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Matters relating to the least developed countries

The 30th meeting of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group

Report by the secretariat

Summary

The 30th meeting of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG) was held in Monrovia from 7 to 10 September 2016. At the meeting, the LEG reviewed progress in the implementation of its work programme for 2016–2017. The meeting also included discussions with relevant organizations on collaboration in supporting the least developed countries. Furthermore, the LEG held discussions with the Government of Liberia to discuss progress made as well as gaps and challenges faced by Liberia in addressing adaptation.

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I. Mandate

1. The Conference of the Parties (COP), at its 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, 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 30th meeting of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group

A. Proceedings

3. The 30th meeting of the LEG was held in Monrovia from 7 to 10 September 2016. The meeting was opened by the Deputy Minister for Budget and Development Planning of the Government of Liberia, Ms. Tanneh Brunson.

4. The LEG invited the Adaptation Committee (AC) to take part in the meeting in order to continue to strengthen their collaboration.

5. Furthermore, the LEG extended invitations to the secretariats of the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and the Global Environment Facility (GEF), as well as to GEF agencies, to participate in the meeting, to discuss collaboration in the provision of support to the least developed countries (LDCs). The following took part in the meeting: Conservation International, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the GCF secretariat, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the World Bank.

6. The meeting also included special sessions for interacting with the Government of Liberia in order to discuss progress in the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans (NAPs), challenges, gaps and needs.

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.

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

7. The LEG discussed its ongoing work on monitoring the progress made in the process to formulate and implement NAPs, and the information to be presented in the report on the progress in the process to formulate and implement NAPs.⁵

8. It noted that many developing countries have undertaken various measures in the process, the majority of which fall under elements A (laying the groundwork and addressing gaps) and B (preparatory elements).⁶ It also noted that developing countries are continuing to pursue efforts to access funding from the GCF in order to undertake concrete activities for the formulation and early implementation of their NAPs. To this end, the LEG further noted that many developing countries are eager to get more information and support on how to access funding from the GCF for NAPs, including on how to align work with GCF procedures, in order to ensure the effective formulation of NAPs and the implementation of policies, projects and programmes identified in the NAPs.

9. The LEG noted that many developing countries are at the stage where they need enhanced technical support, including in relation to data, methods and tools, for, inter alia:

- (a) Analysing future climate risk;
- (b) Undertaking risk and vulnerability assessments;
- (c) Undertaking assessments related to the 2 °C global temperature increase limit;
- (d) Identifying effective adaptation measures;
- (e) Assessing the cost of adaptation options;
- (f) Developing/enhancing monitoring and evaluation systems;
- (g) Aligning with other adaptation programmes and initiatives at the national level;
- (h) Linking adaptation to sustainable development.

10. The LEG also noted that a few developing countries are in the final stages of the formulation of their NAPs, based on announcements made during SBI 44 and the NAP Expo (see chapter III.D below).

2. Progress made in relation to support provided

11. The LEG took note of the following information submitted and/or presented by various organizations on the support provided for the process to formulate and implement NAPs between March and September 2016:⁷

⁵ FCCC/SBI/2016/INF.11.

⁶ Detailed information is available in document FCCC/SBI/2016/INF.11, table 1, and at <<http://unfccc.int/9295>>.

⁷ This section only covers information made available to the 30th meeting of the LEG by the respective bodies and organizations. More information on support, including that not covered by this report, is available in document FCCC/SBI/2016/INF.11.

(a) Of the 50 readiness proposals approved for funding by the GCF, 13 will build on, align with or complement the results of the initial activities undertaken in the formulation of NAPs in the respective countries.⁸ Some of these countries were more specific in indicating that their readiness proposals will strengthen the capacity of the institutions leading the process to formulate and implement NAPs.⁹ Furthermore, following the decision of the GCF Board at its 13th meeting, developing countries can now access up to USD 3 million per country through the GCF Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme modalities, specifically for NAPs;¹⁰

(b) The GEF Council approved a USD 6.2 million funding proposal for the “Chad national adaptation plan” through the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) in July 2016. Eleven more funding proposals seeking to support elements of work on the process to formulate and implement NAPs were still in the technically cleared pipeline under the LDCF.¹¹ Furthermore, the GEF reported that the global project entitled “Expanding the ongoing support to least developed countries (LDCs) with country-driven processes to advance national adaptation plans (NAPs)”,¹² with total funding of USD 7 million from the LDCF, will be launched before the end of the year to expand the activities of the National Adaptation Plan Global Support Programme (NAP-GSP);

(c) The LEG, in collaboration with a wide range of bodies and organizations, convened the NAP Expo from 11 to 15 July 2016 in Bonn, Germany. The event brought together countries and providers of support to share experiences and foster partnerships in order to advance NAPs. More details on the event are provided in paragraphs 26–31 below. In addition, the LEG continued to advance its work on its modalities for providing technical guidance and support on NAPs, including on guidelines and supplementary materials, training, the NAP Expo, NAP Central, Open NAP case studies and supporting the SBI assessment of progress on NAPs (further details are elaborated in chapter III.C and F below);

(d) The AC conducted the technical examination process on adaptation, which featured the process to formulate and implement NAPs as its first umbrella topic.¹³ The AC continues to support work on NAPs through its task force on NAPs and ongoing engagement with the LEG;

(e) UNDP is assisting nine LDCs¹⁴ in developing project proposals to access funding from the GCF for the formulation of NAPs. UNDP is also serving as an implementing agency under the GEF for Bangladesh, Chad, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Malawi, Niger and Senegal in accessing funding from the LDCF. Four LDCs (Gambia, Nepal, Uganda and Zambia) are being supported through a Government of Germany funded UNDP–FAO joint programme on integrating agriculture into NAPs. UNDP continues to support countries in developing integrated financing frameworks and public expenditure, and institutional reviews targeting climate finance, as well as on skills development in economic appraisal methods for climate change impacts on key sectors,

⁸ Bangladesh, Benin, Central African Republic, Comoros, Côte d’Ivoire, Guinea, Honduras, Liberia, Senegal, Timor-Leste, Togo, United Republic of Tanzania and Vanuatu.

