From Just Transition to Transformation
A Platform for Business in UNFCCC

Business Engagement in Implementing National Climate Pledges and the Paris Agreement

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Norine Kennedy,
United States Council for International Business (USCIB)
Overview

• Context and Background
• Objectives and Benefits
• Model
• The proposal for a Business Platform: From Just Transition to Transformation (JTT)
Business as Observer and Partner in Sustainable Development

- Business and business NGOs are a recognized major group (*Agenda21*)
  - (one of several: trade unions, local authorities, youth, women, &c...)

**Business participates as a recognized observer in several UN forums**

- International Chamber of Commerce is accorded General Assembly Observer Status
- Global Platform on Business and Biodiversity and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
- Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM)
- APEC (Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation)

**Recognized business consultative bodies**

- Business and Industry Advisory Committee (BIAC) to the OECD
- International Organisation of Employers (IOE) to International Labour Organization (ILO): Tripartite body (developed and developing countries)
Business in UNFCCC process: Evolution and Experience

From UNFCCC “early days” to today
- Business focal point
- Broad range of business groups – across nationalities, sectors, sizes and focus areas
- New Zealand proposal for business channel (1994)
- UNFCCC SBI AIM discussions
- Talanoa Dialogue

Business interfaces: Many forms
- With governments back at capitol and on delegations
- At meetings as observers and through side events
- Submissions
- Informal dialogues in workshops and other forums
- Observer roles in GCF, TEC, CTCN
- Strong support for Paris Agreement, Global Action Agenda, GCAP
What the Business Platform would **NOT** do

**It Would Not Negotiate**
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A Business Platform would:

- Be an advisory resource to Parties and the UNFCCC
- Dialogue with countries and stakeholders on transition and transformation opportunities, challenges and partnerships
- Offer technical expertise and experience
- Connect with national business communities in their involvement in NDC implementation/review/improvement processes
- Consider/speak to the implications of the full portfolio of NDCs in the global marketplace
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What Would it Do?

- Respond to requests/queries from UNFCCC or Parties
- Offer representative business submissions on relevant topics
- Co-convene an Implementation Roundtable with UNFCCC entities every 2 – 3 years
- Organize or co-organize workshops and dialogues on timely issues of importance
- Information exchange and awareness raising with business at large
- Contribute to capacity building for business communities in developing countries
- Provide continuity over time
Where could business uniquely contribute?

- Addressing NDCs and gaps across all areas: mitigation, finance, technology, adaptation/resilience, etc. – strengthening, improving effectiveness
- Systems Thinking and Systems Doing = joined up and integrated approaches that reflects economic, employment, trade and other elements
- Companies in global marketplace will experience the full portfolio of NDCs as implemented in ways that governments will not
- Supply, value, market connections can be reflected
- Technical and practical expertise available to inform assessments and discussions
- Research
- Business Plans & Models
- Management

- Budget
- Plan
- Innovate
- Empower
- Rethink
- Reset

- Deployment
- Workers and Suppliers
- Infrastructure
- Investment and finance

Major Economies Business Forum on Energy Security and Climate Change
When Could a Business Platform Contribute…?

At Each Step of the Way…

• Input to formulation of agendas
• Organization and participation in meetings
• Input to content and opportunity to review and comment on draft background papers
• Submission of ideas and information for consideration
• Assessment of NDCs and GST
Why now?

• Emphasis on stepping up implementation towards transformation via transition
• Going into first 5-year cycle – blazing a trail for future sessions
• Understanding significant information/resources reside outside govts
• Other platforms for constituencies – indigenous peoples, gender/women in place
• Commitment/momentum from business and imperative to involve more business
From Just Transition to Transformation

How Would the Business Platform Be Governed?

• Open and transparent – with interface to UNFCCC
• Voluntary and not replacing other business groups observers and inputs
• Using established business organizations and networks

Who would Take Part?

• Representative business groups (employers, sectors, chambers) in all countries – open to all
• Invite and dialogue with all constituencies
A recognized platform for business and industry relating to transition and transformation is an indispensable element of the post-2020 framework.

So How Will We Get There….?