

Submission by Nepal on behalf of the Least Developed Countries Group on Nairobi Work Programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change

This submission is made by Nepal on behalf of the Least Developed Countries Group (LDC Group) in response to Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technical Advice (SBSTA) 38 conclusions that invited Parties to submit views on ways to enhance the relevance, and to support the objective, of the Nairobi Work Programme (NWP) on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change as referred in FCCC/SBSTA/2013/L.9 para. 8.

In Montreal, by its decision 2/CP.11, COP 11 (2005) adopted the "Five-year programme of work on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change" and in Nairobi, COP 12 (2006) renamed it as the "Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change" and was mandated to undertake a five-year project on it.

During 2006 when NWP was launched, issues related to adaptation were more at the level of understanding. However, adaptation has now progressed much and moved from understanding to planning and to some extent implementation. In the same line, the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) have prepared and submitted National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) and are waiting for their implementation. Due to inadequate financial support, achievement on implementation of NAPAs has been negligible.

During the discussions on NWP at SBSTA 38, Parties acknowledged that the first Outcome of NWP *"Enhanced capacity at international, regional, national, sectoral and local levels to further identify and understand impacts, vulnerability, and adaptation responses, and to select and implement practical, effective and high priority adaptation actions"* has not been fully achieved. The developing countries, particularly the LDCs, felt that the selection and implementation of practical, effective and high priority adaptation actions has had limited achievement.

Parties also acknowledged that NWP has gathered a lot of information and knowledge but these have not trickled down to the national and sub-national levels. Also, limited information and knowledge gathered through concrete adaptation activities at the national and sub-national levels have not paved their way back to NWP. Based on paragraph 4 of the SBSTA 38 Conclusions, NWP Partners should venture into concrete adaptation activities at the national and sub-national levels that will lead to concrete outcomes and thus boost the relevance of NWP.

The LDC Group strongly believes that the activities under NWP should begin to focus on concrete outcomes that deliver action on the ground. Much work has been done as of now on adaptation and those activities have to be translated at the country-level for concrete outcome and actions. Therefore, the Group is of the view that some components of NWP should also be discussed under both the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) and the SBSTA.

In light of the above discussion, the LDC Group has identified the following suggestions on two themes:

Work area

The LDC Group is of the view that the future work areas of NWP should be in line with the work areas on adaptation as defined by Adaptation Committee. This will help to promote

the implementation of enhanced action on adaptation in a coherent manner under the Convention. This will also address the mandate of the decision 1/CP.16 as most of the functions of NWP are related to the scope of the Cancun Adaptation Framework (CAF) and the functions of the Adaptation Committee.

The LDC Group also believes that issues such as slow onset events related to Loss and Damage should not be discussed under NWP. This should be covered under the on-going discussion of Loss and Damage.

Linkages

The LDC Group considers NWP as an important component of the current work on adaptation and it should continue to provide inputs to inform concrete adaptation action on the ground. Among the three major decisions related to adaptation under the convention: LDC Work Programme (2001, COP7), Nairobi Work Programme (2006, COP12) and Cancun Adaptation Framework (2010, COP16), NWP stands alone as an agenda item under SBSTA, whereas the LDC Work Programme and the CAF are overseen by the LDC Expert Group and Adaptation Committee, respectively.

We believe that the work of NWP should be guided by the progress to-date and Parties' needs and expectations. The work of NWP should also be linked with the recent development and already developed institutions including the financial mechanism of the Convention.

In this context, the LDC Group believes that the Adaptation Committee is the main modality for ensuring the effective implementation of NWP within the adaptation framework and it should undertake the task of providing recommendations on future areas and action-oriented activities for inclusion in NWP.

Finally, based on the experience and lessons learned, NWP should regularly produce a list of concrete implementable activities and forward it to SBI for its effective implementation through the Adaptation Committee.