

12/3/10

DRAFT BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY INTERVENTION: COP16 SBI PLENARY – Agenda Item 15

12/4/10

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BINGOs have appreciated the opportunity to express views in the SBI's consideration of how to enhance the engagement of observer organizations in the UNFCCC. Sincere thanks to the Chair and all in the group who opened the doors to us in spite of challenging workload.

We have appreciated the efforts of governments and the Secretariat to make improvements all along the way for enhancing observer organizations, and we have come a long way. A special thanks to the Mexican government, that has given this issue not just their strong political support, thoughtfulness and engagement, but also put their heart into it. We hope you will continue on the way to Durban, and look forward to working in partnership with the South African government in this area as well.

Thanks to all this, we have now before us a rare opportunity to go further, and we welcome the decision to organize an SBI workshop to discuss options for further enhancement.

We think the options we have proposed, around flexible consultative channels or forums for constituencies, and the continuation of the Mexico public-private sector dialogues, would be a resource to governments and the secretariat, as well as for observers.

They would function in between meetings, as well as at meetings and most importantly, would preserve the inter-governmental nature of the process.

They would help relieve time and resource pressure on delegations and the process, by being managed by the constituencies themselves that see value in and wish to utilize them.

They would be voluntary and flexible for the use of both observer organizations and governments – those constituencies that do not believe them to be a good fit, would not be obliged to use them, and

instead use the structures that they choose. They would not detract from or compete with the existing interactions and and processes we all value and use.

And they will have clear and transparent governance and process, and be geographically representative.

In closing, we are optimistic about the progress that can be made, building on our existing inter-actions, over the coming year.