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#### INFORMATION NOTE

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From: General Secretariat of the Council

To: Delegations

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Subject: United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC):  
- The forty-eighth sessions of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI 48) and Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA 48) and the fifth part of the first session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement (APA 1-5)  
(Bonn, 30 April - 10 May 2018)  
= EU statements

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Please find in the [Annex](#), for information, the statements delivered on behalf of the European Union and its Member States during the Climate Conference in Bonn on 30 April - 10 May 2018.

**The forty-eighth session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) and of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) and the fifth part of the first session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement (APA)**

**Opening statement**

**Bonn, 30 April 2018**

APA Co-Chairs, SB Chairs, distinguished delegates,

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

We have a lot on our table, a clear mandate and an important deadline. Accomplishing our collective aims for 2018 by making the Paris Agreement operational will allow Parties to effectively and comprehensively prepare for its implementation. Mindful that a successful implementation of the Paris Agreement is essential to achieve its long-term goals, it's imperative that the APA, the SBI and SBSTA deliver the Paris work programme by COP24 in Katowice as we all agreed to do. Securing delivery on this is our shared responsibility. Our partners can continue to count on the EU to do our best at home and lead on global climate action.

We support the approach presented as the mode of work at this session. We are keen to make progress based on the informal notes that resulted from COP23 and we welcome the draft elements of guidance prepared by the SBSTA Chair. Our key negotiating objectives for this session are the following:

1. Work effectively and intensively with other Parties and Presiding Officers to ensure substantive progress in further iterations of the current notes
2. Make our best efforts to ensure we work towards draft decision texts on all Paris Agreement Work Programme agenda items across the APA and SB tracks
3. Ensure that such an outcome will allow for a major step-change in the pace of our discussions.

The EU supports an outcome in Katowice that is comprehensive, consistent with Paris and the mandates in Decision 1/CP.21, applicable to all Parties, and that takes into account different capacities and starting points and promotes continuous ambition over time.

Clarity in tracking progress allows Parties to reflect on the result and impact of their policies. What we don't measure we can't manage! The outcome of our work at COP24 needs to be sufficiently clear and operational to allow Parties among others to report on their emissions, adaptation plans and finance provided and/or received. In addition, it builds trust among us and the broader global community – shows that we are delivering the results our leaders committed to in Paris. To be fit for purpose the modalities, procedures and guidelines should be built upon collective experience and implemented in a facilitative and non-punitive manner, respectful of national sovereignty and bearing in mind the obligation for continuous improvement over time.

It is essential that we make good progress under each item related to the Paris Agreement Work Programme, under all tracks, and that we accept that the items need a tailored approach specific to their nature. The outcome of this session needs to pave the way for the successful conclusion of the Work Programme at COP24. It is also crucial to advance negotiations on the ongoing implementation of the Convention and Kyoto Protocol under the SBI and SBSTA.

We are looking forward to a successful and constructive exchange in the Talanoa Dialogue, including the certainty that the delivery of the first set of NDCs is on track. This is the first time after Paris the Parties will talk of progress against Paris goals. The outside world is keenly interested and has legitimate expectations to see evidence of action at national levels. Contributions of the non-Party stakeholders are also vital in this context.

The EU is strongly committed to participate in the Talanoa process and discuss its outcome at the appropriate political levels, including during the process in relation to a Strategy for long-term EU greenhouse gas emissions reduction, which will inform the formulation of future policies, in accordance with the Paris Agreement. Collective and fair action by all Parties moving together is the only means to reach the collective objective that we have set ourselves in the Paris Agreement.

The EU looks forward to the pre-2020 stocktake and the High Level Dialogue on Climate Finance to take place at COP24 and to sharing its efforts in implementing its commitments as well as supporting action by other countries. We also anticipate receiving submissions from Parties on pre-2020 in the next coming days.

We count on the continued leadership of our Chairs and co-facilitators to guide and structure our work. We commend you for liaising closely amongst yourselves and with the COP Presidencies to help ensure a coherent process and outcomes. We, as Heads of Delegation are willing to have regular exchanges with you on the progress achieved and to consider effective approaches to take our work forward.

We welcome the inclusiveness, transparency and openness of the UNFCCC process and consistently seek to improve and enhance the role of non-Party stakeholders in the successful implementation of the Paris Agreement.

We look forward to good cooperation with all Parties and hope to leave this session with solid progress on substance and a clear way forward on the way to COP24.

Thank you Chairs.

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## **Closing statement**

**Bonn, 10 May 2018**

Chairs, distinguished delegates,

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

We would like to start by congratulating the Fijian COP Presidency for the Talanoa Dialogue – for creating a real legacy within the climate process. The Talanoa Dialogue is the first step towards bringing our collective ambitions and our individual actions in line with what is required by the Paris Agreement.

We would like to encourage all Parties to continue sharing examples and experiences. But more so, we encourage Parties to organise discussions on the national and regional level, on how to bring their efforts and ambition in line with the Paris Agreement. Participation of non-Party stakeholders in the Talanoa dialogues on Sunday was especially valuable, and we look forward to their engagement also during the political phase of the Talanoa dialogue at COP24.

