

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

This submission is supported by Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iceland, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Serbia.

Vilnius, 18 October 2013

Subject: Submission on the 2nd Structured Expert Dialogue

The EU would like to welcome the co-facilitators to their important roles in the Structured Expert Dialogue (SED) and look forward to working with them in advancing the understanding of the adequacy of the long-term goal in the light of the ultimate objective of Convention and overall progress made towards achieving the long-term global goal.

We look forward to the establishment of the Joint Contact Group (JCG) at SB39 as this is a necessary element of the SED process which provides a forum for Parties to consider their response to the material provided by the SED and to identify steps to advance the work of the SED as required. In this context, the EU welcomes the request from the co-facilitators to provide their views on the future work of the SED.

The EU welcomes the Summary Report on the in-session workshop held at the first SED on 5th June 2013. The EU considers that the reports should provide a factual account of material presented by experts. It should also provide a sense of the discussion with Parties that arise from these presentations, rather than the details of these exchanges.

The EU broadly welcomes the outline of the material to be considered in SED2. The Working Group 1 (WG1) report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's (IPCC) 5th Assessment Report (AR5) is an important and key input to the SED. It is appropriate that its material is considered under both Themes at SB39.

For Theme 1 we agree that it is important to consider observed and projected changes and their relationship with the long-term global goal, impacts that can be avoided at higher temperature levels and the potential risks for these. The material from WG1 on this will support a more detailed assessment of impacts from IPCC WG2 at the subsequent SED.

For Theme 2 the proposed exploration of trends and projections of global greenhouse gas emissions is appropriate. This is important in the assessment of the progress in achieving of the long-term global goal. The material from WG1 on this will support a more detailed assessment of impacts from IPCC WG3 at a later SED. In addition, it may be of value to build on information of related activities that have been undertaken under the UNFCCC, building on the material provided by the Secretariat during SED1. However, this should not duplicate this work or other work under the UNFCCC.

On the structure of the SED, the EU considers that the format should allow time for experts to provide material and for a discussion between experts and Parties. In this context, the EU considers that a similar amount of time should be devoted to the consideration of WG2 and WG3 reports when they are produced in 2014. This could take place as either a pre-sessional or in-session event at the June 2014 SB meeting.