

Breakfast Dialogue on the Follow-up to Rio+20 and the Post-2015 Development Agenda
Topic: Considering concrete proposals on Climate Change in the Sustainable Development Agenda
20 September 2013

13th of a Breakfast Series
Co-convened by the Bahá'í International Community
and International Movement ATD Fourth World

- 08:30 **Arrival of Participants & Breakfast**
- 08:35 **Welcome and Introductions**
Ms. Cristina Diez Sagüillo
Main Representative to the UN
International Movement ATD Fourth World
- 08:40 **Opening Remarks**
- Ms. Christiana Figueres
Executive Secretary
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
- Ms. Bernadette Fischler
Policy Analyst (Post-2015)
Catholic Agency for Overseas Development (CAFOD)
- 09:00 **Open Discussion**
Moderated by Mr. Ming Hwee Chong
Representative
Bahá'í International Community
- 09:50 **Information Sharing**
All participants are encouraged to share upcoming related plans and activities.
- 10:00 **Closing**

Note: Informal notes will be taken and shared. Comments made by participants will not be attributed to the speaker.

**Informal Notes of the Breakfast Dialogue on the Follow-up to Rio+20
and the Post 2015 Development Agenda, 20 September 2013**

Topic: Considering Concrete Proposals on Climate Change in the Sustainable Development Agenda

Organized by the Bahá'í International Community and International Movement ATD Fourth World.

A diverse group of UN actors¹ convened to informally deliberate on the issue of climate change within the global sustainable development framework. The following are highlights of the discussion:

- Member States will adopt a global agreement on climate change (CC) in 2015. The December 2014 COP in Lima, Peru will produce a draft legal text for Member States' consideration.
- In the climate negotiations, governments are moving in the right direction but not quickly enough. Since Copenhagen, where no agreement was reached, countries have agreed to a two-track framework: one track is work towards a global agreement, the other focuses on increasing efforts before the agreement goes into force in 2020.
- Over the next 14 months, all parties will need to collaborate to come to an agreement that will be successful in bending the curb of emissions (which are still continuing to increase and putting millions of lives at risk). All countries have been affected by climate change.
- Although the "what" of climate change strategy would be addressed through FCCC, the SDGs could focus on the "how"—how the targets will be reached (e.g. how to address the inequality of energy consumption). An SDG on CC may not be necessary.
- Member States wisely chose the same time frame for both the CC (Bonn) and SDG (NY) processes. This however puts a major strain on smaller countries with fewer resources.
- We have but a window of opportunity to stay within a 2^o limit. A 3-6^o degree rise in temperature is also possible. The longer we delay action, the higher the cost will be.
- Avoid false dichotomy between CC and development: no human being experiences these as separate processes. Can't distinguish between climate finance and development finance—they are all inter-related.
- Have fundamentally different historical responsibility but we are united in our responsibility towards future generations. Unity and solidarity will be the foundation for modern multilateralism.
- Note differences between processes: Post-2015 is a political and aspirational process, while the CC process is based on a legal treaty. We should not duplicate efforts, processes should reinforce and be coherent with one another. All SDGs are relevant to CC.
- Moral leadership is scarce. The faith community has a particular role to play in calling for moral leadership from Member States. Consciousness must be raised.
- Without addressing CC, we will not succeed in eradicating poverty. Other pointed out that the reverse is true as well. Must also focus on relates issues of violence and security.
- CC is the ultimate human rights battle.
- In the 'MyWorld' survey, CC ranks last on the list. Need to understand how CC is perceived by various countries. There is now understanding that CC is not a top-down process, decisions have to make sense for the countries themselves.
- Children and youth are the fastest growing age group and most under-represented in negotiations.
- Consider that the top billion people in the world consume 72% of world's resources; the bottom billion consume less than 1%. Equitable access to sustainable development should be a principle that guides us forward.
- Need more concrete information about how to address CC, e.g. through consumption targets, gender sensitivity, energy access, etc. There is urgency for the SDG process to quantify the means of progress.
- Secretary-General will hold a World Leaders' Climate Summit in September 2014. Objectives are to raise political will for a CC agreement in 2015 and to catalyze action on the ground.

¹ Permanent Missions Represented: Argentina, Hungary, India, Ireland, New Zealand, Peru, and Singapore. Representatives from UN: Executive Office of the Secretary-General, SG's Climate Change Support Team, Secretariat of the High-Level Panel on the Post-2015, UN DESA, UNEP, UNFCCC, UNICEF, and UN Women. Civil society organizations represented: Bahá'í International Community, Beyond 2015, CARE International, Catholic Agency for Overseas Development, GCAP-Feminist Task Force, Good Shepherd International Justice Peace Office, International Committee for October 17, International Development Law Organization, International Movement ATD Fourth World, International Presentation Association, Mercy International, NYU Center on International Cooperation, Quaker United Nations Office, Save the Children, SIGLO XXIII Movement, Stakeholder Forum, Women in Europe for a Common Future (WECF), and UN Foundation