

Marrakech Climate Change Conference

SBI Opening Plenary

November 7, 2016

Statement from the Chair of the UNFCCC Climate Technology Centre and Network Advisory Board

Dear Chair, distinguished delegates, and virtual attendees participating via web cast,

As the Chair of the CTCN Advisory Board I am pleased to report that in the time the CTCN has been fully operational, countries have welcomed and are making use of the resources being made available to them. The CTCN has received 2 to 3 requests for technical assistance, which is our principal service offering, every week for the past year. In total, we have now received more than 150 requests for technical assistance from 67 countries. The CTCN is actively engaged with the design and implementation of more than 100 of these technical assistance requests and about 10 of them have already been completed. We appreciate that the countries are incorporating the outputs of this work into their climate strategies.

We are able to respond to the requests for technical assistance by leveraging the expertise of our consortium partners and, increasingly, our growing Network of institutions which as of now stands at nearly 250 members - with equal distribution both from Annex I and Non-Annex I countries.

Our country technology focal points, known as National Designated Entities or NDEs, are the cornerstone of the CTCN and act to ensure that all our activities are in line with their national development objectives, including their NDCs. The CTCN provides capacity building support to NDEs of developing countries through annual forums, a varied offering of webinars, an incubator programme for LDCs and SIDS, and a host of information resources available via our online technology library. We engage actively with our NDE partners, and design tailored thematic capacity building activities based on their needs on a case by case basis.

To date the CTCN has been able to mobilize just over 31 million U.S. dollars to carry out these activities, sourced largely from voluntary contributions of some Annex I member states. For context, this level of funding is sharply below the target of 100 million U.S.

dollars identified in the CTCN 5-year programme of work that was approved by the Advisory Board in 2013. As a result of this limited funding, beginning in March 2015, the CTCN has had to implement balancing and prioritization criteria in order to ensure its ability to serve as many countries as possible – which has resulted in an increased number of requests that are not being prioritized and implemented.

The CTCN continues to engage with current and other potential donors to secure additional funds and has deepened its engagement with the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism in line with the COP21 decision on linkages. We are currently engaging with the GEF on a series of pilots projects, and are exploring a partnership with the Green Climate fund wherein the expertise of the CTCN Network can be leveraged in order to complement GCF readiness and project preparation facility offerings. I participated in the most recent GCF Board meeting last month, and was pleased with the recognition afforded to our NDE in its decision and look forward to strengthening this important collaboration in the coming year.

Engagement of private sector is critical to matching developing country aspirations with the transformative technologies identified in their NDCs. To successfully tap this existing potential CTCN has started to engage with the private sector through our stakeholder engagement forums, and we will accelerate this programme in 2017.

Finally, Chair, the CTCN is also engaging Network members, including Annex I NDEs, as a means to provide and/or fund CTCN services. The precise mechanism still needs to be worked out, but this will be an important way for developed country Parties to leverage the support and expertise of literally thousands of organizations in service of the needs of developing countries, the mandate of the Technology Mechanism, the ultimate objective of the Convention, and the vision of the Paris Agreement.

Thank you.