9 September 2016 Agenda item 8

Tenth meeting of the Adaptation Committee Bonn, Germany, 13-16 September 2016

Progress report on the work of the Adaptation Committee's working group on the Technical examination process on adaptation

Recommended action by the Adaptation Committee

The Adaptation Committee, at its 10th meeting, will be invited to take note of the progress made thus far in conducting the TEP-A. The AC will also be invited to agree on the terms of reference of an expanded TEP-A working group, to consider the list of potential topics for the 2017 TEP-A and subsequent years and to agree on forwarding the list to the TEP-A working group for developing a shortlist to be approved by the AC inter-sessionally.

1. Introduction and background

1. The technical examination process on adaptation (TEP-A) was established by decision 1/CP.21 as part of the enhanced action prior to 2020. The TEP-A is taking place during 2016-2020 and its objective is to identify concrete opportunities for strengthening resilience, reducing vulnerabilities, and increasing the understanding and implementation of adaptation actions.¹

- 2. The Conference of the Parties (COP) decided that the TEP-A will be pursued by:²
 - a) Facilitating the sharing of good practices, experiences and lessons learned;
 - b) Identifying actions that could significantly enhance the implementation of adaptation actions, including actions that could enhance economic diversification and have mitigation co-benefits;
 - c) Promoting cooperative action on adaptation;
 - d) Identifying opportunities to strengthen enabling environments and enhance the provision of support for adaptation in the context of specific policies, practices and actions.

3. The COP also decided that the TEP-A is to be organized jointly by the subsidiary bodies, conducted by the Adaptation Committee (AC) and supported by the secretariat.³ The COP further decided that the TEP-A will take into account the process, modalities, outputs, outcomes and lessons learned from the technical examination process on mitigation (TEP-M).⁴

4. The AC, in conducting the TEP-A, is to engage with and explore ways to take into account, synergize with and build on the existing arrangements for adaptation-related work programmes, bodies and institutions under the Convention so as to ensure coherence and maximum value.⁵

5. The TEP-A includes annual technical expert meetings bringing together a broad group of stakeholders to discuss policies, strategies and actions. Discussions held at these meetings, as well as other information

¹ Decision 1/CP.21, paragraphs 124-125.

² Decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 127.

³ Decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 126.

⁴ Decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 128.

⁵ Decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 130.

relevant to the topic of the respective year, are reflected in an annual technical paper, which seeks to identify opportunities to enhance adaptation action, as well as options to support their implementation.⁶

6. The technical paper serves as an input to a summary for policymakers (SPM), which is prepared by the secretariat in consultation with the High-Level Champions and which includes adaptation and mitigation. The SPM then feeds into the annual high-level event that builds on the Lima-Paris Action Agenda and is held in conjunction with the COP until 2020.⁷

7. At AC9, the AC agreed to establish a core working group to plan the first two technical expert meetings, held during the 2016 UNFCCC May conference under the umbrella topic "Reducing vulnerability and mainstreaming climate change adaptation, including through the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans".⁸

8. The working group was also tasked to identify possible additional topics for the TEP-A in 2017-2020 and elaborate on its engagement with other entities. The working group was finally requested to provide a progress report to AC10.

2. Progress since AC9

2.1. Deliverables

9. The 2016 TEMs on adaptation were held on 24 and 25 May. All presentations are available online.⁹ A press release on the events was also posted on the UNFCCC newsroom.¹⁰

10. The technical paper prepared by the secretariat in consultation with the AC through the TEP-A working group, builds on discussions at the TEMs. The full draft of the paper will be made available online and includes a user-friendly version.¹¹

11. The summary for policymakers prepared by the secretariat in consultation with the High-Level Champions taking into account the technical papers on adaptation and mitigation as well as the Global Climate Action Agenda will also be made available online.

2.2. Consideration of progress thus far

12. The 2016 TEMs and TP have initiated the exploration of opportunities to enhance adaptation actions and options to support their implementation. Building on the outcomes of the 2016 TEP-A, future topics could have a narrower focus and could thus allow for a more in-depth examination of opportunities and options in subsequent years.

