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Matters relating to the least developed countries

The 29th meeting of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group

Report by the secretariat

Summary

The 29th meeting of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG) was held in Dili, Timor-Leste, from 15 to 19 March 2016. The LEG worked on the following at the meeting: developing its first two-year rolling work programme for 2016–2017 under its new mandate; exploring ways to address specific mandates provided by the Conference of the Parties in relation to the Paris Agreement; discussing with the secretariat of the Green Climate Fund how best to support developing countries in accessing funding from it for the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans; discussing with the Global Environment Facility and its agencies their continued collaboration in providing support to the least developed countries; and discussing with the Government of Timor-Leste its efforts to address climate change adaptation.

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I. Mandate

1. The Conference of the Parties (COP), at the twenty-first session, extended the mandate of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG) under its current terms of reference¹ to cover the period 2016–2020 and mandated the LEG to undertake a number of additional activities.² Furthermore, it requested the LEG to undertake several activities to support the implementation of the Paris Agreement.³

2. In accordance with its terms of reference referred to in paragraph 1 above, the LEG is mandated to develop a two-year rolling work programme for consideration by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) at its first sessional meeting of each year and to report on its work to the SBI at each of its sessions.⁴

II. Summary of the 29th meeting of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group

A. Proceedings

3. The 29th meeting of the LEG was held in Dili, Timor-Leste, from 15 to 19 March 2016 and was structured as follows:

(a) The days of 15 and 16 March and part of 19 March were dedicated to developing a vision for adaptation in the least developed countries (LDCs), a broad work programme for 2016–2020 and a detailed two-year rolling work programme for 2016–2017;

(b) The days of 17 and 18 March and the remaining part of 19 March were dedicated to discussing with organizations the provision of support to the LDCs.

4. The LEG invited some of its outgoing members to take part in the meeting as resource persons. It also invited the Adaptation Committee to take part in order to continue to strengthen their collaboration. Furthermore, the LEG extended invitations to participate in the meeting to the secretariats of the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and the Global Environment Facility (GEF), as well as to GEF agencies and regional centres and networks. The following took part in the meeting:

- (a) The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO);
- (b) The GEF secretariat;
- (c) The GCF secretariat (via Skype);
- (d) The National Adaptation Plan Global Network;
- (e) The National Adaptation Plan Global Support Programme (NAP-GSP);
- (f) The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP);
- (g) The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

5. The LEG elected the following officers:

¹ See decisions 29/CP.7, 7/CP.9, 4/CP.11, 8/CP.13, 6/CP.16, 5/CP.17, 12/CP.18 and 3/CP.20.

² Decision 19/CP.21, paragraphs 1–3.

³ Decision 1/CP.21, paragraphs 41 and 45.

⁴ Decision 6/CP.16, paragraph 3.

- (a) Mr. Abias Huongo (Angola) as Chair and lusophone Rapporteur;
- (b) Ms. Sonam Lhaden Khandu (Bhutan) as Vice-Chair;
- (c) Mr. Benon Bibbu Yassin (Malawi) as anglophone Rapporteur;
- (d) Mr. Abiziou Tchinguilou (Togo) as francophone Rapporteur.

B. Status of the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans

1. Progress made by developing country Parties in the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans

6. The LEG discussed its ongoing work on monitoring progress made in the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans (NAPs).⁵ It also discussed the information presented in the progress reports prepared in 2014 and 2015.⁶

7. It noted that many developing country Parties have embarked on the process to formulate and implement NAPs and are in fact in various stages of the process, as depicted in the recent report prepared for SBI 43.⁷ It also noted that more developing country Parties have initiated work on accessing funding for the formulation and early implementation of their NAPs, and that some have developed concept notes that have been submitted to the GCF for funding.⁸

8. The LEG further noted the paucity of information on most countries' NAP-related activities available to support the assessment of progress made on adaptation, including on support being provided or received and ongoing efforts at different levels. It also noted that information that has been compiled to date is based on submissions from Parties on adaptation-related agenda items under the SBI, on information included in national communications and related national reports, or on information shared during public events such as workshops and the NAP Expo. It further noted that the information does not cover all countries or the full set of adaptation activities at the national level. It agreed that enhancing data collection on NAP-related activities is a priority. It decided to continue to strengthen efforts to collect from all possible sources information to support the assessment of progress made on NAPs, including relevant submissions from Parties and organizations, information and updates shared by Parties and relevant organizations at LEG meetings and events, surveys conducted by the LEG on LDC Parties, NAP country case studies and information submitted by Parties through their national communications, nationally determined contributions (NDCs), adaptation communications, biennial update reports, biennial reports and other channels.

9. The LEG also decided to assemble the best available information on adaptation activities in the LDCs that are of relevance to the implementation of NAPs on NAP Central⁹ and to produce an annual progress report on NAPs.

⁵ FCCC/SBI/2015/19, paragraphs 9–20.

⁶ FCCC/SBI/2014/INF.25 and FCCC/SBI/2015/INF.11.

⁷ FCCC/SBI/2015/INF.11.

⁸ Mongolia, Myanmar and Nepal.

⁹ <<http://unfccc.int/9295>>.

2. Progress made in relation to support provided

10. The following information was presented by organizations that attended the meeting on the support provided to developing countries for the process to formulate and implement NAPs between November 2015 and March 2016:

(a) UNEP is providing support to Mongolia, Myanmar and Nepal in the preparation of concept notes for accessing funding from the GCF for the formulation and early implementation of NAPs. The funding requirement is approximately USD 5 million, to be deployed over the course of four years. UNEP has two new projects under the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) that support the objectives of the process to formulate and implement NAPs.¹⁰ UNEP is supporting Benin and Comoros in accessing readiness support under the GCF and a number of other LDCs in developing proposals for accessing funding from the GCF following its accreditation by the GCF in July 2015;

(b) UNDP and UNEP have expanded their provision of support for the LDCs to advance the formulation of their NAPs through the second phase of the LDCF-funded NAP-GSP, which is expected to begin operations in the final quarter of 2016. The expanded phase of the programme is planned to provide country-specific support to at least 20 additional countries. UNDP and UNEP also mentioned the available technical support from the NAP-GSP for non-LDCs funded by the Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF);

(c) FAO and UNDP, with support from Germany's Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety through its International Climate Initiative, are assisting a number of countries¹¹ in identifying and integrating climate adaptation measures for the agriculture sectors into relevant national planning and budgeting processes under a programme on the integration of agriculture into NAPs.¹²

11. The LEG took note of the first set of investment projects approved by the GCF Board at its eleventh meeting¹³ and of the fact that three of those projects were proposed by the LDCs, namely Bangladesh, Malawi and Senegal.

C. Status of implementation of national adaptation programmes of action

12. The GEF reported that, as at 29 February 2016, a total of 169 national adaptation programme of action (NAPA) implementation projects had been approved by the GEF Council for funding from the LDCF.

13. The GEF also reported that, as at 5 April 2016, a total of 33 NAPA implementation project proposals submitted by the LDCs had been technically cleared by the GEF secretariat and were awaiting the availability of resources from the LDCF (see annex II for further details on the technically cleared projects).

