

SBI 52-55 Opening Plenary, 31 October 2021

Remarks by Yongxiang Zhang, Co-Chair of the Paris Committee on Capacity-building (PCCB)

- Thank you, Chair.
- Over the past two years, the PCCB has made continued progress on its mandate to address current and emerging gaps and needs in implementing capacity-building in developing countries.
- In the light of pandemic-related restrictions, the PCCB used virtual events as a critical means to foster and maintain strategic communications and stakeholder engagement.
- In 2020, the conclusion of our first workplan was an important milestone.
- One highlight of that year was the launch of the PCCB Network which has since grown to 271 members. The Network is a voluntary, global platform for capacity-building stakeholders and a key vehicle of the PCCB for targeted collaboration with stakeholders.
- We also concluded our Capacity-building Knowledge to Action Days series, which contributed to a better understanding of key capacity needs and discussed recommended actions for universities, research institutions, policymakers, civil society and the private sector in developing countries for effective engagement in preparing and implementing NDCs and NAPs.
- Since the launch of our second workplan in 2021, we established the informal coordination group for capacity-building under the Convention and Paris Agreement, short ICG. It provides a space for representatives of UNFCCC bodies, entities and processes that is conducive to coordinating climate change related capacity-building plans and activities, and to facilitating information-sharing, coherence and identification of opportunities.
- Examples of other key activities in 2021 include the launch of a freely accessible online course on climate change and human rights that was developed jointly with the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights.
- The PCCB also organized three thematic events on the role of youth in capacity-building during the Regional Climate Weeks, and we are delighted to host our third Capacity-building Hub here at COP 26.

- Let me conclude by informing you that based on our work over the last two years, we have developed recommendations for consideration of the COP and CMA at this session, contained in our latest annual technical progress report.
- In the same document we also report on our progress in the important area of mainstreaming gender into our work.
- Thank you, Chair.