13. Likewise the AC may wish to reflect on whether the TEMs and TP have been sufficient in addressing all aspects of, and contributing to the overall objective of, the TEP-A and consider any adjustments where necessary.

2.3. Terms of reference of the TEP-A working group

14. Following AC9, members of the TEP-A working group developed draft terms of reference (ToR) to further guide their work, including through:

- a) Identifying additional members other than AC members to be part of the TEP-A working group;
- b) Providing a basis for the TEP-A working group to further define its modalities of work.

¹⁰ <http://newsroom.unfccc.int/climate-action/helping-the-most-vulnerable-cope-with-climate-impacts/>.

¹¹ FCCC/TP/2016/6.

⁶ Decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 129.

⁷ Decision 1/CP.21, paragraphs 111, 120 and 129.

⁸ See <unfccc.int/9542>.

⁹ See <unfccc.int/9537> (24 May) and <unfccc.int/9538> (25 May).

15. In developing the draft ToR, the TEP-A working group took into consideration input from Parties and non-Party stakeholders communicated in their submissions¹² on the TEP-A earlier this year. The draft ToR is contained in annex 1.

2.4. Possible future topics

16. A list of possible future topics for the period 2017-2020 is contained in annex 2. The topics proposed are derived from the key messages contained in the technical paper, the pending list of topics communicated by Parties and non-Party stakeholders in their submissions on the TEP-A,¹³ and additional suggestions made by participants to the TEMs through the use of slido, an audience interaction tool that allows for live polls.

2.5. Future outlook of the TEMs

17. In June 2016, the High-Level Champions developed a roadmap for their global climate action agenda, which includes an invitation for Parties and non-Party stakeholders to provide their views on whether the format of the TEMs should evolve in light of this action agenda and how to ensure that the TEMs are more solution-oriented. The deadline for the submissions was 1 August 2016.

18. Extracts of the submissions from Parties received to date, which relate to the TEP-A are contained in Annex 3. The High-Level Champions may further determine how they want to take these submissions forward, including ways to liaise with the AC to support the AC's work in conducting the TEP-A.

19. In planning for the 2017 TEP-A and beyond, the AC and its TEP-A working group may also be mindful that the TEP-A and the TEP-M will be assessed in 2017 by the COP so as to improve their effectiveness.¹⁴

3. Next steps

20. The AC may wish to:

- a) Approve the ToRs of the expanded TEP-A working group and request the Co-Chairs to reach out to constituted bodies and constituencies to secure members;
- b) Forward the long list of topics to the TEP-A working group to recommend topics for the 2017 TEP-A and to agree on additional topics and their sequencing for 2018-2020, keeping in mind the 2017 assessment;
- c) Encourage the TEP-A working group to start planning the 2017 TEMs promptly;
- d) Identify any additional opportunities/actions to advance the objective of the TEP-A;
- e) Inform the High-Level Champions, and the Chairs of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation and the Subsidiary Body for Technological and Scientific Advice, of the outcome of its discussions at AC10 on the TEP-A to ensure complementarity of efforts.

¹² The group of Parties include: the African group, the Arab group, the Independant Association of Latin America and the Caribbean (AILAC) and the least developed countries group. The Parties include: the European Union, the Gambia, Japan, Mexico, Norway, the Russian Federation, Uganda, and the United States of America. The submissions are available at <http://www4.unfccc.int/submissions/SitePages/sessions.aspx?showOnlyCurrentCalls= 1&populateData=1&expectedsubmissionfrom=Parties&focalBodies=SBSTA>.

¹³ The synthesis of the topics proposed by Parties and non-Party stakeholders is contained in the concept note on the technical examination process prepared for AC9 (AC/2016/3), available at: http://bit.ly/2bsU1kW>.

¹⁴ Decision 1/CP.21, paragraphs 113 and 131.

Annex 1: Terms of reference for the AC working group on the technical examination process on adaptation (TEP-A)

1. Introduction

1. The Conference of the Parties at its twenty-first session (COP 21) decided as part of the enhanced action prior to 2020 in the decision adopting the Paris Agreement that two technical examination processes (TEPs) will take place during 2016-2020: one on mitigation and one on adaptation (TEP-A).¹ The COP further decided that the TEP-A is to be organized by the subsidiary bodies, be conducted by the Adaptation Committee (AC) and supported by the secretariat.