14. The GEF further reported that, as at 31 January 2016, the total cumulative donor pledges to the LDCF amounted to USD 1,187 million, and that total paid contributions amounted to USD 992 million. The funding ceiling for each LDC has been raised to USD 40 million, in accordance with the principle of equitable access.

¹⁰ Concerning the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Rwanda.

¹¹ Kenya, Nepal, Philippines, Thailand, Uganda, Uruguay, Viet Nam and Zambia. The programme is envisaging an expansion to a greater number of countries.

¹² <<http://fao.org/in-action/naps>>.

¹³ GCF Board decision B.11/11.

III. Development of a vision for supporting adaptation in the least developed countries

15. The LEG developed the following vision to guide its work in supporting adaptation in the LDCs: support by the LEG by 2020 of the achievement of demonstrable results in building adaptive capacity, strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerability to climate change in the LDCs; formulation of robust and good-quality NAPs and implementation of priority adaptation needs identified therein with funding from the GCF and other sources; and the existence of a well-structured adaptation planning process in the LDCs.

16. The LEG expects the following results reflecting the long-term success of the work of the LEG in supporting adaptation in the LDCs in the context of the above-mentioned vision to be achieved:

(a) Policymakers in the LDCs are motivated to take steps towards the achievement of the global adaptation goal¹⁴ through NAPs as they implement the Paris Agreement;

(b) The LDCs have put in place the structures and systems (essential functions) at national levels for ensuring a successful process to formulate and implement NAPs. A process is established to underpin the formulation and implementation of NAPs and is functioning smoothly and contributing to the iterative identification of adaptation needs and options and supporting the successful implementation of adaptation actions;

(c) NAPs are formulated preferably by 2018 and at the latest by 2020;

(d) The LDCs are accessing support for the formulation of NAPs from the GCF and other sources before the end of 2016;

(e) Concrete adaptation actions identified through the NAPs, designed to reduce vulnerability, strengthen resilience and build adaptive capacity, are being implemented with GCF support upon completion of the NAPs;

(f) All remaining NAPA projects are successfully implemented by 2020 or are revised/updated and integrated into the NAP;

(g) Activities at different scales and levels are internally coherent and complement each other;

(h) Adaptation strategies and actions are well integrated with national development efforts including in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.¹⁵

17. The LEG identified the following challenges in achieving the expected results listed in paragraph 16 above in the context of the identified milestones:

(a) Operationalization of the GCF to support the formulation and implementation of NAPs is slow to meet the 2018 milestones for formulating NAPs;

(b) The lack of coherence and common vision in support being provided for NAPs, including the lack of clarity and potential confusion with reporting instruments such as the NDCs, leads to LDCs pursuing different pathways to address adaptation;

¹⁴ See Article 7, paragraph 1, of the Paris Agreement.

¹⁵ United Nations General Assembly resolution 70/1.

(c) Lower priority given to formulating and implementing NAPs within the national development agendas of the LDCs (due to experience with the NAPAs and other reasons) affecting the attainment of climate-resilient development;

(d) Limited capacity of agencies to support all the LDCs effectively in formulating their NAPs by 2018–2020;

(e) Limited capacity of the LDCs to access GCF support for implementation (and formulation) of NAPs;

(f) Limited human resources in the LDCs for addressing the many aspects of the Paris Agreement and the existing requirements under the Convention (NDCs, NAPs, national communications, etc.);

(g) Limited funding in the LDCF to fully implement remaining NAPA priorities;

(h) Challenges in aligning all development-oriented resources (national, bilateral and multilateral) to support the implementation of NAPs can lead to inadequate resourcing of NAPs.

18. The LEG also identified the following opportunities to help achieve the expected results:

(a) The opportunity for mid-term review of progress through the SBI assessment of progress on NAPs in early 2018;

(b) The opportunity for effective alignment with GCF modalities for adaptation given the clear linkage to funding for NAPs under the GCF;

19. The LEG noted that the GCF Board will consider how to respond to the mandates for supporting the NAPs at its meeting in June 2016.

IV. Consideration of the mandates of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group

A. Supporting the Paris Agreement

20. The LEG considered the mandates given to it by COP 21 in relation to the Paris Agreement, including the mandate for the LEG to provide technical guidance and advice on needs related to adaptation that may arise from the Paris Agreement and the decisions adopted by COP 21¹⁶ and the mandates provided in the decision¹⁷ to give effect to the Paris Agreement.

21. With respect to the needs related to adaptation arising from the Paris Agreement and the decisions adopted at COP 21, the LEG agreed to prepare a technical paper that identifies gaps and needs of the LDCs arising from the implementation of the Paris Agreement and how those gaps and needs can be addressed by the LEG and/or other relevant bodies and organizations.

22. With respect to the mandates provided in the decision to give effect to the Paris Agreement, the following actions were considered:

(a) The Adaptation Committee and the LEG jointly developing modalities for recognizing the adaptation efforts of developing country Parties, as referred to in Article 7,

¹⁶ Decision 19/CP.21, paragraph 2(d).

¹⁷ Decision 1/CP.21, paragraphs 41 and 45.

paragraph 3, of the Paris Agreement, and making recommendations for consideration and adoption by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA) at its first session;¹⁸

(b) The Adaptation Committee and the LEG, in collaboration with the Standing Committee on Finance and other relevant institutions, developing methodologies and making recommendations for consideration and adoption at CMA 1 on:¹⁹

(i) Taking the necessary steps to facilitate the mobilization of support for adaptation in developing countries in the context of the limit on the global average temperature increase referred to in Article 2 of the Paris Agreement;

(ii) Reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support provided for adaptation, as referred to in Article 7, paragraph 14(c), of the Paris Agreement.

23. The LEG initiated an internal discussion in order to better understand the mandates referred to in paragraph 22 above in the context of the LDCs and the technical nature of its work. As a first step in addressing the mandates, the LEG agreed to engage in a dialogue with the Adaptation Committee so that the two bodies can discuss how to work together and jointly agree on how to approach the mandates. It considered a communication from the Adaptation Committee containing a suggestion for holding a joint meeting on 27 May 2016 and for the secretariat to prepare a background paper for the meeting. The LEG agreed to the proposed date for the meeting and will provide guidance to the secretariat on preparing the background paper for the meeting.

B. Supporting the assessment by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation of progress made in the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans

24. The LEG considered its mandates to support the SBI in assessing progress made in the process to formulate and implement NAPs.²⁰ They are part of steps agreed by the SBI and include an invitation to Parties and relevant organizations to submit information, by 1 February 2018, that will be used as input to a synthesis report to be prepared by the secretariat and considered at a technical expert meeting to be organized by the LEG, in collaboration with the Adaptation Committee, to assess the progress made on NAPs, after which a report on the meeting will be prepared and considered at SBI 48. The LEG noted that an earlier date for the submission of information, such as August 2017, would facilitate the process.

25. The LEG decided to prepare a concept note in relation to the mandates referred to in paragraph 24 above, which will include the engagement of the Adaptation Committee and other bodies and stakeholders to inform the design of and preparations for the assessment.

