Enhanced Business Engagement In UNFCCC

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

• Background
• “Enhancing Business Role in UNFCCC—A Post 2020 Vision”
• BIAC as a Model (not the only one)
• Questions ahead
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 numerous U.N. forums
  - *Rio+20* and the *U.N. Commission on Sustainable Development*,
  - *U.N. Environment Programme (UNEP)*,
  - *Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM)*
  - *APEC (Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation)*
  - *APP (Asia Pacific Partnership)*

**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 (involved developed and developing countries)
Business in UNFCCC process: Evolution and Experience

Progress from UNFCCC “early days”
- Business focal point
- Broad range of business groups – across nationalities, sectors, sizes and focus areas
- New Zealand proposal in 1994
- SI AIM discussions

Business interfaces: Many forms
- With governments back at capitols and on delegations
- At meetings as observers and through side events
- Occasional submissions
- Informal dialogues in workshops and other forums
A Vision for Business Engagement: To 2020 and Beyond

**Principles**

- Recognized and of value to governments, the Secretariat and business;

- Based on clear transparent governance, managed by business, to be flexible to and mirror the UNFCCC framework and priorities

- Provide technical and practical expertise, and reflect consensus when possible, but also express a range of views, relating to every aspect of UNFCCC, mitigation, adaptation, finance and technology.
When Would Business 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

Major Economies Business Forum on Energy Security and Climate Change

www.majoreconomiesbusinessforum.org
BIAC as a model: What is BIAC?

BIAC: The Business and Industry Advisory Committee to the OECD

- Provider of private sector advice to government policymakers at the OECD on issues of globalization and the world economy that matter to business.
- Officially recognized by the OECD as representative of the business communities in OECD countries.

Major Economies Business Forum
on Energy Security and Climate Change

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BIAC as a model: BIAC “mirrors” OECD

National Committees
Medef, Keidanren, CBI, USCIB…
CNI…

Members and Observer States
France, Japan, UK, USA…
Brazil…

The “BIAC” Model: recognized, independent, comprehensive, responsive, accountable

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- Efficient: provides the right expertise at the right level (technical, leadership)
- Builds long-term capacity, e.g. networks, guidelines, reporting
- Interfaces to OECD (BIAC) & Nations (national committees)
BIAC as a model: How does BIAC work?

- BIAC member and observer organizations designate national experts to BIAC policy groups.
- BIAC policy groups include company reps and member/observer organization staff. meet periodically and consult regularly through email and conference calls.
- BIAC provides written and oral input to OECD leadership, policy groups, and government delegations – developing positions and technical advice on business issues
- BIAC policy group Chairs and Vice Chairs with Secretariat provide leadership for overall activity and serve as the primary BIAC contact to the relevant OECD policy groups.
BIAC as a model: Who are BIAC Members?

- 41 members: the major national business and employers’ organizations in the 34 OECD member countries.
- 8 observer organizations in 7 non-OECD countries.
  - Argentina, Brazil, India, Indonesia, Latvia, Morocco, and South Africa
- 30 Associate Expert Group members for international sector-specific associations.
BIAC Scope: Range of issues relevant to climate, sustainability

**Economy**
- Competition
- Economic Policy
- Finance
- Investment
- Taxation
- Trade
- Export Credits

**Society**
- Education
- Employment, Labour and Social Affairs
- Consumer Policy
- Health Care
- Private Pensions

**Governance**
- Public Governance
- Anti-Bribery and Corruption
- Corporate Governance
- Corporate Responsibility

**Innovation**
- Biotechnology
- Nanotechnology
- Technology
- Information, Computer and Communications
- Intellectual Property

**Emerging and Developing Economies**
- OECD Accession (Russia)
- OECD Enhanced Engagement (Brazil, China, India, Indonesia and South Africa)
- Middle East and North Africa (MENA)
- Development

**Sustainability**
- Agriculture
- Chemicals
- Climate Change
- Green Growth
- Energy
- Environment
- Water
- Raw Materials
Conclusions and Next Steps (1)

• Can the “one size fits all” major group approach continue, and does it make sense for business?
• Having asked for recognition and access, is business ready to deliver in substantive and sustained ways?
• Wait for governments to define the business interface, or pro-actively develop and operate it?
• One big organization for business interface, or several, each tailored to particular forums?
Conclusions and Next Steps (2)

• The UNFCCC is at a point where it is timely for more structured business engagement
  – Expanding scope to more economic and technical issues
  – Need to mobilize business resources (technology, finance, know-how)
  – post-Durban institutions;
  – UNFCCC moving to post 2020 discussions

• BizMEF believes that a recognized channel for business and industry is an indispensable element of the post-2020 framework to be developed by UNFCCC Parties.