

22 January 2019

## **SUBMISSION BY ROMANIA AND THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION ON BEHALF OF THE EUROPEAN UNION AND ITS MEMBER STATES**

Bucharest, 22 January 2019

**Subject: Research and systematic observation/Research Dialogue - Views from Parties on possible topics for consideration at the research dialogue to be held at SBSTA 50 and beyond**

**This submission is supported by Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Serbia.**

### **I. Introduction and General Comments**

- 1) The European Union and its Member States (EU) welcome the conclusions of SBSTA at its forty-eighth session ([FCCC/SBSTA/2018/4](#)) and note the invitation to Parties to submit their views on possible topics and considerations for the meetings of the research dialogue to be held in conjunction with SBSTA 50 and beyond via the submission portal by 15 January 2019.
- 2) The Research Dialogue is a relevant forum to allow for an exchange and discussion on research findings and their communication, on related capacity building, and to facilitate the dialogue between Parties and regional and international climate change research programmes and organizations. The Research Dialogue should avoid duplication of issues which are being considered under other agenda items and processes.
- 3) The Paris Agreement provides a key context for the future work of SBSTA including the Research Dialogue. The Research Dialogue can provide an important forum to exchange information with the scientific community on topics and issues that can inform implementation of the Paris Agreement. It is important to continue this forum, build upon its experience and enhance its relevance as key interface between the science, innovation communities and Parties to the UNFCCC.

### **II. Possible topics for the Research Dialogue at SBSTA 50 and later**

- 4) Given the limited time available for the Research Dialogue, the aim should be to focus on well-defined thematic areas to allow for a full consideration of relevant information from international and regional research organizations and programmes. The EU considers that the format of the last three Research Dialogues, with a half-day session including presentations, a Q&A session and a poster session, worked well. The Q&A session enhances the exchange between the Parties and the experts.

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- 5)** The EU finds that the eleventh Research Dialogue at SBSTA 50 should consider new and emerging science since the Fifth Assessment Report and the Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C of the IPCC, including new findings, information gaps, and ongoing efforts to address these, as relevant. In particular, the following topics are relevant in this respect:
  - a.** Energy and transformation of energy systems (along with freight and passenger transportation), including transmission, energy storage, and resilience of energy systems;
  - b.** The human dimension of low emissions climate-resilient development: (including social, behavioural, and cultural aspects).
- 6)** Future Research Dialogues (the twelfth Research Dialogue and beyond) should consider the following topics:
  - a.** Future cities and city planning, and other relevant urban issues, including sustainable mobility. Cities are important in both driving global emissions and as vulnerable hotspots of climate change impacts, but also arenas of spearheading progressive climate action.
  - b.** The increased capability of remote sensing applications and advanced models to provide analysis of global anthropogenic GHG emissions and removals by terrestrial and ocean systems as well as to monitor Essential Climate Variables that are relevant to climate services
- 7)** The EU looks forward to contribute to the Research Dialogues during SBSTA 50 and beyond, as well as to the presentations from research programmes and organizations on regional climate research and data needs with regional and international organizations, and to interacting with science experts and other Parties.