26. The LEG agreed to prepare and conduct an online questionnaire on NAP Central, which will be based on the questions from SBI 42 on the process to formulate and implement NAPs²¹ and supplemented by additional elements for which the LEG would like to collect information from the LDCs and other Parties.

¹⁸ Decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 41.

¹⁹ Decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 45.

²⁰ Decision 4/CP.21, paragraph 12(d) and (e).

²¹ FCCC/SBI/2015/10, annex II.

C. Providing technical guidance and advice on accessing funding from the Green Climate Fund for the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans

27. The LEG considered the following specific mandates provided to it by the COP in relation to accessing funding from the GCF for the process to formulate and implement NAPs:

(a) The LEG to provide technical guidance and advice on accessing funding from the GCF for the process to formulate and implement NAPs in collaboration with the GCF secretariat;²²

(b) The LEG and the Adaptation Committee to consider how they can provide more information on accessing funding from the GCF for the process to formulate and implement NAPs and to include such information, as appropriate, in their reports.²³

28. The LEG noted its previous efforts in addressing related mandates, including: a discussion with the GCF secretariat at the 27th meeting of the LEG²⁴ and the contributions made by the GCF during the LEG regional training workshops on NAPs.²⁵ It decided to continue to build on those and other efforts to effectively provide technical guidance and support to the LDCs for accessing funding from the GCF for their NAPs.

29. As part of its initial activities in this area, the LEG decided to: regularly and on an ongoing basis collect information on obstacles and challenges that the LDCs are facing in accessing funding from the GCF, including through the questionnaire on NAP Central referred to in paragraph 26 above, and use that information when providing advice on how to enhance LDC access to the GCF; develop training and outreach materials in collaboration with the GCF secretariat; regularly share information on relevant products and results of the work of the LEG with the GCF as a way to facilitate the expedited provision of support to the LDCs for their NAPs, NAPAs and other activities; mobilize agencies to provide more support for the readiness of the LDCs to access the GCF; and invite the GCF to host dedicated events or sessions aimed at enhancing the capacity of the LDCs to access funding from the GCF for their NAPs.

30. The LEG emphasized the critical importance of having regular interaction with the GCF secretariat to explore how best to address the mandates referred to in paragraph 27 above. As such, it allocated a special session on the agenda to have a discussion with the GCF secretariat, a summary of which is contained in chapter V.A below.

D. Providing technical guidance and support for the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans

1. Guidelines

31. The LEG recalled its work on technical guidelines and other derived products for the process to formulate and implement NAPs.²⁶ It decided to develop technical materials to supplement the technical guidelines to provide in-depth coverage of specific issues, including on:

²² Decision 19/CP.21, paragraph 2(c).

²³ Decision 4/CP.21, paragraph 10.

²⁴ See document FCCC/SBI/2015/7, paragraphs 91–95.

²⁵ See documents FCCC/SBI/2015/19, paragraph 21, and FCCC/SBI/2015/INF.14, paragraph 12.

²⁶ See <<http://unfccc.int/7279>>.

(a) New and additional elements related to adaptation referred to in the Paris Agreement, such as the global adaptation goal and the global temperature increase limit referred to in Article 2, paragraph 1, of the Paris Agreement, as well as elements born out of other developments supporting the formulation and implementation of NAPs, or related to linkages to the United Nations Sustainable Developed Goals and the operationalization of the GCF;

(b) A development-centred approach to the formulation of NAPs;

(c) Considerations regarding vulnerable communities, groups and ecosystems in the context of the process to formulate and implement NAPs;

(d) Methods for processing and using the information collected through the online questionnaire on NAP Central and related sources to assess progress, effectiveness and gaps using the associated monitoring and evaluation tool and other relevant tools;

(e) The issue of how to move from the assessment of climate vulnerabilities and risk to the identification of effective adaptation solutions and actions;

(f) Assessing all the guiding principles of the process to formulate and implement NAPs.

2. Training on national adaptation plans

32. The LEG noted that its regional training workshops on NAPs have been useful to the participating countries, the LEG and relevant organizations. The country teams greatly improved their understanding of the process to formulate and implement NAPs and the diversity of technical and financial resources available to support their work.²⁷

33. It agreed to conduct regional training workshops on NAPs starting in the second half of 2016. For this, the LEG decided to develop a training strategy based on gaps and needs emerging from previous workshops²⁸ and other sources and on the vision of the LEG referred to in chapter III above. The strategy will then inform the development of training materials.

34. The LEG concluded that the design and conduct of the training will be supported by its NAP technical working group. The working group will include all relevant technical partners in order to promote the provision of the best training and support to countries, while ensuring coherence and complementarity, towards achieving a successful process to formulate and implement NAPs. The group will support the management of a joint calendar of NAP events on NAP Central and will contribute to building a framework for integrating all other supplementary materials to the technical guidelines into a coherent and development-centred approach to formulating and implementing NAPs.

35. As part of its response to the mandate from COP 21 for the LEG to provide technical guidance and support for accessing funding from the GCF in collaboration with the GCF secretariat,²⁹ the LEG agreed to further pursue the following options:

(a) Developing training and outreach materials, with input from the GCF secretariat and GCF implementing partners, on accessing funding from the GCF for NAPs and using the materials in the NAP training workshops;

²⁷ FCCC/SBI/2015/INF.14, paragraph 63.

²⁸ FCCC/SBI/2015/INF.14, paragraph 61.

²⁹ Decision 19/CP.21, paragraph 2(c).

(b) Inviting the GCF to jointly conduct one-day regular outreach events for the LDC UNFCCC national focal points, GCF national designated authorities and other relevant stakeholders.

3. NAP Expo

36. The LEG reaffirmed that the NAP Expo continues to play a significant role in the process to formulate and implement NAPs by bringing together a wide range of stakeholders to discuss various issues and share experience and information related to specific areas of the process.³⁰ It agreed to continue to conduct a global event annually.

37. The LEG discussed the design of the 2016 NAP Expo, the theme of which is to be “Advancing national adaptation plans post-Paris”. The event is scheduled to take place from 11 to 15 July 2016. It developed the following initial focus areas for the event, on the basis of the latest compilation of gaps and needs in relation to the process to formulate and implement NAPs:³¹

(a) Methodologies and tools for undertaking various assessments in the process to formulate and implement NAPs, including on risks, vulnerabilities, identification of adaptation options, appraisal of adaptation options and costing;

(b) Ways and means to access relevant information on available funding, best available science and knowledge on climate change;

(c) Accessing funding from the GCF and other sources of funding for the formulation of NAPs and the subsequent implementation of related policies, projects and programmes;

(d) Sharing experience, best practices, lessons learned, gaps and needs and information on support provided and received in relation to the process to formulate and implement NAPs;

(e) Ensuring coherence among the approaches undertaken by countries and supporting countries in undertaking the process.

38. The LEG agreed that the above-mentioned areas will be further developed by an advisory group to be established to support the organization of the event. The advisory group will also contribute towards the mobilization of all relevant stakeholders, the mobilization of funding for participants from developing countries, the design of the programme for the event, the identification of speakers and the provision of other inputs required for the success of the event.