2. The objective of the TEP-A is to identify concrete opportunities for strengthening resilience, reducing vulnerabilities, and increasing the understanding and implementation of adaptation actions, including through:

- a) Facilitating the sharing of good practices, experiences and lessons learned;
- b) Promoting cooperative action on adaptation;
- c) Identifying actions, including actions that could enhance economic diversification and have mitigation co-benefits;
- d) Identifying opportunities to strengthen enabling environments and enhance the provision of support for adaptation in the context of specific policies, practices and actions.

3. Decision 1/CP.21 also makes provision for the TEP-A to comprise each year, at least the following elements, which are to be supported by the secretariat:

- a) Technical expert meetings (TEMs) focusing on specific policies, strategies and actions;
- b) A technical paper, prepared on the basis of the TEMs, on opportunities to enhance adaptation action, as well as options to support their implementation;
- c) A summary for policymakers (SPM), which will be prepared annually by the secretariat in consultation with the High-Level Champions and published at least two months in advance of the COP high-level event. The SPM will cover aspects of the mitigation and adaptation TEPs and the Global Climate Action Agenda.

4. The AC, in conducting the TEP-A, is to engage with and explore ways to take into account, synergize with and build on the existing arrangements for adaptation-related work programmes, bodies and institutions under the Convention so as to ensure coherence and maximum value. At its ninth meeting, the AC decided to establish the TEP-A working group to lead the AC work on the TEP-A and to ensure effective conduct of this process.

2. Objective and scope of the work of the TEP-A working group

5. The TEP-A working group is requested by the AC to provide technical guidance and advice in support of the AC's conduct of the TEP-A, including supporting the AC in engaging with and exploring ways to take into account, synergize with and build on the existing arrangements for adaptation-related work programmes, bodies and institutions under the Convention.

- 6. The working group is particularly requested by the AC to:
 - a) Identifying possible additional topics up to 2020, including proposing possible sequencing of these topics and further ways to engage other entities in the TEP-A;
 - b) Develop and implement a workplan for 2017-2020 to effectively support all aspects of the TEP-A;
 - c) Plan for the two TEMs on adaptation each year, including selecting speakers;
 - d) Consult with the secretariat on the preparation of the technical paper.

¹ Decision 1/CP.21, paragraphs 109-113 and 124-132.

7. The TEP-A working group will present a progress report and a plan for further action at each meeting of the Adaptation Committee for review and approval. When necessary, the Adaptation Committee will also review and approve the work of the TEP-A working group intersessionnally by electronic communication.

3. Composition of the TEP-A working group

8. The TEP-A working group will include at least four members of the Adaptation Committee taking into consideration the balance between developed and developing country Parties and gender.

9. Decision 1/CP.21 and submissions from Parties and organizations encourage the Adaptation Committee to engage with a wide range of stakeholders in conducting the TEP-A. To respond to this request, the membership of the TEP-A working group is expanded to include the following six members:²

- a) One representative of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group;
- b) One representative of the Technology Executive Committee;
- c) One representative of the Standing Committee on Finance;
- d) One representative of the business and industry non-governmental organizations (BINGO);
- e) One representative of the research and independent non-governmental organizations (RINGO);
- f) One representative of the environmental non-governmental organizations (ENGO).

10. In addition, experts, including those from intergovernmental organizations, may be invited to join the TEP-A working group on an ad-hoc basis to contribute their expertise to relevant topics of the TEP-A.

4. Membership requirements and selections

11. Members, who are not representing entities under the Convention, will be expected to be familiar with the UNFCCC process and the work of the Adaptation Committee.

5. Leadership

12. The Adaptation Committee will nominate two of its members to co-lead the TEP-A working group. The overall leadership and accountability for the conduct of the TEP-A remain with the Adaptation Committee.

² The Adaptation Committee may wish to consider the procedures and experience of the TEC in involving representatives of the various constituencies of admitted non-governmental organizations in its work.

Annex 2: Potential list of topics for the period 2017-2020¹

1. Understanding the 2°C and 1.5 C° temperature goal and its implication for adaptation planning at multi-levels (i.e., local, national and regional).

