

Joint Opening Plenary Statement of RINGOs

SB50

Bonn, Germany

June 17, 2019

Thank you, Chairs, for the opportunity to address this joint opening plenary of SB50 on behalf of the Research and Independent NGOs, or RINGO.

We are at a critical and unique moment for climate change. We have extensive and sound science that provides evidence for the causes and impacts of climate change, as evidenced in the IPCC's reports. We also have good data on the effectiveness of various mitigation and adaptation strategies.

RINGO members, who hail from universities, research centers, and think tanks in all UN regions, work to connect science and policy. Within the climate regime, our members offer their expertise to Parties and the Secretariat, in particular in the SBSTA science dialogue, the Nairobi Work Programme, the Technical Examination Process on Adaptation and Mitigation, the TEC and CTCN, and in the IPCC.

RINGO wants to stress the importance of designing ambitious climate policies based on sound scientific evidence. The IPCC Special Report on 1.5°C highlights both the severe impacts of even 0.5°C global warming while also stressing that limiting global warming on 1.5°C is still possible. The Special Report consolidates available scientific, technical and socio-economic literature as mandated by the Parties to the UNFCCC. We honor the commitment of RINGO researchers who contributed to the IPCC 1.5 report, and recognize colleagues who teach climate science and policy, and educate students to become future champions for climate action.

While RINGO does not advocate for particular positions as a constituency, we act collectively to foster an open, transparent, and evidence-based UNFCCC process. At SB50, we urge Parties to consider the IPCC Special Report on 1.5°C in a way that strengthens the role of evidence in our climate actions, not weakens it, including in the revision of NDCs and the formulation of long-term low emission development strategies.

Thank you.