39. The LEG discussed the value of holding NAP expos at the regional level, in collaboration with relevant regional events and activities such as the training workshops on NAPs, as a way to promote greater interaction among countries. The regional NAP expos will also provide an opportunity to enhance collaboration with various partners at the regional levels.

4. NAP Central

40. The LEG noted that many components of NAP Central are now fully operational.³² It also noted that adaptation plans and strategies from developing as well as developed

³⁰ FCCC/SBI/2015/INF.14, paragraph 62.

³¹ Drawn from documents FCCC/SBI/2015/INF.6, FCCC/SBI/2015/INF.11 and FCCC/SBI/2015/INF.14.

³² See <<http://www4.unfccc.int/nap/Pages/national-adaptation-plans.aspx>>.

countries can serve as particularly useful resources for the LDCs, and that they are not currently available on a common platform for easy access. It acknowledged the value of making those documents available on NAP Central to serve as a resource for countries as they formulate their NAPs. It agreed to assemble and display such plans and strategies, in collaboration with relevant partners and countries themselves, in an informal manner.

41. Meanwhile, the LEG also agreed to continue to develop and enhance NAP Central, to add additional features in response to relevant mandates from COP 21 and to service knowledge management as part of the activities of its work programme on an ongoing basis. This will involve hosting the LEG best practices and lessons learned platform, which is currently located on the LDC portal.³³

42. The LEG agreed to solicit feedback from users of NAP Central on an ongoing basis in order to be responsive to the needs of the LDCs as they advance their work in the process to formulate and implement NAPs.

43. With respect to the contributions of various organizations, the LEG noted that several organizations have nominated focal points for contributing and reviewing relevant content on NAP Central and it made an invitation to other organizations to nominate their focal points. Organizations taking part in the meeting pledged their support for the development of NAP Central and to contribute information as necessary. In addition, as part of the engagement of the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change (NWP), the LEG agreed to invite the NWP to share case studies and information on relevant tools and data with the LEG in order to enhance the resources being maintained on NAP Central.

5. National adaptation plan country case studies

44. The LEG agreed to further develop NAP case studies at the national level to promote learning, the application of the development-centred approach to the formulation of NAPs and the consideration of how to integrate sectoral issues into a national plan, the new adaptation elements under the Paris Agreement, adaptation themes under the GCF and synergy with national efforts under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 and other relevant processes. Such ‘open NAPs’ would focus particularly on key needs and challenges that the LDCs are facing in the formulation and implementation of their NAPs and would encourage contributions from the widest range of experts and stakeholders.

45. The LEG also agreed to conduct NAP case studies at the regional level to demonstrate regional approaches to adaptation planning and to promote learning and effective guidance on NAPs across scales (e.g. national, regional and drainage basin).

46. It also agreed to widen its reach in soliciting feedback from practitioners, NAP country teams and experts by using an online community.

6. Monitoring and assessing progress made on national adaptation plans

47. The LEG discussed ways to harmonize strategies for providing technical guidance and support related to monitoring and evaluation systems and the collection of information to inform the assessment of progress made on NAPs. It recognized that ongoing work, including on the application of the tool for the monitoring and evaluation of progress, effectiveness and gaps in relation to the process to formulate and implement NAPs, will serve as the basis for the assessment of progress made on NAPs referred to in chapter II.B above and the global stocktake referred to in paragraph 99 of decision 1/CP.21.

³³ <<http://unfccc.int/6491>>.

48. The LEG agreed to explore ways to enhance the existing knowledge management functions of NAP Central to service the needs for the assessment of progress made in different contexts, including the collection of the best available information to showcase adaptation efforts that are under way.

E. Providing technical guidance and support for national adaptation programmes of action and the least developed countries work programme

49. The LEG noted that many LDCs have reached the ceiling of resources available to them from the LDCF, which has delayed further progress towards the full implementation of their NAPAs.

50. The LEG discussed its mandate from COP 21 related to updating the least developed countries work programme.³⁴ It decided to prepare a concept note on the process to inform the updating of the work programme, including how to solicit inputs from Parties and other relevant stakeholders.

F. Addressing gender and vulnerable communities, groups and ecosystems

51. As part of its ongoing work on addressing gender and vulnerable communities, groups and ecosystems, the LEG will update its guidance to reflect a focus on gender responsiveness. The LEG agreed to invite the NWP to partner with it in holding an event at the NAP Expo in July 2016 on the issue of vulnerable communities, groups and ecosystems in the context of NAPs. This will be followed by a technical paper to be developed with inputs from relevant partners and organizations.

G. Providing technical guidance and advice on regional approaches to adaptation planning and implementation

52. The LEG considered its mandate from the COP to provide technical guidance and advice to the LDCs with regard to regional approaches to adaptation planning.³⁵ It noted that the work will involve the consideration of adaptation planning and implementation at the transboundary level, for such areas as water management, hydroenergy production and supply, trade and ecosystem management, as well as technical assessment and data issues that can be addressed jointly among neighbouring countries. It discussed how it can best support the LDCs in this respect and build on existing work undertaken by other bodies under the Convention, relevant organizations and regional entities.

53. As preliminary steps, the LEG decided to: conduct a scoping of regional adaptation programmes and actors, including regional economic communities, in the LDCs and make information on them available on NAP Central; explore the possibility of holding a dialogue on regional approaches to adaptation planning at the 2016 NAP Expo referred to in chapter IV.D above; and explore NAP case studies on regional approaches to adaptation to inform subsequent steps and activities.

³⁴ Decision 19/CP.21, paragraph 3.

³⁵ Decision 19/CP.21, paragraph 2(b).

H. Conducting outreach on the work of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group

54. The LEG noted the wealth of information contained in various products developed under its previous mandates, some of which have not been published in the regular reports on the meetings of the LEG or as independent publications, including thematic technical and information papers that provide technical guidance and advice on specific adaptation-related needs of the LDCs.

55. As a way to increase the utilization of that technical information, the LEG decided to produce an annual publication that will summarize key outputs and advice from the LEG for each year.

56. The LEG also decided to continue to disseminate information on experiences, best practices and lessons learned in addressing adaptation in the LDCs in publications and on NAP Central.

I. Collaborating with other bodies under the Convention

57. The LEG extended its appreciation to the Adaptation Committee for continuing to collaborate and share updates on its work as a way to ensure coherence and synergy with the LEG. With the new mandates arising from the Paris Agreement, and where the LEG and the Adaptation Committee are mandated to collaborate, the two bodies agreed to hold preliminary discussions on how they should proceed in responding to the mandates (see para. 23 above). The LEG nominated Mr. Tchinguilou to act as the representative of the LEG on the Adaptation Committee task force on NAPs in response to a request from the Adaptation Committee.