2. Linking adaptation planning and implementation with the Sustainable Development Goals and disaster risk reduction

3. Integrated approaches to adaptation, including exploring the nexus water-agriculture-energy-environment.

- 4. Coordination across multiple level of governance with a focus on cities and transboundary adaptation.
- 5. Assessment of financial, capacity-building and technological needs of countries for adaptation.
- 6. Financing adaptation, including private sector engagement.
- 7. Harnessing technology innovations for adaptation.
- 8. Practical ways to mainstream adaptation in development planning processes.
- 9. Monitoring and evaluation of adaptation, including learning mechanism.
- 10. Exploring synergies between mitigation and adaptation.
- 11. Methods and tools, particularly for:
 - a) Developing climate scenarios, including temperature scenarios;
 - b) Analysing observed and projected climate change impacts;
 - c) Identifying adaptation needs and priorities;
 - d) Facilitating decision-making.
- 12. Community-based adaptation
- 13. Nature-based solutions/ ecosystem based adaptation
- 14. Other topics related to the evolving themes of the Global Climate Action Agenda.

¹ These topics are listed in no particular order and were derived from the pending list of topics communicated by Parties and non-Party stakeholders in their submissions on the TEP-A, the key messages contained in the technical paper and additional suggestions made by participants to the TEMs through the use of slido, an audience interaction tool that allows for live polls.

Date of	Party	Views on role of High-Level Champions		Views on TEMs		High level event
submission	Turty	views on role of high-Level champions		(both adaptation and		myn ievei event
submission						
27.07.2016	Norway		•	mitigation) TEMs may benefit from a stronger connection to the action agenda initiatives In doing so, should highlight the importance of sharing experiences from the country level, where the initiatives are being implemented TEMs to be inclusive to those not involved with the UNFCCC process Important to note that mobilizing national experts may require other formats than the standard meeting room settings, such as online streaming and other web- based formats ⇔ the TEC thematic dialogues are good models to follow	•	Should serve as a space to both celebrate new commitments, initiatives and coalitions, as well as to share information and report on existing initiatives and progress towards their targets. Could take place as an interactive dialogue on the potential for further action and progress on implementation
01.09.201	European Union		•	Need to ensure that all participants come well prepared => agendas and questions for reflection should be forwarded well in advance to the UNFCCC focal points. Participants would also need detailed information about activities and targets in advance in order to engage and relate the initiative to their own country setting		
01.08.201	European Union (submission made by the Slovak Republic and the European	 To facilitate the successful execution of existing efforts and the scaling-up and introduction of new or strengthened voluntary efforts, initiatives and coalitions To contribute to sustaining the political 	•	The TEMs should be narrower in their focus The TEMs would benefit from a clearer link with the global climate action agenda and the		

Annex 3: Extracts of submissions on the roadmap of the High-Level Champions related to the technical examination process on adaptation as of 9 September 2016

Date of	Party	Views on role of High-Level Champions	Views on TEMs	High level event
submission			(both adaptation and	
			mitigation)	
	Commission on behalf of)	 momentum on the action agenda, i.e. through: Actively shaping the TEMs Providing a link to the high-level dialogue Participating in relevant international for a Helping translate the results of the action agenda into more action at the domestic level, in particular in support to the implementation of Parties'NDCs. To help build momentum for new initiatives where gaps are identified Facilitate the successful execution and possibilities for scaling-up of existing efforts Need to pay balanced attention to initiatives relating to mitigation and adaptation, including climate risk finance, and opportunities for synergies between these under the action agenda 	 high-level event => to do so, proposes that the TEMs be organized in consultation and possibly in connection with relevant expert organizations => Focusing each TEM on a topic that is specific to two or three action agenda initiatives falling under the same area and allowing the engagement of broad range of countries and non-state actors. Partners of these initiatives and/or national expert organizations would then be responsible for shaping the detailed agenda and participate in the TEM, alongside all Parties and non-Party stakeholders interested in the area of action. They could be asked to provide a short background document to frame the discussions in the TEM, and provide input to the UNFCCC secretariat after the TEM to feed into the Summary for policymakers Broadening participation is key and remote participation should be facilitated => could consider having the TEM webcast and continuing to use the "slido" tools to collect and prioritize participants' questions 	
01.08.16	USA	 To scale up successful climate action and use the high-level event to do so To encourage additional resilience-focused initiatives, as only 14 of the 77 existing initiatives listed on the NAZCA are categorized as resilience-oriented 	 While the TEP on adaptation is quite new, the USA is hopeful that it will provide a valuable way to address critical adaptation topics The champions could play a 	 Objectives To provide a platform for recognizing and highlighting those non-state climate initiatives and other actions

