

SUBMISSION FROM THE DELEGATION OF JAMAICA

View on the future work of the structured expert dialogue

The delegation of Jamaica welcomes the message provided to Parties from the Co-Facilitators of the structured expert dialogue (SED) and thanks them for their hard work in guiding the process.

The Delegation of Jamaica is of the view that Parties are willing to undertake actions that will result in a reduction of their greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs). This is in keeping with the spirit of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and it is inevitable that all countries will experience the negative consequences of severe weather events. However, it is clear that not enough effort has been placed on raising the level of ambition for GHG reduction and in fact some developed countries have not yet pledged their commitment. With this in mind, Jamaica is of the view that some countries may be restrained for one reason or another. It is therefore important that countries be given an opportunity to express any limitations that they are encountering in their attempts to reduce their GHG emissions and the UNFCCC should find mechanisms to help such countries.

We wish to have as one of the guiding questions for the SED the following:

Given that we know that:

- Climate Change is happening;
- Human activities are strongly linked to increase in global GHGs in the atmosphere;
- Global GHGs emissions have risen since pre-industrial time and continues to increase;
- 192 countries are Party to the UNFCCC and 186 are Parties to the Kyoto Protocol;
- The ultimate objective of the UNFCCC is to stabilize the atmospheric concentration of GHGs

Are any of the following issues constraints which would prevent countries from taking meaningful action to reduce their emissions of GHGs and if so, what can be done so that all can benefit positively?

- Need for more scientific information and knowledge on the projected impacts of climate change on vulnerable countries, particularly SIDS and LDCs;
- Increased participation of regional scientific bodies and institutions to facilitate increased scientific information and knowledge specific to regions and countries therein;
- Informed policies and/or strategies to effect implementation;
- Political will;

- Increased awareness by the populace and key economic sectors (e.g. energy sector) of climate change effects – challenges and opportunities
- Key economic activities dependent on the consumption of fossil fuels
- Technologies (Lack of, inappropriate, outdated, access to, etc.)
- Inadequate financial resources
- Human resource constraints
- Any other not included above

The Jamaican Delegation believes that the answers to these questions is important as part of this critical review.

We thank the Co-Facilitators for this chance to express our views and to assist with the future work of the SED.