58. The LEG considered a request from the NWP for inputs on areas where the LEG can best complement the work of the NWP and identified the following areas for collaboration:

(a) With a view to engaging regional centres and networks, inviting the NWP to share a list of partners that are directly involved in supporting the LDCs in the process to formulate and implement NAPs for consideration by the LEG in inviting regional centres and networks to nominate focal points for its work;

(b) Tapping existing NWP partner organizations with recognized expertise in gender issues and vulnerable communities, groups and ecosystems and inviting the NWP to partner with it in holding an event thereon at the 2016 NAP Expo;

(c) Inviting the NWP to invite and engage its partner organization to submit action pledges in support of the process to formulate and implement NAPs;

(d) Seeking inputs on the best available tools for engaging stakeholders at the national level;

(e) Inviting the NWP to share its case studies on NAPs for display on NAP Central as part of the available resource materials on NAPs;

(f) Inviting NWP partner organizations to share information on their upcoming activities and events relevant to NAPs, to be included on the global calendar of NAP activities that is maintained on NAP Central, to facilitate navigation by the NAP teams to different support activities.

59. The LEG also considered a request from the COP for inputs in the context of the in-session workshop on long-term finance to be held in conjunction with the forty-fourth sessions of the subsidiary bodies. Inputs were requested on how institutional capacity in the

LDCs can be strengthened to facilitate their access to adaptation finance and on what systems are needed to facilitate expedited access to climate finance for the LDCs. The LEG decided to prepare and send a response to the request and also to participate in the workshop.

60. The LEG further considered a letter from the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts requesting inputs from the LEG on how it envisages including in its work specific and tangible ways of reducing or averting loss and damage in particularly vulnerable developing countries, vulnerable populations and the ecosystems they depend on, as well as information on specific actions that the LEG is taking in key areas relevant to its work on loss and damage. The LEG decided to prepare and send a response concerning the requested inputs.

61. The LEG agreed to send responses to the requests referred to in paragraphs 57–60 above and to share relevant information on the work of the LEG.

J. Engaging regional centres and networks

62. The LEG considered the mandate³⁶ from COP 21 for the LEG to invite relevant regional centres to each nominate one focal point for the LEG with a view to enhancing collaboration with those centres. It decided to identify relevant regional centres to be invited, drawing from those engaged in past LEG events, including regional training workshops, the NAP Expo and technical expert meetings, as well as from NWP partner organizations.

63. In addition, the LEG agreed to continue to foster its existing collaboration strategy, particularly with existing regional networks, and to explore widening its reach to other regional centres and networks that have undertaken recognized adaptation efforts with countries.

V. Discussions with organizations and the Government of Timor-Leste

A. Discussion with the Green Climate Fund

64. The LEG held a discussion with the GCF secretariat to address its mandates³⁷ relating to accessing funding from the GCF for the process to formulate and implement NAPs. The first part of the discussion involved obtaining feedback from the GCF secretariat on the following set of issues prepared by the LEG to initiate the discussion:

(a) The work of the LEG in relation to accessing funding from the GCF for the process to formulate and implement NAPs;

(b) Issues that the LDCs are likely to face in accessing funding from the GCF for the process to formulate and implement NAPs;

(c) Progress made by the GCF in addressing specific COP mandates in relation to NAPs: what to expect and how the LEG can provide guidance or advice on further work related to the special circumstances of the LDCs (as a way to address the mandate

³⁶ Decision 19/CP.21, paragraph 10.

³⁷ Decisions 4/CP.21, paragraph 10, and 19/CP.21, paragraphs 2(c) and 5.

contained in decision 19/CP.21 on providing technical guidance and advice on accessing funding from the GCF in collaboration with the GCF secretariat);

(d) Explaining grants versus loans and their possible implications, if any, for funding for the process to formulate and implement NAPs;

(e) Next steps in the collaboration between the LEG and the GCF secretariat in accordance with the relevant COP mandates.

65. The following information was shared by the GCF secretariat during the discussion:

(a) The Board of the GCF has requested the secretariat to develop a proposal for the implementation of the mandate from COP 21 for the GCF to expedite the provision of support for the LDCs and other developing country Parties for the formulation of their NAPs and for the subsequent implementation of policies, projects and programmes identified by them;³⁸

(b) The GCF is currently working on a simplified process of approval for small-scale activities;

(c) Three entities from the LDCs have been accredited by the GCF. In addition, two more entities from the LDCs are receiving readiness support to undertake in-depth assessments of the capacity to meet the accreditation requirements of the GCF;

(d) The GCF Readiness Programme may support activities related to the formulation of NAPs under its activity areas 2 (strategic frameworks, including the preparation of country programmes), 4 (initial pipelines of programmes and project proposals) of the programme, and 5 (information sharing, experience exchange and learning);

(e) Readiness commitments to individual developing member countries are capped at USD 1 million per calendar year. Noting that this amount is not only targeted towards supporting NAPs, it was highlighted that this may not be adequate to meet the needs of developing countries for the formulation of their NAPs or for undertaking other activities as part of the process to formulate and implement NAPs;

(f) The GCF does not have a policy that implies that adaptation should be supported by loans.

66. The LEG and the GCF then discussed possible ways to effectively support developing countries in accessing funding from the GCF. The following recommendations and/or conclusions emerged from the discussion:

(a) It is very important for the LDCs to convey their specific needs and feedback with regard to accessing funding for their NAPs through their GCF Board members;

(b) The LEG, in collaboration with the GCF, the Adaptation Committee and the Standing Committee on Finance, is to develop outreach materials on accessing funding from the GCF for NAPs for dissemination to developing countries;

(c) The GCF is to consider taking part in the NAP Expo and in regional training workshops, holding one-day sessions dedicated to providing information to and/or building the awareness of developing countries in relation to accessing funding from the GCF for their NAPs;

³⁸ Decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 46.

(d) The GCF secretariat will share with the LEG the experiences, best practices and lessons learned of countries that have accessed funding from the GCF and/or received readiness support;

(e) More clarity is required on the structure and contents of a NAP to help the GCF in designing an effective strategy for support.

67. Finally, the LEG developed a set of activities to be included in its work programme in coordination with the GCF secretariat (see annex I for full details of the activities in the LEG work programme).

B. Discussions with the Global Environment Facility and its agencies

1. Information shared by the Global Environment Facility and its agencies

68. Paragraphs 69–72 below provide a summary of the information provided by the organizations that took part in the meeting.

69. The GEF provided an update on its progress made in addressing the request³⁹ of the COP for the GEF to conduct a technical review of the programme priorities of the LDCF. As part of the technical review, the GEF is conducting a desk review, a survey and consultations with key stakeholders. The report thereon is due to be delivered before COP 22: the GEF is looking to finalize the draft document by May 2016 and prepare it for discussion and approval by the GEF Council meeting in June 2016. The GEF also provided an update on the status of the LDCF.

70. UNEP provided an update on its experience in supporting efforts to build readiness in the LDCs in connection with gaining direct access to both the Adaptation Fund and the GCF. UNEP is supporting eight countries for Adaptation Fund readiness.⁴⁰ In supporting countries for GCF readiness, there are three modes in which UNEP delivers support: (1) to nine countries through the German government-funded GCF Readiness Programme;⁴¹ (2) by acting as a delivery partner for GCF readiness for two LDCs;⁴² and (3) by providing direct assistance to countries through the preparation of concept notes for submission to the GCF for the formulation and implementation of NAPs.⁴³ UNEP also highlighted the direct assistance provided to 15 LDCs⁴⁴ in the first phase of the NAP-GSP for the LDCs.

