

Submission by the International Chamber of Commerce on behalf of the UNFCCC Business and Industry NGOs for the Sharm el-Sheikh Joint Work on Implementation of Climate Action on Agriculture and Food Security (SSJW)

Views related to the subject of the Workshop at SB62, options for its format and suggested speakers

Deadline 1 March 2025

1. Background & context

This submission is made by the International Chamber of Commerce on behalf of the Business and Industry (BINGO) Constituency pursuant to paragraph 7 of FCCC/SB/2024/L.2, on views on the subject of SSJW Workshops, options for their format and suggested speakers.

Business appreciates the opportunity to provide views for the SB62 Workshop on *Systemic and holistic approaches to implementation of climate action on agriculture, food systems and food security, understanding, cooperation and integration into plans.* This submission is intended to provide a broad, cross-sectoral perspective and complement any separate submissions from individual BINGO member organisations, which may offer more sector-specific insights.

Implementation of climate action on agriculture, food systems and food security requires cooperation among stakeholders, cross-sector approaches and integrated solutions that align economic, environmental, and social objectives. Business and industry stakeholders are committed to advancing scalable, science-based, and innovative approaches that support climate mitigation, adaptation, and sustainable production practices.

The upcoming workshop provides an opportunity to advance cooperation across sectors and facilitate dialogue between Parties, farmers, the private sector, research institutions, and civil society on how to promote, implement and scale solutions that enhance climate mitigation and resilience, improve productivity, and support food security efforts in line with national strategies including Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs).

2. Views on the Workshop Focus Areas

Business recommends that the workshop focuses on the following key thematic areas, aligned with a systemic and holistic approach to climate action on agriculture:

- **Public-Private Cooperation for Soil Health and Water Management:** This thematic area should explore strategies to improve soil health and water management through public-private collaboration. Key topics for discussion should include:
 - Policy Integration: Reviewing how soil and water management strategies are incorporated into NDCs, NAPs, NBSAPs, and relevant other national policies (National Action Programmes to address land degradation, desertification, and drought, Drought Preparedness and Mitigation Plans, etc)



- o Scaling Climate-Smart Agriculture and advancing Regenerative Agriculture: Promoting practices that restore soil health, improve water efficiency, increase nutrient use efficiency, enhance carbon sequestration, and increase overall agricultural productivity in line with the outcomes of the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture. Addressing policy and market-driven approaches to accelerate the adoption of regenerative farming practices, ensuring that productivity gains are sustainable and contribute to long-term food security while lowering emissions.
- o Carbon Credit Opportunities: Examining how Article 6 of the Paris Agreement and other carbon market mechanisms can incentivise farmers and agribusinesses to adopt sustainable soil management practices –such as regenerative agriculture, notill farming, cover cropping, legume crops, crop rotation and agroforestry to enhance carbon sequestration and soil health. Identifying challenges related to measurement, verification, and market accessibility, and proposing solutions to ensure inclusive and equitable participation in carbon markets for farmers. Exploring the role of carbon markets such as Article 6 in providing financial support for soil health and water management strategies, and how public-private partnerships can help governments implement carbon market frameworks to advance national mitigation and adaptation goals.
- Public-Private Cooperation for promoting sustainable livestock transformation, food security and nutrition: This thematic area should explore collaborative strategies to promote sustainable livestock management while enhancing food and nutrition security. Key topics should include:
 - Policy Integration: Reviewing how sustainable livestock practices are incorporated into NDCs, NAPs, and NBSAPs.
 - Scaling Sustainable Livestock Practices: Advancing sustainable and climate-resilient livestock management that reduces emissions, improves adaptation, and supports food security and nutrition, in alignment with the outcomes of the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture. Considering how to sustainably increase production on existing agricultural lands, without converting new land to agriculture, will be essential to avoide further GHG emissions, habitat loss, and progress towards reducing hunger.
 - Carbon Credit Opportunities: Evaluating the potential of carbon markets to support emissions reduction and sequestration efforts in the livestock sector. Identifying challenges such as high costs, verification complexities, and data transparency issues, and proposing solutions to ensure fair access to carbon markets for livestock producers.
 - Productivity and Food Security: Increased livestock productivity through improved feed efficiency and animal health management, reducing the sector's carbon footprint while supporting global nutrition goals.
- Trade as a Catalyst for Climate-Resilient Agriculture and Food Security: This thematic area should examine how trade policies can support sustainable and climate-resilient agriculture



and enhance global food security. The close engagement of trade and trade policy experts, including from the World Trade Organisation in these discussions is important. Key topics should include:

- Policy integration: Reviewing how bilateral and multilateral trade agreements can incorporate climate and sustainability goals consistently with NDCs, NAPs and NBSAPs, avoiding the creation of market distortions, ensuring their openness and maintaining fair competition and international cooperation.
- Addressing Trade Barriers: Identifying challenges and opportunities in the design of trade related climate and environment measures that can impact trade flows and the adoption of sustainable agricultural practices. It is further important to eliminate barriers to trade in key environmental goods and services, that are critical for the sustainable agriculture sector. This can help speed the flow of green technologies to the places in the world that need them most.
- Leveraging Market Incentives: Examining how sustainability standards, responsible sourcing initiatives, and other market mechanisms can drive investment in climate-smart agriculture. Addressing how supply chain dynamics such as product aggregation, scale, traceability, and custody impact the recognition and adoption of sustainable practices within market incentives. Exploring carbon market mechanisms to enhance incentives and support for climate-smart agriculture.
- Innovation and Technology for supporting climate action across agri-food systems: This thematic area should explore the role of innovation and technology in building sustainable and climate-resilient agri-food systems. Key topics should include:
 - Policy integration: Reviewing how NDCs, NAPs, NBSAPs and dedicated technology frameworks such as Technology Needs Assessments and National Technology Plans support the adoption of climate-smart innovations.
 - Harnessing Science and Technology: Identifying key innovations, data-driven solutions, and nature-based approaches that enhance food system sustainability and resilience.
 - Strengthening Public-Private Partnerships: Showcasing successful approaches to accelerating research, technology transfer, and capacity-building through collaboration between governments, businesses, research institutions, and civil society. Exploring financing models and public-private investment strategies to scale climate-smart technologies. Such Public- Private Partnerships are consistent with a key aim of Article 6.8, which is to enhance public and private sector participation in the implementation of nationally determined contributions, and can support associated sustainable development in the agriculture, food systems and food security sector.

3. Views on the Workshop Format & Structure

Given the urgency of addressing climate challenges within the agricultural sector, Business recommends that the workshop be **interactive and solutions-oriented**, fostering discussions that



bridge stakeholders' perspectives and encourage cooperation. We suggest a format that prioritises knowledge exchange, multi-stakeholder participation, and interactive engagement, through a combination of the following approaches:

• Targeted Expert Panels with Interactive Elements

- o Short presentations from technical experts, researchers, and practitioners.
- Expert contributions from relevant UN agencies, farmer organisations, research institutions, and industry representatives.
- o Combinination of expert presentations with open-floor discussions to encourage engagement.
- **Small group discussions** (different approaches to move beyond traditional panel discussions can be explored)
 - World Café Discussions: Facilitated small-group discussions where participants rotate between topics to share perspectives.
 - Scenario-Based Problem-Solving: Structured discussions to address real-world climate challenges.
 - o Breakout discussions on key themes to facilitate the exchange of best practices, challenges, and innovative solutions.
 - Moderators should be prepared on key areas of divergence and convergence among stakeholders in relation to the different topics, facilitating structured exchanges to identify common ground at scale.

Plenary Exchange:

- o **Building on Discussions**: Integration of key takeaways from expert panels and small group discussions into the broader dialogue to ensure continuity.
- o **Inclusive Stakeholder Engagement**: Representation of diverse perspectives bringing together governments, farmers, businesses, researchers, and civil society.
- o **Action-Oriented Outcomes**: Development of practical recommendations to promote systemic and holistic approaches to climate resilience in agriculture.

4. Views on Expected Outcomes

The workshop should be **implementation-focused** and produce **concrete and actionable recommendations** to advance climate action in agriculture and food systems, as part of the Secretariat's report. The Secretariat's report should include a comprehensive summary of key takeaways, commitments, and policy recommendations on the suggested focus areas:

- Advancing Sustainable Soil, Water, and Livestock Practices: Policy recommendations for incorporating sustainable and climate-smart soil, water, and livestock practices into national frameworks consistently with the outcomes of the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture.
- **Carbon Market Access**: Strategies to help farmers and livestock producers overcome access barriers to carbon markets.
- **Trade & Climate Resilience**: Opportunities to use use trade policies to enhance supply chain resilience, promote responsible sourcing, and areas to further align trade policies with climate and environment goals.



• **Technology & Innovation**: Practical solutions to leverage key technological advancements and address existing gaps.

Business looks forward to contributing to this important discussion and supporting science-based, actionable solutions for sustainable agriculture and food systems.