The political phase should inject momentum into our domestic deliberations and actions, inform the preparations of NDCs by 2020 and invite the global leaders to approach the question of collective ambition with the necessary political courage – including at the Summit to be organized by the UN SG in 2019.

Chairs,

COP24 must deliver our shared aim of making the Paris Agreement operational. In order to adopt the Work Programme by Katowice, looking at the results of this session, we need to seriously step up our efforts during the next months. Concluding our work by Katowice is critical for delivering our domestic efforts and for the credibility of the UNFCCC process. It will enable and encourage action and demonstrate a global commitment to ambition. We are encouraged to see Parties determined to make the Paris Agreement work and trust that in this spirit we will come to a good result at COP24.

We leave Bonn with a strong conviction that close collaboration amongst all the Presiding officers, the co-facilitators and all Parties is a pre-condition to the overall progress. We are open to explore also innovative and integrated working methods to help us accelerate our work.

A few words on the results - under the SBI we reached agreement on a draft decision on Action for Climate Empowerment. This is the first item of the Paris Agreement Work Programme to be agreed upon. We would also like to highlight the progress made under the LDC matters and welcome the updated work programme.

Under the SBSTA the EU welcomes rich discussions we had on the mechanisms under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, while realising that a lot of work is still ahead of us in the next session. We also welcome the positive outcomes of the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture and the agreed roadmap targeted to help farmers in all countries.

We have also achieved additional clarity on the next steps. The Presiding officers will work closer to ensure a consistent approach regarding the delivery of the Paris Agreement Work Programme through a joint reflections note that should address our mode of work and set ambitious goals for the next session in Bangkok.

We are pleased Parties could agree that the Co-Chairs undertake inter-sessional work to produce tools that guide the process forward. We hope that this will contribute to an improved basis for engagement when we next meet in Bangkok. In addition, we encourage all Parties to continue engaging with each other inter-sessionally to deepen understanding and bridge differences on the issues under the Paris Agreement Work Programme. The EU is looking forward to do so with all interested Parties.

Chairs, we should pick up immediately on the Paris Agreement Work Programme agenda items in the Bangkok session. We are ready to consider all solutions to urgently accelerate the pace of our discussions.

We welcome the inclusiveness, transparency and openness of the UNFCCC process and we look forward to a good cooperation with you, with the current Fijian Presidency as well as with the incoming Polish Presidency and all Parties on our way to COP24 in Katowice.

Thank you Chairs.

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## **The Talanoa Dialogue**

### **Opening statement**

**Bonn, 2 May 2018**

Presidencies, Distinguished Colleagues, Dear friends.

- Firstly, the EU and its Member States would like to extend our appreciation to the COP Presidencies' and the Secretariat for your work and preparations in setting up the process for the Talanoa Dialogue.
- The EU has been positively encouraged by the submissions from Parties and non-Party stakeholders. We are pleased to see that at least two-thirds of the Parties – from industrialized countries to Least Developed Countries - have responded to the call for submissions and we are looking forward to the submissions and further inputs by all other Parties.
- The EU, its Member States and our constituencies are strongly committed to engage in the Talanoa Dialogue. We see this process as one of the key processes throughout 2018 and deliverable for COP24. A process that will enable us collectively to assess global progress towards the long-term goal of the Paris Agreement and to inform the preparations and implementation of NDCs.
- There is an urgency to act indisputable. Informed by the IPCC Special Report on 1.5 °C and best available science, it is our expectation that the Talanoa Dialogue can and should foster an honest global reflection of the adequacy of the present NDCs compared to the long-term goal and inform the preparations of NDCs to be communicated by 2020.
- With the Paris agreement we all committed to develop ambitious NDCs that would be collectively sufficient to achieve the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement. The Talanoa Dialogue should facilitate that commitment and identify tangible actions. To be clear, our expectation is that the Talanoa Dialogue will be conducted in a manner that delivers on the mandate from Paris and promotes enhanced global ambition.
- The Talanoa event on Sunday needs to foster this. It will be a unique opportunity for Parties to highlight what progress has been made since Paris, where we stand collectively as well as opportunities for enhanced global climate action both short and longer term that could inform the political phase. We look forward to the exchange with non-party stakeholders and welcome their participation in the dialogue.
- We encourage all Parties to share their experience in how to accelerate effective policy implementation this Sunday. The EU is working on an appropriate strategy to meet the Paris goals and the European Commission will present a proposal for a Strategy for long-term EU GHG emission reductions in accordance with the Paris Agreement this November that will guide the EU's NDCs and policies. In addition, EU Member States have already or will, communicate national long-term low GHG emissions development strategies to the UNFCCC.