71. FAO presented its experience of supporting countries in relation to agriculture and NAPs, highlighting its activities in developing the agriculture supplement to the LEG technical guidelines and in the FAO–UNDP joint programme on integrating agriculture into NAPs, whereby FAO is helping eight countries to identify and integrate climate adaptation measures for the agriculture sector, including forestry and fishery, into relevant national planning and budgeting processes.

72. UNDP and UNEP provided updates on the plans for their support programmes for both the LDCs and non-LDCs. With a similar modality to that of the NAP-GSP for the LDCs, the NAP-GSP for non-LDCs, with funding from the GEF through the SCCF amounting to USD 4.5 million, will be implemented over 36 months. The project has three

³⁹ Decision 8/CP.21, paragraph 8.

⁴⁰ Bhutan, Cambodia, Cook Islands, Maldives, Nepal, Palau, Sri Lanka and Tuvalu.

⁴¹ Benin, Colombia, El Salvador, Fiji, Ghana, Kenya, Nepal, Philippines and Uzbekistan.

⁴² Benin and Comoros.

⁴³ Mongolia, Myanmar and Nepal.

⁴⁴ Angola, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Comoros, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Gambia, Liberia, Madagascar, Mauritania, Malawi, Niger, Senegal and United Republic of Tanzania.

main components of engagement: institutional strengthening, technical support and knowledge brokering. The project aims to support at least 20 countries and 3 have already received country-specific support.⁴⁵ On a similar note, the expanded ongoing provision of support to the LDCs for advancing their NAPs is currently awaiting submission by the GEF secretariat for endorsement by its Chief Executive Officer. Said expansion will commence in August 2016. The expanded support will be funded by the LDCF to the amount of USD 6.2 million and will be implemented over 36 months. It will have the same modalities of support and will aim to provide support to another 20 countries.

2. Areas for future collaboration

73. The LEG presented key elements of its work programme to the GEF agencies and encouraged them to identify areas in which they could be engaged as partners. Paragraphs 74–78 below elaborate the areas for future collaboration.

74. All agencies agreed to consider hosting a parallel session at the upcoming 2016 NAP Expo. The specific topic for each agency has yet to be determined and will be closely coordinated with the LEG and the secretariat as it develops its concept note and agenda for the event. The agencies also reaffirmed their commitment to being part of the advisory group for the 2016 NAP Expo.

75. The agencies maintained that they will continue to support the development and enhancement of NAP Central. NAP-GSP affirmed its commitment to remaining part of the NAP Central support group and continuing to work with the secretariat on specific requests for information and content that the programme can assist with.

76. Concerning enhancing data and information collection, the LEG conveyed the need to compile and collate information on country-specific initiatives that could assist in assessing progress. Various agencies have data and information that has not been well captured in reporting; the LEG requested the agencies to coordinate with it on how to make this information available. NAP-GSP reaffirmed its willingness to continue to share information with the LEG as it has done in the past.

77. NAP-GSP conveyed that, since the expanded support for non-LDCs has yet to be approved, it cannot commit to planning future training on NAPs. However, it affirmed that it will engage the expertise of the LEG in developing a design for the training of non-LDCs, building on the success of the training held for the LDCs.

78. Regarding providing readiness assistance to countries, UNEP expressed that the LEG could send a request to it and assist in prioritizing countries that will be supported for GCF readiness.

C. Discussions with other organizations

79. The NAP Global Network provided an update on its activities and how it continues to support countries in undertaking country-driven adaptation planning. It informed the meeting of the targeted topics scheduled for the year and expressed its interest in co-organizing a session to be held at the NAP Expo. In addition, it shared its experience of documenting national adaptation actions in implementing the Adaptation Partnership project.

⁴⁵ Côte d'Ivoire, Honduras and Tajikistan.

D. Interaction with the Government of Timor-Leste

80. The LEG had an opportunity to interact with the climate change adaptation team of the Government of Timor-Leste on the fourth day of the meeting, on 18 March. The team, led by the National Directorate for Climate Change under the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Environment, is composed of representatives of various ministries (i.e. the Minister of Social Solidarity; the Minister of State, Coordinator of Economic Affairs and Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries; and the Minister of Public Works, Transport and Communications) and United Nations organizations and agencies (such as FAO and UNDP).

81. The team made two key presentations: the first provided a snapshot of the development context of the country, highlighting the key systems that drive the country's economy and its major policies and vision for the next 10 and 20 years, while the second focused on climate change adaptation in the country, emphasizing its vulnerabilities with respect to risks related to climate change and risks not related to it. The team also presented the policies, projects and programmes that have so far been initiated by the Government to address climate change.

82. A discussion was held after the presentation and the rest of the team were able to highlight some key issues:

- (a) How agriculture and food security are most likely to be at high risk in the face of climate change impacts given the current vulnerabilities of agriculture in Timor-Leste;
- (b) How to scale up the building resilience project, showcasing the integration of climate change adaptation and disaster management that is being implemented in select local government units;
- (c) The status of Timor-Leste's application for funding from the LDCF;
- (d) Practising gender responsiveness and prioritizing vulnerable communities;
- (e) The call for technical and financial support from the LEG and the United Nations organizations present at the meeting.

83. The representative of the GEF at the meeting responded to the issue referred to in paragraph 82(c) above and explained that Timor-Leste submitted multiple project proposals for funding from the LDCF, exceeding the USD 30 million ceiling, which caused a delay in approval. The GEF representative reiterated that Timor-Leste should provide information through its GEF focal point on which of the multiple projects is considered priority and ensure that it falls under the allowed funding ceiling.

84. The LEG members and representatives of United Nations organizations and agencies present at the meeting provided information on how to access technical support for undertaking adaptation measures. The LEG reiterated its commitment to providing technical support to Timor-Leste in the areas that fall within its mandate.

VI. Work programme of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group for 2016–2017

85. The LEG developed its two-year rolling work programme by going through the following steps:

- (a) Developing a vision for supporting adaptation in the LDCs (see chapter III above);

(b) Defining expected impacts and outcomes reflecting the long-term success of the work of the LEG in supporting adaptation in the LDCs in the context of the above-mentioned vision (see paragraph 15 above);

(c) Identifying major areas of work/activities based on the mandates of the COP to the LEG;⁴⁶

(d) Identifying activities under each of the areas of work that would contribute towards the desired outcomes.

86. The rolling workplan of the LEG for 2016–2017, contained in annex I, presents the activities designed to achieve the vision and expected impacts referred to in chapter III above. A detailed work programme with mandates, activities and outputs by work area is available online.⁴⁷

87. The LEG decided that the following modalities will be applied in the implementation of its work programme:

(a) Technical guidelines for NAPs, including materials that are supplementary to the technical guidelines, an example of a process to formulate and implement NAPs and other products expanding on the technical guidelines;

(b) Workshops and expert meetings;

(c) Training activities;

(d) Regional exchanges;

(e) Syntheses of experiences, best practices and lessons learned;

(f) Technical papers;

(g) Technical advice;

(h) NAP Central;

(i) NAP Expo;

(j) NAP country case studies;

(k) Groups established to support specific areas of work, including the NAP technical working group, NAP Central support group and the NAP Expo advisory group.

