

**Draft decision -/CP.16**

**Further guidance for the operation of the Least Developed Countries Fund**

*The Conference of the Parties,*

*Recalling* Article 4, paragraph 9, of the Convention,

*Recalling* its decisions 6/CP.9, 3/CP.11 and 5/CP.14,

*Further* recalling the least developed countries work programme, as defined in decision 5/CP.7,

*Noting* the importance of updating and revising the national adaptation programme of action process over time,

*Further noting with appreciation* the contributions of some Parties to the Least Developed Countries Fund,

*Also noting* the positive efforts made by the Global Environment Facility and its agencies to facilitate access to funding under the Least Developed Countries Fund,

*Noting* the increasing need of least developed country Parties to implement the urgent and immediate adaptation activities identified in their national adaptation programmes of action,

*Reiterating* the need to implement national adaptation programmes of action as soon as possible after completion,

1. *Reiterates* its request to the Global Environment Facility, as an operating entity of the financial mechanism of the Convention operating the Least Developed Countries Fund, in parallel to supporting the ongoing implementation of national adaptation programmes of action, to facilitate the implementation of the remaining elements of the least developed countries work programme;
2. *Further reiterates* its request to the Global Environment Facility to work with its agencies to improve communication with least developed country Parties and to speed up the process through, for instance, establishing a time frame within which least developed country Parties can access funding and other support for the preparation and implementation of projects identified in their national adaptation programmes of action;
3. *Requests* the Global Environment Facility to provide funding from the Least Developed Countries Fund to least developed country Parties, upon request, to enable the update of their national adaptation programmes of action with a view to further improving their quality, to facilitate the integration of least developed countries adaptation actions into development planning and to reflect increased adaptation knowledge and changed priorities in the countries;
4. *Invites* Parties included in Annex II to the Convention to continue contributing, and other Parties in a position to do so to contribute, to the Least Developed Countries Fund for the implementation of the least developed countries work programme;

5. *Also invites* Parties and relevant organizations to submit to the secretariat, by 1 August 2012, information on their experience with the implementation of the least developed countries work programme, including the updating and implementation of national adaptation programmes of action, and in accessing funds from the Least Developed Countries Fund, for compilation by the secretariat into a miscellaneous document for consideration by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation at its thirty-seventh session;
  6. *Requests* the secretariat to prepare a synthesis report on the progress made in the implementation of the least developed countries work programme, including the updating and implementation of national adaptation programmes of action, taking into account information from the Global Environment Facility and its agencies, the submissions referred to in paragraph 5 above, reports of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group and other relevant sources of information, for consideration by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation at its thirty-seventh session;
  7. *Further requests* the Subsidiary Body for Implementation to review, at its thirty-seventh session, the experiences of the least developed countries with the implementation of the least developed countries work programme, including the updating and implementation of national adaptation programmes of action, and in accessing funds from the Least Developed Countries Fund, on the basis of the submissions referred to in paragraph 5 above and the synthesis report referred to in paragraph 6 above;
  8. *Requests* the Global Environment Facility to include, in its reports to the Conference of the Parties, information on specific steps it has taken to implement this decision, for consideration by the Conference of Parties at its subsequent sessions;
  9. *Decides* to assess progress made in the implementation of this decision and to consider the adoption of further guidance, as appropriate, at its eighteenth session.
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