- All institutions of the European Union are fully engaged in the Talanoa Dialogue, including the European Committee of the Regions and the European Economic and Social Committee that provide EU's sub-national authorities and social partners with a direct voice within the EU's institutional framework.
- In this context initiatives such as the EU Covenant of Mayors, which is part of the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate Change and Energy that brings together action by thousands of cities and local authorities, are key in broadening and enhancing the commitment to climate action.
- International cooperation is essential to enable how to collectively get there. The EU and its Member States are committed to providing support and are doing so in multiple ways that contributes to building domestic capacity and implementation of climate actions. We look forward to share examples with you.
- The report back from the event on Sunday should entail the common reflection on the three questions. It is important to gain further clarity on how key messages deriving from the sessions will be taken forward and how we will bring them into the political phase at COP24 to deliver on the mandate set out in Paris. In this regard, we are looking to the Presidencies to provide further clarity on how the summary report that follows this session will be developed taking into account the richness of options on enhancing ambition put forward.
- The Talanoa dialogue is an interactive year-long process. As such, the EU will organise a Talanoa event in Brussels on 13 June. The Talanoa Dialogue is the central theme of EU climate diplomacy action for 2018 with the organization of joint Talanoa events with partners all over the world.
- Presidencies, distinguished colleagues, dear Friends, to conclude -the EU and its Member States look forward to the round-table discussions to be held on Sunday and beyond and we stand ready to share our experiences with all Parties around the world and to learn from others in our common quest to accelerate climate action.

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### **Closing statement**

**Bonn, 9 May 2018**

- When we came back from COP23 last year we felt that the approach as agreed on the Talanoa Dialogue was a major achievement and the EU is strongly committed to make use of this dialogue and to have climate high on the political agenda. The Talanoa Dialogue for ambition has the potential to set the scene for a dynamic Paris Agreement whereby we collectively look into ways of enhancing global climate action while building the necessary trust. We would like to congratulate Fiji for creating a real legacy within the climate process, by implementing the Talanoa Dialogue and making use of the Talanoa spirit to its full potential.

- We heard many similar messages on the importance of creating enabling environments for the low-carbon transition, such as putting in place regulatory frameworks and policies to enable us to implement our NDCs, but also developing long-term roadmaps, and strategies on how to get there. It also demonstrated unity and that we are all impacted by climate change and committed to resolve them. We also heard stories of hardship, resilience and the need for international cooperation, support and capacity building.
- The many submissions as put forward by Parties and also by many Non-Party Stakeholders contain the necessary ingredients that can provide us with the options and views on how to enhance collective ambition and how to cope with the adverse effects. We would also like to encourage all Parties to continue these discussions domestically and to bring their specific examples and experiences to the Talanoa. The world at large needs to see what this community is capable of delivering and how steadfast our commitment is.
- Let me now focus on the next steps.
- In our view the synthesis report of the preparatory phase should capture where we stand with respect to the 3 framing questions and in light of the mandate of the dialogue as agreed in Paris. Accordingly:
  - o We expect the synthesis report to be science based and to make an honest collective reflection on the adequacy of the NDCs in achieving the long-term temperature goal of the Paris Agreement.
  - o Also, it should address the potential of long term low emission development strategies helping Parties in developing pathways and designing a policy mix for achieving the long-term goals.
  - o Finally, and this is key, the report should present a catalogue on policy options and identify concrete opportunities that have a strong transformative potential and that are replicable and enable us to get where we want to go. This should include opportunities for actions and support enabling such action. We also think it is essential that this catalogue addresses actors at all levels.
  - o In summary, the report should establish a firm basis for the political discussions at COP24.
- The Talanoa Dialogue should be informed by the best available science and we look forward to the IPCC Special Report on 1.5 °C which should inform our discussion on collective ambition as well as the preparations of long terms strategies.
- With respect to the political phase, we expect to see at COP24 focused and interactive political discussions in smaller groups, involving also the participation of Non-Party Stakeholders.
- These discussions should primarily address how we are progressing and what more would be needed to keep the Paris long-term temperature goals within reach as well as highlight concrete opportunities for enhancing climate action. The objective must be to enable a global reflection of the adequacy of current NDCs compared to the long-term goal and inform the preparation of NDCs focusing on collective action and enhanced global ambition.



- This political phase should inject momentum into our domestic deliberations, to inform the preparations of NDCs to be communicated by 2020 and invite the global leaders to approach the question of collective ambition with the necessary political courage – including at the Summit to be organized by the UN SG in 2019. Collective and fair action by all Parties moving together is the only means to reach the collective objective that we have set.
- We would like to invite all Parties to organize regional and national Talanoas to raise awareness around the challenges and the opportunities. For the EU, we will organize with the involvement of some 450 stakeholders and the different government levels a major EU Talanoa event on 13 of June in Brussels. The Talanoa Dialogue is also one of the central processes of EU climate diplomacy action for 2018 with the organization of joint Talanoa events with partners all over the world.

Presidencies, colleagues, the Talanoa process for ambition should foster enhanced action in atmosphere of trust and international cooperation. It should be the window through which the world can see how we have been delivering since Paris. EU is determined to show leadership in the global pursuit of climate action.

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