⁴⁶ Decisions 29/CP.7, 7/CP.9, 4/CP.11, 8/CP.13, 6/CP.16, 5/CP.17, 12/CP.18, 3/CP.20, 1/CP.21, 4/CP.21 and 19/CP.21.

⁴⁷ <http://unfccc.int/adaptation/groups_committees/ldc_expert_group/items/9516.php>.

Annex I

Rolling work programme of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group for 2016–2017

[English only]

<i>Work area/type</i>	<i>Activities</i>
Supporting the Paris Agreement	<p>Internally prepare to address the mandates^a arising from decision 1/CP.21, including through a joint meeting with the Adaptation Committee during the forty-fourth sessions of the subsidiary bodies</p> <p>Prepare a report to the first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement on the outcomes of the consideration of the mandates in coordination with the Adaptation Committee</p> <p>Prepare a technical paper on gaps and needs related to technical support for the least developed countries (LDCs) that would arise from implementation of the Paris Agreement, along the following steps: (1) identify what is new and different in terms of adaptation planning and policy in the Paris Agreement that may inform possible updates to the guidance that the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG) provides on national adaptation plans (NAPs); (2) examine existing modalities for the provision of technical guidance and support on NAPs and update them as appropriate, incorporating the new elements arising from outcomes of the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties; (3) conduct a mapping of past assessments of gaps and needs to the Paris Agreement to identify areas that remain to be supported and identify new areas for the LDCs; and (4) seek validation and additional inputs from Parties and other stakeholders on the compiled gaps and needs at a side event held during the forty-fourth session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) in May 2016 and during the NAP Expo planned for July 2016</p> <p>Identify the main gaps and needs of the LDCs that would arise from the implementation of the Paris Agreement and how they can be addressed by the LEG and/or others, and include the information in the report of the LEG to SBI 45</p>
Supporting the assessment by the SBI of progress made in the process to formulate and implement NAPs	<p>Prepare an annual update to the SBI on progress made in the process to formulate and implement NAPs based on information submitted by Parties and relevant organizations through a questionnaire to be conducted on NAP Central and other sources</p> <p>Summarize information on progress made in the process to formulate and implement NAPs for each developing country in a tracking tool that aggregates information by key element and principle of the process</p> <p>Prepare a concept note on the assessment by the SBI of progress made in the process to formulate and implement NAPs referred to in decision 4/CP.21, paragraph 11, with inputs from the Adaptation Committee and other relevant stakeholders, to inform the design and preparations for the assessment</p> <p>Organize the meeting of Party experts referred to in decision 4/CP.21, paragraph 12(d), in collaboration with the Adaptation Committee, and prepare a report on the meeting for consideration at SBI 48</p>

Work area/type	Activities
Engaging with the Green Climate Fund (GCF) secretariat on accessing funding from the fund for the process to formulate and implement NAPs	<p data-bbox="784 199 2016 263">Invite the GCF secretariat to LEG meetings and related events to address LDC issues relating to accessing funding from the GCF for the formulation and implementation of NAPs and on readiness activities</p> <p data-bbox="784 263 2016 375">Invite the GCF to conduct outreach events, on a regular basis, for the LDC UNFCCC national focal points, the GCF national designated authorities and other relevant stakeholders during the NAP Expo and regional training workshops</p> <p data-bbox="784 375 2016 694">Advise the GCF secretariat on expediting support to the LDCs and other developing countries on formulating and implementing NAPs, through the following: (1) continue to develop and nurture a working relationship between the LEG and the LDCs with the GCF secretariat and the members of the GCF Board to increase understanding of their working modalities as well as to increase their understanding of the work and role of the LEG in supporting and guiding the LDCs; (2) providing regular updates to the GCF secretariat on relevant outcomes of the LEG meetings as a way to initiate an exchange of information on how the LDCs are being guided and supported to formulate and implement NAPs and to seek information on the efforts of the GCF to support the LDCs; and (3) sharing relevant information from the LDCs with the GCF Board members, for example through briefings on challenges faced by the LDCs and by engaging them in relevant events of the LEG, as appropriate</p> <p data-bbox="784 694 2016 758">Develop training and outreach materials, with input from the GCF secretariat and GCF implementing partners, on accessing funding from the GCF for NAPs, and use the materials in the NAP training workshops</p> <p data-bbox="784 758 2016 869">Regularly share information on relevant products and results of the LEG with the GCF secretariat as a way to facilitate the GCF secretariat's expedited support to the LDCs on NAPs, national adaptation programmes of action (NAPAs) and other activities</p> <p data-bbox="784 869 2016 997">Collect information, on an ongoing basis, on experiences and challenges faced by the LDCs in accessing funding from the GCF, through surveys of the LDCs conducted by the LEG at each SBI session and related events, including through the online questionnaire on NAP Central, taking into account relevant information-gathering efforts of other bodies and relevant organizations</p> <p data-bbox="784 997 2016 1085">Update the 2015 LEG <i>Information paper on how the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans can be supported in least developed countries</i>^b</p>
Monitoring and evaluation of progress, effectiveness, gaps and adequacy in the process to formulate and implement NAPs	<p data-bbox="784 1085 2016 1189">Further develop and test the tool for monitoring and evaluation of progress, effectiveness and gaps in addressing adaptation in the LDCs (PEG M&E tool) to capture the breadth of assessments related to the process to formulate and implement NAPs</p> <p data-bbox="784 1189 2016 1300">Prepare a technical paper on methods for processing and using the information collected through the online questionnaire on NAP Central and related sources to assess progress, effectiveness and gaps, using the PEG M&E tool and other relevant tools, with the support of the NAP technical working group</p>
Advancing NAPs through technical guidance and support	<p data-bbox="784 1300 2016 1396">Prepare a technical paper, as a supplement to the technical guidelines, on what is new and different in the Paris Agreement in terms of adaptation planning and policy that may inform possible updates to the technical guidance and support that the LEG provides on NAPs, including through an overview publication of the process to</p>

