

Sub-item (g): Implementation of the Headquarters Agreement

Mme. Chair, distinguished delegates,

Under this agenda item, Parties have been considering two broad aspects of arrangements with the host country, the Federal Republic of Germany, of the secretariat:

- the overall arrangements for delegations, the secretariat and its staff;
- the office accommodation of the secretariat and the conference facilities in Bonn.

At SB 50 in 2019, Parties requested the secretariat to report, at its 54th session, on developments in the implementation of the Headquarters Agreement. I am pleased to be able to report that the secretariat continues to enjoy a wide range of facilities as well as a close and productive relationship with the German host government.

Until the outbreak of the pandemic, delegations and participants in UNFCCC meetings and events held in Bonn have enjoyed the necessary travel facilities, privileges and immunities to conduct their work. Since Parties have not been able to physically convene in Bonn, the secretariat's host government has generously provided financial support for developing the Digital Platform for Climate Change Events.

The UNFCCC secretariat as an organization is granted adequate legal status and facilities in the context of the Headquarters Agreement. However, I would like to express my very special gratitude to our host government and host city of Bonn for the excellent treatment that they have given to the secretariat's personnel and their families in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. The City of Bonn and the federal government have made every effort to ensure we have access to the same information and measures like the local population.

Our long-standing aspiration of accommodating the entire secretariat in one place, on the United Nations Campus is coming true. Upon secretariat's return to Bonn after this COP, furnishing and equipping the new UNFCCC office building will start. We look forward to an inauguration ceremony in Bonn.

In closing, I wish to thank our hosts – the Federal Ministries of the Environment and of Foreign Affairs, the City of Bonn, and the numerous other contributing national and local authorities – for the conducive environment and their valuable support to the United Nations, its staff and guests. We look forward to continuing the regular communication and the consultative processes.