

**First meeting of the Paris Committee on Capacity-building
Bonn, Germany, 11–13 May 2017**

**Background paper on the 2018 focus area or theme of the
Paris Committee on Capacity-building**

Expected actions of the Paris Committee on Capacity-building (PCCB)

The PCCB will be invited to:

- a) Initiate discussions and agree on its 2018 focus area or theme;
- b) Agree on the six representatives of bodies established under the Convention and the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism to be invited to participate in the meeting of the PCCB in 2018 in line with its focus area for the year;
- c) Consider and agree on the approach that it will take to implement the 2018 focus area.

I. Possible actions for consideration by the Paris Committee on Capacity-building

1. The PCCB may wish to agree on its specific focus area of work for 2018, with a view to including information thereon in its annual technical progress report. It may also wish to consider the following procedural options for agreeing on the focus area:

- a) *Option 1*: Agree on the 2018 focus area at its 1st meeting;
- b) *Option 2*: Agree on the 2018 focus area intersessionally. This may involve intensive intersessional work such as conference calls and communication via electronic means as well as decision-making to agree on the 2018 focus area on a non-objection basis;
- c) *Option 3*: Seek guidance on the 2018 focus area from the Conference of the Parties (COP) at its twenty-third session, should there not be agreement thereon.

2. The PCCB may further wish to consider the following options for its 2018 focus area:

- a) *Option 1*: Continue its 2017 focus area in 2018 (**capacity-building activities for the implementation of nationally determined contributions**). Should the PCCB decide on this approach, it may wish to clearly define the scope of its work for 2018;
- b) *Option 2*: Agree on a new focus area for 2018, taking into consideration the following:
 - i) The invitation of the COP for the PCCB to consider a future theme of addressing the issue of loss and damage associated with climate change impacts;¹
 - ii) Relevant processes taking place in 2018, such as the in-session workshop on long-term climate finance and the technical examination process on adaptation (see paras. 9 and 10 below);
 - iii) The importance of aligning its work with the deliberations of the Durban Forum on capacity-building. In this context, it may also wish to take into consideration the previous topics of the Durban Forum and could select one that it deems worthy of further development and discussion as its 2018 focus area (a list of the previous topics of the Durban Forum is contained in the **annex**).

3. On the basis of the agreement reached with regard to the 2018 focus area as outlined in paragraphs 1 and 2 above and in line with its terms of reference,² the PCCB may further wish to agree on the six representatives of bodies established under the Convention and the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism to be invited to participate in the meeting of the PCCB in 2018 in line with its focus area for the year.

¹ Decision 4/CP.22, paragraph 5.

² Decision 2/CP.22, annex, paragraph 3.



4. The PCCB may wish to agree on the approach that it will take to implement the 2018 focus area. In determining that approach, the PCCB may also wish to consider the following options:
- a) Establishing a working group to work intersessionally, including on the preparation of a timeline of activities and deliverables for the implementation of the 2018 focus area;
 - b) Designating co-facilitators to lead that working group in order to advance the work on the 2018 focus area with the support of the secretariat, as well as to liaise with different stakeholders, as appropriate;
 - c) Calling for submissions from interested stakeholders on specific issues related to the 2018 focus area, as appropriate;
 - d) Identifying the relevant information needed to support the work of the PCCB in 2018, including providing guidance to the secretariat on the preparation of background information and materials, as appropriate;
 - e) Identifying how it could make use of the capacity-building portal in the context of the implementation of the 2018 focus area (see document PCCB/2017/1/5), particularly in the light of the purpose of maintaining up-to-date knowledge on the successes and challenges in building capacity effectively in a particular area.
5. On the basis of the agreements reached, the PCCB may further wish to include in its annual technical progress report to COP 23 information on the 2018 focus area and its implementation and on the implementation of the 2016–2020 capacity-building workplan.

