

**Stocktaking meeting on the work of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group
Organized in collaboration with UNDP in Bangkok, Thailand
Landmark Hotel, 9 to 11 March 2015**

CONCEPT NOTE

I. Introduction

The Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG) has been supporting work on adaptation in LDCs since its establishment in 2001.¹ The LEG supported the preparation and formulation of national adaptation programmes of action (NAPAs), in addition to the other elements of the LDC work programme. The NAPAs were funded through the LDCF. The LEG has worked interactively with the GEF and its agencies since 2001, along with a wide range of bilateral and multilateral agencies, regional centers and other organizations.

Over the years, the mandate of the LEG has progressively been expanded and under its current term (2011–2015) the LEG mandate includes providing technical guidance and support to least developed countries (LDCs) on the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans (NAPs).² In addition to past mandates on supporting the preparation and implementation of NAPAs, and the LDC work programme.

Detailed information on the work of the LEG, including on the process to formulate and implement NAPAs, NAPAs, and the LDC work programme, as well as related decisions and conclusions by the COP and its subsidiary bodies, is available on the LDC Portal <<http://unfccc.int/lcd>>.

II. Mandate for the meeting

COP 16 (December 2010) decided to review, at its twenty-first session (December 2015), the progress, need for continuation and terms of reference of the LEG, and to adopt a decision thereon. It decided on a set of actions to initiate the review including a request to the LEG to convene a meeting, including Parties, the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and its agencies, and other relevant organizations, with the assistance of the secretariat, to take stock of its work, before June 2015.³

COP 16 further requested the secretariat to prepare a report on the stocktaking meeting, and a synthesis report on the progress, need for continuation and terms of reference of the LEG, based on the submissions from Parties, reports of the LEG, the report on the stocktaking meeting and other relevant information, for consideration by the SBI 42 as input to the review.⁴

III. Date and venue

The meeting will take place from 9 to 11 March 2015 at the Landmark Hotel, in Bangkok, Thailand. The 27th meeting of the LEG will follow on the 12 to 14 March at the same venue.

The meeting is being organized in collaboration with UNDP.

¹ Decision 29/CP.7.

² See decisions 6/CP.16 and 5/CP.17.

³ Decision 6/CP.16, paragraph 9(a).

⁴ Decision 6/CP.16, paragraphs 9 (c) and (d).

IV. Approach

a. Objectives

Following up from the mandate, the overall objective of the meeting is to take stock of the work of the LEG. This will be addressed by the following:

- Assessing progress in supporting the adaptation needs of LDCs through the work of the LEG;
- Sharing key lessons learned and good practices arising from NAPAs and other adaptation efforts in the LDCs and other vulnerable countries;
- Providing an opportunity for an exchange of views on the modalities used in delivery of support to the LDCs;
- Sharing information on experiences and lessons learned in the work of the LEG in collaborating with various partners in implementing its mandates and work programme especially at the regional level;
- Exploring emerging gaps and needs in addressing adaptation building on current and future processes including on technical aspects of the NAP process.

The meeting will take stock of past support to the LDCs since 2001, in particular the last 5 years covering the current mandate of the LEG, while focusing on the future. The LDCs are transitioning from the preparation and implementation of NAPAs to the process to formulate and implement NAPs, in their efforts to address adaptation. New opportunities for funding now exist through the Green Climate Fund, in addition to the funding available for NAPAs under the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF).

b. Format

The meeting will be organized in an interactive manner with breakout groups to stimulate discussion and maximize outputs from the meeting.

The meeting will run from 9 am to 5 pm on 9th and 10th, and would end at 1 pm on the 11 March.

Please note that the LEG will then convene a closed meeting with the GEF and its agencies, in the afternoon of the 11 March, as part of the regular interaction at each LEG meeting.

Please also note that UNDP and UNEP will be convening other project meetings for which they will be inviting the LDCs and possibly a representative of the LEG during the same afternoon of the 11th March.

V. Participants

The meeting is open to Parties, the GEF and its agencies, and other relevant organizations, regional centres and networks.

In addition to self-funded representatives of Annex II Parties, support for participation will be provided for:

- One representative from each LDC Party, typically the focal point or someone nominated by the national climate change focal point;
- 20 non-LDC developing country participants, taking into account regional balance, active engagement in LDC matters, or at least NAPs, and potential catalysts for South-South cooperation, and including countries chairing main regional groups;
- Relevant resource persons and experts to be selected by the LEG from various backgrounds to capture the diverse nature of stockholders and expertise required for the stock taking;
- Representatives from the GEF, UN agencies and organizations.

VI. Background information

The LEG is preparing background paper for the meeting. The paper will include highlights on the progress made by the LEG in supporting LDCs.

A web page will be developed for the meeting and will contain links to all relevant LEG work and outputs.

VII. Outputs

A report of the stocktaking meeting will be produced in line with the COP mandate for consideration by SBI 42.
