tenth meeting of the **research dialogue** that has been developed to provide discussion at the science – policy interface in support of action under the Paris

Agreement. We believe that addressing issues, such as co-benefits of mitigation, climate change attribution and Adaptation barriers and limits, would add substantial value to the Research Dialogue as inputs to the Talanoa Dialogue.

26. The LDC Group welcomes the initial draft of the **technology framework** prepared by SBSTA Chair. We look forward to further shaping the Technology Framework at SBSTA 48 and exploring upscaling options of existing technologies, such as climate smart agriculture.
27. On “**Matters related to LDCs**”, the Group took note of and is grateful for the various pledges to the LDC Fund during the COP23. However, we acknowledge that the fund is still consistently under-resourced. There is an urgent need to adequately replenish the LDC Fund. We look forward to receiving a report, at SBI 48, on the provisions for support and flexibility to the LDCs with a view to discussing and making recommendations on measures to ensure the smooth transition of countries graduating from LDC status.
28. We would like to share our appreciation for the organization of the 5<sup>th</sup> NAP Expo early this month in Sharm El Sheik, Egypt where the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG), the Adaptation Committee, the global support programs for NAPs, and many other partner organizations had worked to advance the national adaptation plans. We look forward to the **Adaptation Committee and the LEG** to consider ways to assist with the implementation of NAPs in their future work program and to include information thereon in their reports, as appropriate.
29. With regards to the **Budget**, we continue to appreciate the provision of a revised work programme for consideration at the SB47. We expressed our observation on the revised work programme as some of the activities that are important to our group and are crucial to the implementation of the Convention's provision are still on the supplementary budget. Meanwhile, we have noted with concern that there are unpaid contributions for the last 2 years amounting to at least in 7 Million euros. This shortfall will for sure compromise the implementation of the budget and consequently compromise the development of the activities.
30. Access to environmentally sound **technology** is indispensable to enable emissions reductions and adaptation to the impacts of climate change. We would like to see the **TEC and CTCN** embark on the implementation of technology related decisions. It is important that adequate support is mobilized for access to technologies by developing countries
31. On **capacity-building**, we look forward for the consideration of the recommendation presented in the Annual technical paper and call for effective implementation of the Rolling workplan of the PCCB for 2017–2019. Moreover, we would like to call for the **Durban Forum to interact with Technology Mechanism and Financial Mechanism** in order to build skills for operations and implementation; and propose a process for how the Forum should capture outcomes and bring them to PCCB.

32. On matters related to **gender and climate change**, let me highlight that there is a need to provide enhanced financing, and capacity of the UNFCCC gender focal point for the effective implementation of the Lima work program on gender and the action plan. For this purpose, it is more than necessary to **incorporate the Gender Action Plan into the Paris rulebook**.

On behalf of the LDC Group, let me share our sincere appreciation for the work undertaken and progress made at COP23 in advancing the work under the APA, SBSTA and SBI. Here at the 48<sup>th</sup> session of the SBI and SBSTA and the fifth part of the resumed first session of the APA, the LDC Group renews its engagement to conduct deliberations as efficiently as possible and optimize the time and conclude agenda items at this session in the time we have available.

Considering the urgency of our work, the scale of the task ahead of us, and the limited time remaining to do it, the LDC Group is pleased that an additional negotiation session has been proposed for August-September 2018 and we support the need for it. But let that not distract us from making progress at this session.

We do however recognise the need for work on all agenda items relating to the Paris Agreement Work Programme under the APA and the subsidiary bodies to continue at any proposed extra or extraordinary negotiating session. The mandate for this additional session should therefore prioritize the work of the APA to allow the completion of the work by COP 24.

Thank you.