II. Background

6. COP 21 decided that the PCCB will annually focus on an area or theme related to enhanced technical exchange on capacity-building, with the purpose of maintaining up-to-date knowledge on the successes and challenges in building capacity effectively in a particular area.³
7. At its forty-fifth session, the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) agreed that the first focus area or theme for the PCCB in 2017 would be on capacity-building activities for the implementation of nationally determined contributions in the context of the Paris Agreement.⁴
8. COP 22 invited the PCCB to consider, within the scope of its workplan, a future theme of addressing the issue of loss and damage, with a view to enhancing the collaboration and partnership between the PCCB and the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts.⁵
9. In addition, COP 22 decided that the in-session workshops on long-term climate finance in 2017 and 2018 will, with a view to scaling up climate finance for mitigation and adaptation, focus on experience and lessons learned in relation to:
- a) Articulating and translating needs identified in country-driven processes into projects and programmes;
 - b) Roles of policies and enabling environments for mitigation and adaptation finance;
 - c) Facilitating enhanced access.⁶
10. The technical examination process on adaptation in 2018 will have the topic of adaptation planning for vulnerable groups, communities and ecosystems, with a specific emphasis on:
- a) Mainstreaming consideration of vulnerable populations;
 - b) Focusing adaptation planning and implementation on the needs of vulnerable groups, communities and ecosystems.⁷
11. COP 22 decided that the PCCB shall determine six representatives of bodies established under the Convention and the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism to be invited to participate in the meetings of the PCCB in line with its annual focus area. It also decided that the PCCB may invite other bodies established under

³ Decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 74.

⁴ FCCC/SBI/2016/20, paragraph 91.

⁵ Decision 4/CP.22, paragraphs 4(a) and 5.

⁶ Decision 7/CP.22, paragraph 12.

⁷ See Adaptation Committee document AC/2017/5, annex 2.

the Convention and the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism to identify representatives to collaborate, as appropriate, on specific activities related to its work.⁸

12. COP 22 further decided that the PCCB will prepare annual technical progress reports on its work for submission to the COP through the SBI and will make those reports available at the sessions of the SBI coinciding with the sessions of the COP.⁹

⁸ Decision 2/CP.22, annex, paragraphs 3 and 14.

⁹ Decision 2/CP.22, annex, paragraph 17.

Annex

List of previous topics of the Durban Forum on capacity-building

First meeting of the Durban Forum on capacity-building (thirty-sixth session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI))

- Building capacity for adaptation
- Building capacity for research and systematic observation
- Building capacity for mitigation
- Building capacity for technology
- Financial support
- Monitoring and review of the effectiveness of capacity-building¹

Second meeting of the Durban Forum on capacity-building (SBI 38)

- Building capacity for mitigation
- Building capacity in relation to the linkages between gender and climate change
- Building capacity for adaptation
- Capacity-building for the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol
- Overview of capacity-building elements in the work of bodies established under the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol
- Enhanced delivery of capacity-building to promote concrete and effective adaptation and mitigation actions at the national level²

Third meeting of the Durban Forum on capacity-building (SBI 40)

- Enhancement and/or creation of an enabling environment
- Building capacity to mitigate: assessment of options and implementation of mitigation measures
- Building capacity to adapt: assessment of options and implementation of adaptation measures³

Fourth meeting of the Durban Forum on capacity-building (SBI 42)

- Capacity-building related work of bodies established under the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol
- Support available for the preparation of intended nationally determined contributions
- Building capacity for the preparation of intended nationally determined contributions⁴

Fifth meeting of the Durban Forum on capacity-building (SBI 44)

- Enhancing existing national and regional capacity for the Paris Agreement
- Capacity-building to convert intended nationally determined contributions to action (policy)
- Capacity-building to mobilize climate finance (finance)
- Capacity-building for transparency-related activities (reporting)
- State of art of capacity-building and the way forward
- Capacity-building for mitigation
- Capacity-building for adaptation
- Capacity-building on technology⁵

¹ <http://unfccc.int/7487.php>.

² <http://unfccc.int/7503.php>.

³ <http://unfccc.int/8121.php>.

⁴ <http://unfccc.int/8845.php>.

⁵ <http://unfccc.int/9439.php>.