

Enhanced Business Engagement In UNFCCC

Major Economies Business Forum:

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Overview

- **Background**
- **“Enhancing Business Role in UNFCCC—A Post 2020 Vision”**
- **BIAC as a Model (not the only one)**
- **Questions ahead**

Context

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

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.
- Independent international business association founded in 1962 – with own funding and Secretariat in Paris.



BIAC as a model: BIAC “mirrors” OECD

National Committees

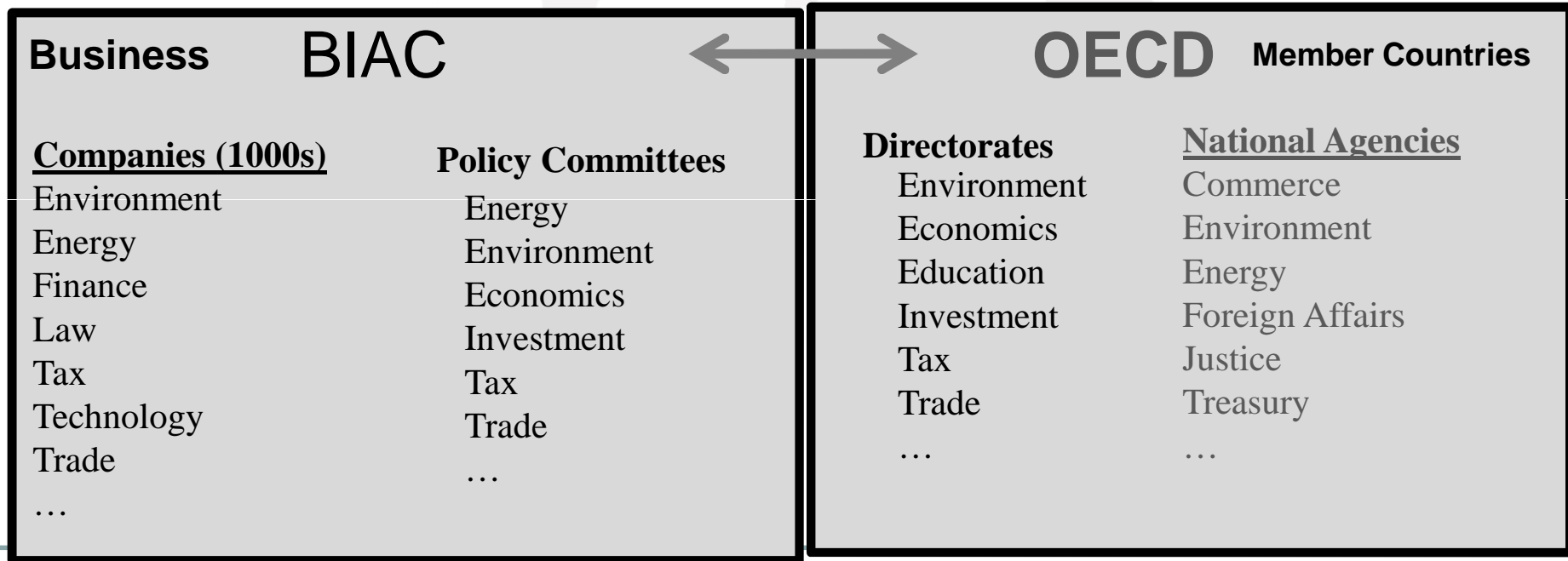
Medef, Keidanren, CBI, USCIB...

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

Members and Observer States

France, Japan, UK, USA ...

Brazil ...



- 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.**



Thank You



www.BIAC.org

www.USCIB.org

www.majoreconomiesbusinessforum.org

