

SUBMISSION BY PERU ON BEHALF OF THE AILAC GROUP OF COUNTRIES - CHILE, COLOMBIA, COSTA RICA, HONDURAS, GUATEMALA, PANAMA, PARAGUAY AND PERU

Paris Committee on Capacity-Building (PCCB)

AILAC welcomes the opportunity to submit its views, in accordance with the decision taken during the first meeting of the Paris Committee on Capacity-Building (PCCB) held in Bonn, Germany, from 11 to 13 May 2017, on the following topics:

- a) Information on capacity-building activities for the implementation of nationally determined contributions in the context of the Paris Agreement;
- b) Information and suggestions regarding the web-based capacity-building portal.

Context and general principles

- The Paris Agreement (PA) is a watershed in the efforts of the international community to tackle climate change. By expressing concrete targets in adaptation and mitigation, it provides a quantitative and qualitative backdrop against which all efforts, including but not limited to those regarding the means of implementation, must be considered.
- The Paris Committee on Capacity Building was established at COP21 to: *"...address gaps and needs, both current and emerging, in implementing capacity-building in developing country Parties and further enhancing capacity-building efforts, including with regard to coherence and coordination in capacity-building activities under the Convention"*.
- For AILAC, the tasks conferred to the PCCB can best be addressed in relation to how they drive progress towards the Paris Agreement aims as stated in Article 2. Hence the scope of the PCCB activities, and the impact of its work, should be global, transformational, and rapidly drive increasing and improving implementation on the ground in developing countries.
- The transformational aim for capacity-building will benefit greatly from enhancing the synergies among stakeholders under and outside the Convention that have relevant experience.
- In doing so, we must ensure that Parties have capacities to develop and implement policies, legislation, measures, plans and other instruments that fully respect human rights, are gender responsive and take into account intercultural and intergenerational considerations, as well as indigenous people's knowledge. A first step in this line, could be that the Seventh Durban Forum on Capacity Building (2018) is focused on Human Rights and Climate Change.
- The PCCB members must ensure that a clear and strong message is sent to COP23 regarding the importance to allocate the needed financial resources to carry the work forward towards the long-term goals and ambition of the Paris Agreement, and that the PCCB can contribute with that objective by mobilising high level political actors to prioritize capacity building in their budget allocation.

Part A. Capacity-building activities for the implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions

- The focus area of the PCCB, regarding implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) should guide the gathering of information and its initial activities,

considering the wide variety of approaches followed by Parties in the development of their first NDCs.

- The NDCs are a core component of the Ambition Mechanism of the Paris Agreement. The targets of Article 2 will only be met if a dynamic and effective mechanism is successfully adopted by Parties, of which a cycle of voluntarily increasing NDC ambition will be the cornerstone.
- Therefore, the question of capacities needed for NDCs implementation must be considered as a process that focuses first on the ongoing commitments of NDC implementation among the countries (considering important upcoming milestones such as the Facilitative Dialogue, the first Global Stocktake, etc.), but also from a longer term and increasing ambition perspective.
- As one of the results of the Facilitative Dialogue in 2018, the PCCB should consider specific capacity building needs identified by Parties in their implementation processes and identify opportunities to overcome them.
- NDCs implementation over the period covering until 2050 will involve the recurrent application of a sequence of steps and processes which must be followed by Parties if they are to meet the PA targets.
- An example of some stages already identified that should be considered to address capacity-building gaps and needs includes:
 - Planning and design of NDCs
 - Communication based in common agreed language and ownership
 - Resourcing (financial, human resources, technology)
 - Technology installation / change implementation
 - Ongoing operation and learning
 - Monitoring, Reporting and Verifying (MRV) assessment for the mitigation of GHG and feedback
 - Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) for adaptation to climate change and feedback
 - Re-visiting policies, programs, plans and design for improvement and increasing ambition
 - Reviewing the last NDC implementation strategy/plan
 - Developing a financial strategy for the implementation of the NDC (mitigation and adaptation actions).
- These stages are not always clearly separated, and there are often feedback loops within the processes (e.g. information gathered during the communication and acceptance phase can lead to a revision of the plan).
- To ensure a sustainable transformation within the countries, capacity-building requirements from Parties will have to address needs across all stages mentioned above. Therefore, the initial needs assessment and gap analysis to undertake this transformational process must systematically address all stages of the cycle. A review of National Communications (NCs) and Biennial Update Reports (BURs) from Parties is unlikely to provide all elements required for a full assessment of “gaps and needs, both current and emerging”.
- As a starting point, a high level of ambition for the transformation must be developed, disseminated and adopted. In addition, driving climate action within countries, that is commensurate with the Paris Agreement goals, will require clear, ambitious and accepted plans within the Parties. Developing such plans will face its own capacity constraints which will vary across the board.

Part B. Web-based capacity-building portal

- Regarding the web-based capacity-building portal, AILAC is of the view that it should be considered a tool that will serve the purpose and objectives of the capacity-building efforts under the Convention for the implementation of the Paris Agreement, particularly the ones related to the tasks of the PCCB, in accordance with decision 1/CP.21.
- Based on this notion, this portal should be an enhanced platform that presents relevant, coherent and user-friendly information, as well as concrete examples of good practices and lessons learned that will drive forward both conceptual and actionable work to create and strengthen the capacity and address the needs of developing country Parties. A good example for the enhanced capacity-building platform from a web-based portal managed by the UNFCCC Secretariat is the NAZCA Platform, where information is presented in a user-friendly fashion, visually easy for tracking information and with relevant up to date data.
- The web-based capacity-building portal should aim to provide both information and analysis of such information to support and educate decision-makers, and promote the exchange among relevant stakeholders within and outside the UNFCCC.
- It is of the outmost importance to identify as soon as possible which tools and instruments can the Secretariat use to advance the implementation of these activities, while the necessary financial resources are allocated.