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February, 2017

Submission by the United Nations Development Programme regarding “SBI 46: Views on possible elements of the gender action plan” to be developed under the Lima work programme on gender

I. Background

1. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) welcomes the opportunity to provide this submission to address practical suggestions on possible elements of the gender action plan to be developed under the Lima work programme on gender, as well as, sharing experiences at the global and national levels which could inform the content of the action plan. UNDP looks forward to working within the UNFCCC process and partnering with other interested agencies and organizations to provide this critical support.
2. As the UN’s global development network, UNDP works with countries to achieve their own solutions to global and national development challenges in the face of a changing climate. We are one of the largest service providers in the UN system on climate change and our \$2.8 billion climate change portfolio of mitigation and adaptation projects supports over 140 countries to transition toward zero carbon and climate-resilient sustainable development. This work builds on decades of experience and has been undertaken in partnership with the Global Environment Facility, the Green Climate Fund, multilateral organizations, bilateral partners, private sector, and civil society. Our climate change portfolio focuses on integrated climate strategies, cross-sectoral climate resilient livelihoods, promoting access to clean and affordable energy services, promoting low emission and climate resilient development actions and access to new finance mechanisms.
3. UNDP provides on-the-ground technical assistance through all of the mechanisms of the UNFCCC as well as support to global dialogues that address climate change issues, such as the Financing for Development and 2030 Agenda. Recognizing the significant challenge that climate change presents to developing countries, UNDP has placed climate change at the heart of its 2014-17 Strategic Plan, including output indicators on adaptation, mitigation, gender equality, energy, and disaster risk reduction. This has helped better position UNDP to implement action on the ground in developing countries that tackles climate change, advances poverty reduction



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and promotes sustainable development, in line with advancing gender equality and women's empowerment.

II. Responding to the invitation made by the COP in Marrakech

4. This submission draws upon concrete and practical tools as well as future work that UNDP has done or will do to actively incorporate gender considerations in mitigation and adaptation policy and programming actions. It should be noted, the ideas and proposals contained in this submission are open to be explored and refined so as to make them universally beneficial in the goal of advancing gender equality at the national level.
5. UNDP puts specific emphasis on utilizing a multi-pronged approach in its climate change and environment work in promoting gender balance, women's empowerment and gender responsive policy and programming at all levels.
6. In this regard at the global level, UNDP has developed capacity building tools and a policy analysis to strengthen gender integration into relevant global support programmes as well as climate change national processes, such as:
 - ***Gender Responsive National Communications Toolkit***
(<http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/womens-empowerment/gender-responsive-national-communications.html>) also translated into French and Spanish (<http://www.un-gsp.org/news-and-articles>). The toolkit is designed to strengthen the capacity of national government staff and assist them to integrate gender equality into the development of National Communications (NCs). It is recognized that NC reporting processes can be a meaningful entry point for training, awareness-raising and capacity-building efforts. As such the toolkit can also support Biennial Update Reports, planning documents such as National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), inform Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) enhancement and/or implementation, national and sectoral Gender and Climate Change Plans, and the strategic plans of individual government agencies. This toolkit can also inform sector policies related to both social and natural resources issues.
 - ***Gender Equality in National Climate Action: planning for gender-responsive NDCs***
(<http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/womens-empowerment/gender-equality-in-national-climate-action--planning-for-gender-.html>). This report presents a framework for integrating gender equality into Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) planning and implementation. It analyses the degree to which the Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) submitted as of April 2016 have recognized or integrated gender equality. It provides an overview of progress



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to date, including challenges, gaps, and opportunities in the integration of women’s empowerment and gender equality into national climate policy and action—particularly as countries begin implementation of their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

- ***Gender Mainstreaming in Mitigation and Technology Development and Transfer Interventions*** (<http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/womens-empowerment/mainstreaming-gender-in-mitigation-and-technology/>). This capacity-building package has been designed for policymakers to guide them on how to promote gender equality across all levels of policy and programming in climate change and to provide them with the necessary tools to do so. It also provides tangible examples taken from UNDP’s work with gender mainstreaming (GM) in Bhutan and Cambodia. Not only will the information provided be useful to policymakers, the content can also be adapted for use by practitioners working on integrating gender into climate change projects and programmes.
7. At the national level, the UNDP NDC Support Programme is assisting developing countries to scale up climate change mitigation action in support of their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). The Programme works with participating countries to ensure that NDC implementation serves as a driver for sustainable development at the national level by contributing to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), advancing gender equality and transitioning to net zero-carbon economies. This programme builds on the foundation and extensive results achieved under the “Low Emission Capacity Building Programme (LECB 2011-2017)”, in which 38 developing countries are being supported to build public and private sector capacities to design and implement low carbon development actions, underlying greenhouse gas national inventory systems and MRV systems, and the development and implementation of (I)NDCs. The NDC Support Programme and LECB Programme work is intimately aligned with the (I)NDC Regional Technical Dialogues series carried out in collaboration with the UNFCCC.
 8. In terms of the gender component of the NDC Support Programme, UNDP will provide technical assistance to strengthen the integration of gender equality into national climate action as countries review, enhance and implement their NDCs. This work will focus mainly on four building blocks: national analysis and consultations; institutional frameworks and coordination mechanism; alignment of national policy and planning instruments; and monitoring and evaluation.
 9. In addition, through the UNDP-UNEP National Adaptation Plan – Global Support Programme (NAP-GSP), funded by the GEF-LDCF and GEF-SCCF, least developed countries and other developing countries are provided technical assistance in advancing their national adaptation



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plan processes. Within UNDP, a strong collaboration between the UNDP programme teams and gender advisors has been forged, to ensure that this assistance incorporates gender concerns. A training module on gender mainstreaming into adaptation planning is being finalized. This module will be part of the GIZ-UNDP-UNITAR training package on NAP, which is delivered in requesting countries. It will help increase the awareness and capacities of senior technical staff of ministries and civil society on the link between gender and adaptation and how to enhance gender equality through the NAP process and advance gender-responsive policymaking processes.

III. Suggestions for next steps

10. These are just a few examples drawing on UNDP's vast climate change portfolio, providing support at the global level for governments to engage in the UNFCCC process and at the national level in helping implement the mechanisms of the convention (e.g. through NAPs, NAMAs, LEDs and National Communications). Our expertise in this area can act as an important source of technical guidance and advice on good practice in integrating gender considerations, as well as guidance on potential entry points and opportunities for scaled up gender action.
11. Through this extensive experience, the vast tools and guidance developed, and our rich knowledge base in implementing gender responsive climate change activities, UNDP hopes to serve as a resource and neutral convening body, supporting Parties and the Secretariat in its development and implementation of the gender action plan under the Lima work programme on gender.
12. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) thanks the Conference of the Parties and the Secretariat for the opportunity to suggest concrete resources that could nurture the discussions regarding the possible elements of the gender action plan during the forty-sixth sessions of the subsidiary bodies. Moreover, UNDP recognizes the value of the extended Lima work programme on gender and congratulates the UNFCCC for advancing gender-responsive actions and promote awareness-raising and capacity-building efforts.