Date of	Party	Views on role of High-Level Champions	Views on TEMs	High level event
submission			(both adaptation and	
			mitigation)	
		 To encourage strong connection between the Action Agenda and implementing national action plans, particularly NDCs To promote synergies with actions that take place in other contexts 	 helpful role in providing input to the Adaptation Committee's work on the Adaptation TEP. The champions and the secretariat to work together to ensure that the timing, location and agendas of the TEMs add value to the complex set of existing climate-related meetings and support participation from the right set of actors. Announcing TEMs topics well in advance is important in allowing stakeholders from business, subnationals, and civil society to identify key participants and make logistical arrangements. Webinars and expanded virtual participation may also be a useful tool to support expanded participation. 	 that have had greatest success to date Provide an opportunity to share lessons learned and best practices To serve as a vehicle for mobilizing private finance to support implementation <i>Process</i> At least this year, might consider continuing the COP 21 approach, i.e. collaboration between the UNFCCC Executive Secretary, the COP Presidencies via the champions and the Office of the Secretary General Content The 12 action areas and focal points used for COP 21 could be considered Format Some experimentations may be warranted over the next few years.
				• 2-3 full days early during the second week
03.08.2016	Environmental Integrity Group (Liechtenstein, Mexico, Monaco, Republic of Korea,	 To plan the TEMs on mitigation and adaptation at a strategic level, including the selection of topics and selection of speakers or organizations to be associated To help prepare the summary for policymakers with information on specific 	 There has been a shortcoming of the TEMs on adaptation and mitigation with regard to participation and concrete follow-up Suggest strengthening and 	Organize during the COP a "Climate Action Award" to promote outstanding, innovative, replicable climate projects with a great mitigation or adaptation

Date of	Party	Views on role of High-Level Champions	Views on TEMs	High level event
submission			(both adaptation and	0
			mitigation)	
	Switzerland)	 policies and actions representing best practices to support implementation in consultation with the TEMs To develop the programme and content of the High Level Event on Climate Action 	 restructuring of the TEMs Global TEMs during the UNFCCC negotiation sessions, should be further focused to address topics of immediate interest to a global audience Also suggest the TEMs to shift to a regional focus to allow for exchange of information in a more intimate format (e.g. small roundtable format as opposed to panels). They will be organized by the secretariat in coordination with other convention bodies, such as the CTCN and a host country. A key condition for valuable and productive outcome is a best practice policy approach with regional and solution-oriented case studies 	potential
18.08.2016	Japan	 to become an interface between Parties and non-Party stakeholders; and between action on the ground and the UNFCCC to select attractive topics for the TEMs and facilitate wider range of participation, including business, cities and sub- nationals, think-tanks, civil society, and financial institutions to track implementation of existing initiatives and demonstrate credibility. 	 Japan sees value of the TEMs TEMs should play a new dynamic role with more concrete and focused topics that have closed connections with the Global Climate Action Agenda Topics of the TEMs could be common and specific among those initiatives and coalition working within the same area UNFCCC and Champions should work together to choose attractive topics, announce the events and invite speakers well in advance so that a wide range of participations including businesses, cities and subnationals, think-tanks, civil society and financial institutions can join the events 	 Can provide opportunities for presenting progress made by initiatives and coalitions Showcase from sampled initiatives and coalitions what works well and what can be scaled-up by sharing good practices and lessons learned Promote mobilization of private finance (high-level dialogue between public and private sectors)