<i>Work area/type</i>	<i>Activities</i>
	<p>formulate and implement NAPs being finalized by the LEG since 2015</p> <p>Develop technical materials to supplement the technical guidelines to provide in-depth coverage of specific issues as their arise</p> <p>Prepare a supplement on the development-centred approach for the formulation of NAPs and use it in the training</p> <p>Prepare a technical paper on monitoring and assessing all the guiding principles of the process to formulate and implement NAPs, taking into account new elements arising from the Paris Agreement, using the PEG M&E tool, with the support of the NAP technical working group</p> <p>Organize meetings with relevant technical experts as and when needs arise to explore specific topics on NAPs</p> <p>Prepare a supplement on how to address short-term needs in the context of the process to formulate and implement NAPs to cover areas that were previously covered by NAPAs</p>
Advancing NAPs through NAP Expo	<p>Convene NAP Expo events annually, with the support of the NAP Expo advisory group, and in collaboration with relevant bodies and organizations</p> <p>Promote, and where appropriate conduct, regional NAP Expos in collaboration with NAP regional training workshops and other relevant events</p>
Advancing NAPs through training	<p>Develop a training strategy for the formulation and implementation of NAPs</p> <p>Develop and expand training materials on the formulation and implementation of NAPs (use them to finalize the NAP Sourcebook started by the LEG in 2015)</p> <p>Conduct regional training workshops on NAPs starting in the second half of 2016 with the support of the NAP technical working group and in collaboration with relevant organizations, regional centres and networks</p> <p>Set up a communication network to support NAP training, linked to NAP Central and the work of the NAP technical working group, to coordinate training on all aspects related to NAPs, with relevant partners, as a way to promote the provision of the best possible training and support to countries, while ensuring coherence and complementarity towards the successful process to formulate and implement NAPs; outputs to include a joint calendar of NAP events</p>
Advancing NAPs through case studies at the national and regional levels	<p>Further develop case studies of NAPs to promote learning and application of the development-centred approach for the formulation of NAPs</p> <p>Develop case studies of NAPs at the regional level to demonstrate regional approaches to adaptation planning and to promote learning and effectiveness of guidance on NAPs across scales</p>
Advancing NAPs through NAP Central	<p>Receive and manage NAPs and related outputs from the LDCs</p> <p>Further develop and enhance NAP Central, using advice from the NAP Central support group and regular feedback from users, including to address relevant registry functions referred to in the Paris Agreement</p>

<i>Work area/type</i>	<i>Activities</i>
	<p>Manage adaptation planning documents from all countries to serve as resources for others in their process to formulate and implement NAPs</p> <p>Use NAP Central to service knowledge management under other activities in the work programme on an ongoing basis</p>
Promoting knowledge management on NAPs in the LDCs	Continue to capture and share experiences, best practices, lessons learned, gaps and needs, and publish those on NAP Central
Providing technical guidance and support for NAPAs and the least developed countries work programme	<p>Provide ongoing support to the LDCs and SBI on NAPAs including through ongoing tracking and reporting on progress on the implementation of NAPAs under the Least Developed Countries Fund to the SBI through the reports of the LEG meetings</p> <p>Consider the revision and update of the LDC work programme using the following steps: (1) preparation of a concept note on the revision/update; (2) collection of views from Parties and relevant stakeholders; (3) validation of the results through relevant stakeholders; and (4) submission to the SBI of a report on recommendations for the revision and update of the work programme</p>
Addressing gender and vulnerable communities, groups and ecosystems	<p>Prepare an information paper on considerations regarding gender and vulnerable communities, groups and ecosystems in the context of the process to formulate and implement NAPs</p> <p>Conduct a technical workshop on how to identify and address gender and vulnerable communities, groups and ecosystems, in collaboration with the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change (NWP) during NAP Expo 2016</p> <p>Continue to consider how gender responsiveness is considered in NAPs as part of addressing all guiding principles of the process to formulate and implement NAPs</p>
Providing technical guidance and advice on regional approaches to adaptation planning	<p>Assemble information on regional approaches to adaptation planning based on (a) preparing a conceptual scoping of regional approaches and issues, (b) mapping of regional adaptation programmes relevant to the LDCs and (c) making the information available on NAP Central</p> <p>Conduct an expert meeting on regional approaches to adaptation planning and implementation and synergy with national efforts under NAPs (at NAP Expo 2016/2017)</p> <p>Develop supplementary guidelines on regional approaches to adaptation planning and their implementation on the basis of the outcomes of the two above-mentioned activities</p>
Collaborating with relevant bodies under the Convention	<p>Invite the Adaptation Committee to nominate its members to the NAP technical working group, NAP Expo advisory group, NAP Central support group and NAP regional training workshop advisory group</p> <p>Participate in the work of the Adaptation Committee task force on NAPs</p> <p>Engage with the NWP to mobilize its partner organizations for action and/or to share information on selected topics</p> <p>Participate in the long-term finance forum in May 2016 in response to an invitation from the Standing</p>

<i>Work area/type</i>	<i>Activities</i>
	Committee on Finance
Engaging regional centres and networks, and relevant organizations	<p>Engage and mobilize regional centres and networks to nominate focal points (based on opportunities for synergy and the potential to address gaps and needs for adaptation in the LDCs, e.g. data gaps)</p> <p>Mobilize relevant organizations, regional centres and networks to enhance support for readiness of the LDCs to access funding from the GCF for NAPs</p> <p>Continue to engage a wide range of organizations, regional centres and networks on the provision of technical guidance and support on adaptation to the LDCs, including through the advisory, working and/or support groups established by the LEG to support various activities</p>

^a Decision 1/CP.21, paragraphs 41 and 45.

^b Available at <http://www4.unfccc.int/nap/Documents/2015%20Publications/UNFCCC%20LDC_Support_9%20124.pdf>.

Annex II

Projects from the national adaptation programmes of action that have been technically cleared by the secretariat of the Global Environment Facility between November 2015 and March 2016 and are awaiting funding from the Least Developed Countries Fund

<i>Country</i>	<i>Project title</i>	<i>Date of technical clearance</i>	<i>Total Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) funding received (grant and fees) (USD million)</i>	<i>Total project cost, including LDCF project preparation grant and fees and co-financing (USD million)</i>	<i>Implementing agency</i>
Ethiopia	Climate Change Adaptation in the Lowland Ecosystems of Ethiopia	11 December 2015	6.50	47.70	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
Burkina Faso	Climate resilience in the Nakambe Basin	12 December 2015	5.00	21.00	UNDP
Cambodia	Climate Adaptation and Resilience in Cambodia's Coastal Fishery Dependent Communities	22 December 2015	4.90	26.15	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
Sao Tome and Principe	São Tomé and Príncipe Adaptation to Climate Change - Additional Financing	1 March 2016	6.57	11.97	World Bank
Chad	Strengthening agro-ecosystems' adaptive capacity to climate change in the Lake Chad Basin (Lac, Kanem, Bahr El Ghazal, and part of the Hadjer-Lamis region)	9 March 2016	4.60	23.70	FAO

Note: A complete list of technically cleared projects as at 23 October 2015 is available in document FCCC/SBI/2015/19, annex I. Some of the projects in that list have since received approval from the Global Environment Facility Council. As at 5 April 2016, a total of 33 projects worth USD 216,821,563 had been technically cleared and were awaiting resources from the LDCF.

Annex III**Members of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group as at
15 March 2016**

Mr. Abias Huongo	Angola
Mr. Erwin Künzi	Austria
Mr. Ibila Djibril	Benin
Ms. Sonam Lhaden Khandu	Bhutan
Mr. Thinley Namgyel	Bhutan
Ms. Beth Lavender	Canada
Mr. Adrian Fitzgerald	Ireland
Mr. Benon Bibbu Yassin	Malawi
Mr. Naresh Sharma	Nepal
Mr. Douglas Yee	Solomon Islands
Mr. Abiziou Tchinguilou	Togo
Ms. Pepetua Election Latasi	Tuvalu
Mr. Fredrick Manyika	United Republic of Tanzania