Date of	Party	Views on role of High-Level Champions	Views on TEMs	High level event
submission			(both adaptation and	
			mitigation)	
			 Initiatives and coalitions under the Global Climate Action Agenda are expected to contribute to the implementation of the NDCs. The TEMs dealing with the topics connected the Global Climate Action Agenda can share the best practice and policy options for the effective implementation of the NDCs Proposed the following new topics for the TEMs on adaptation: Climate actions in cities and regions Case studies of adaptation actions supported by UNFCCC thematic bodies and non-UNFCCC institutions 	
30.08.2016	Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) (submission made by the Maldives on behalf of)	 Action agenda is a vitally important complement to efforts under the Paris Agreement and the mandate of the champions was carefully negotiated to take this work forward Champions to specifically: a) catalyze the launching of new multi-stakeholder initiatives and scaling up existing initiatives ; and b) provide a unified vision to the action agenda to address the divide seen in the past between the technical level work of the TEMs and the political level engagement at the high-level events Champions need an entrepreneurial support team with relevant expertise (10-20 persons as a start). 	 The TEMs are key vehicle for moving the action agenda forward - they have the potential to be incubators of new cooperation for scaling up climate action in the near term TEMs, guided by the champions, must be significantly enhanced - need to be much more focused on taking forward actionable opportunities for greater multi- stakeholder cooperation (TEMs to focus on cooperation that could overcome collective challenges and barriers, including those related to means of implementation) Critical to engage the right stakeholders at the TEMs - efforts should be made to engage relevant experts from developing 	 Culmination of technical work of the champions and the TEMs Should have: Minister and other high-level representatives of non-Party stakeholders Showcase specific opportunities for scaling-up climate action

Date of	Party	Views on role of High-Level Champions	Views on TEMs	High level event
submission			(both adaptation and	
			mitigation)	
			 countries TEMs (comment directed to mitigation) should feature existing initiatives that have proven effective and are ready to scale-up (through engaging new partners and injecting new resources) Champions to announce well in advance objective of each TEM TEMs to use innovative formats and breakout group sessions Useful to organize some TEMs on the margins of other non-UNFCCC events at regional and international levels to expand participation in the process Outputs of TEMs to feed into SPM (with the most promising initiative to be further cultivated by high level champions) AOSIS provided detailed suggestions for the online menu of policy options in its September 2014 submission 	
07.09.16	Canada	 Recognizes the important role of the High-Level Champions and the work they are currently undertaking to create an interface between non-Party actors and UNFCCC Parties. The Champions have made, and are continuing to make, tremendous strides in this role through engagement with all Parties, supporting greater ambition from Paris, and providing support to the Secretariat and Parties. Canada sees the High-Level Champions playing a valuable role in encouraging and recognizing the ambitious and constructive voluntary efforts, initiatives, and coalitions undertaken by non-Party 	 Canada sees value in TEM sessions TEMs allow for a rich exchange of information TEMs provide an essential platform that can advance action globally through the sharing of good practices and practical experience, promotion of cooperative action, and identification of opportunities to facilitate enhanced action in the areas of mitigation and adaptation TEMs could be strengthened by enhancing information exchange 	 The event can provide: a space to showcase the work of new and existing coalitions and initiatives a space for effective and constructive dialogue among Ministers and others The event can support engagement with the private sector to enhance action and awareness regarding the mobilization of private finance towards climate resilient, low-carbon solutions Canada would support a

Date of	Party	Views on role of High-Level Champions	Views on TEMs	High level event
submission			(both adaptation and	
			mitigation)	
		 actors, and making the connection between these efforts and Parties' NDCs. Encourage the High-Level Champions to explore and promote synergies with other complementary climate initiatives (e.g. Climate and Clean Air Coalition and the Global Methane Initiative) 	 related to the topics and programs under the Global Climate Action Agenda TEMs could have a more narrow focus at each session, allowing participants to engage in more in-depth technical and practical conversations. Also suggests having panels focused on one project in which stakeholders from the same initiative, each share their varying perspectives Knowing the focus of the TEMs well in advance of the session, in addition to having smaller breakout discussions would benefit the facilitation and learning 	 formal recognition event of new or strengthened voluntary efforts, initiatives, and coalitions to emphasize the contributions made by non-Party actors – this would encourage more ambitious action by all Event could promote interactive dialogue through exploring alternative meeting structures such as roundtables, or focused panel discussions.