⁹ Bangladesh, Benin and Timor-Leste.

¹⁰ Green Climate Fund Board decision B.13/09, paragraph (e). Available at <<http://www.greenclimate.fund/boardroom/on-record/documents>>.

¹¹ FCCC/CP/2016/6, annex, paragraph 15.

¹² FCCC/CP/2016/6, annex, paragraph 15.

¹³ See <<http://unfccc.int/9542>>.

¹⁴ Burundi, Chad, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Madagascar, Niger, Senegal and United Republic of Tanzania.

including the cost–benefit analysis of investment options. Two countries (Benin and Nepal) are receiving support under the UNDP climate finance readiness programme.

12. The LEG noted that information collected does not cover the full scope of support provided for the process to formulate and implement NAPs. In particular, the LEG recognized that it is currently not possible to capture information on support provided from national sources and hence such information does not get included in the compilation of progress. In this regard, the LEG agreed to continue to enhance efforts to collect information from Parties and also to use the NAP Expo and other events for such information gathering efforts. This would be in addition to the standard methods of data collection through the analysis of information from official country documents submitted under the Convention and surveys conducted during the sessions of the subsidiary bodies and the COP.

C. Status of implementation of national adaptation programmes of action

13. Based on information received from the GEF,¹⁵ as at 19 September 2016, a total of 178 national adaptation programme of action (NAPA) implementation projects had been approved by the GEF Council for funding from the LDCF. Furthermore, a total of 32 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.

14. Apart from Equatorial Guinea, all the LDCs that had completed the preparation of their NAPAs had at least one NAPA implementation project approved for funding under the LDCF. At least 11 of the LDCs had five or more approved projects. Furthermore, 11 countries had completed the implementation of one of their NAPA projects.¹⁶

15. As at 31 August 2016, the total cumulative donor pledges to the LDCF amounted to USD 1.19 billion and the total paid contributions amounted to USD 1.02 billion. The funding ceiling for each LDC is currently at USD 40 million, in accordance with the principle of equitable access.

III. Progress in the implementation of the work programme of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group for 2016–2017

A. Addressing the mandates contained in decision 1/CP.21, paragraphs 41 and 45, to give effect to the Paris Agreement

16. The LEG discussed the progress made in addressing the mandates given to it and the AC by the COP by decision 1/CP.21, paragraphs 41 and 45. It took note of the following steps that had already been undertaken in addressing the mandates:

(a) The secretariat, following a request made by the AC and the LEG,¹⁷ prepared a background paper to initiate consideration of the mandates;

¹⁵ Document GEF/LDCF.SCCF.20/03 and updates provided to the secretariat.

¹⁶ Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Gambia, Niger, Rwanda, Samoa, Sudan and Zambia. Both Cabo Verde and Samoa have since graduated from the LDC category.

¹⁷ FCCC/SBI/2016/7, paragraph 23.

(b) Members of the AC and the LEG held a joint meeting on 27 May 2016 and developed a workplan for addressing the mandates;¹⁸

(c) Members of the AC and the LEG who attended NAP Expo 2016 held an informal meeting on 15 July 2016 to discuss work in addressing the mandates;

(d) The AC and the LEG issued a call for submissions from Parties and non-Party stakeholders on 1 August 2016 to gather views on the mandates;¹⁹

(e) The secretariat conducted a desk review of information related to the mandates as input to the 10th meeting of the AC and the 30th meeting of the LEG;

(f) A website providing information on the work of the AC and the LEG in addressing the mandates has been created.²⁰

17. The LEG engaged in further discussions on the mandates, focusing on what the modalities and methodologies could be. It discussed ways to validate options, including possible consideration of pros and cons of the modalities and methodologies that may be identified/developed and potential application through a case study.

18. The LEG noted that work needs to remain focused on developing the modalities and methodologies. It also noted that the first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA) could happen as early as in November 2016, and acknowledged the need to advance work as quickly as possible in order to allow for opportunities to get feedback from Parties before reporting thereon at CMA 1.

19. On the way forward, the LEG agreed to provide the following update to the AC on ways to further advance joint work:

(a) The LEG and the AC are to consider preparing the papers referred to in the workplan²¹ for the mandates well before COP 22, so that they could serve as a basis for discussion and for the update provided to Parties at COP 22 and in order to seek feedback thereon;

(b) The LEG and the AC are to hold a joint meeting prior to or in conjunction with COP 22 in order to review information to be shared at the side event scheduled to take place during COP 22;²²

(c) The LEG and the AC are to establish a joint working group consisting of four members from each body and a representative of the Standing Committee on Finance to work intersessionally on exploring options for modalities and methodologies;

(d) The LEG is to hold its first meeting of 2017 in Bonn concurrently with a meeting of the AC in order to create an opportunity for a joint meeting of the two bodies, so that they may further advance work on the mandates.

¹⁸ A report on the meeting is available at
<http://unfccc.int/files/adaptation/cancun_adaptation_framework/adaptation_committee/application/pdf/20160704_report_acleg__mandates_cop21.pdf>.

¹⁹ See <<http://unfccc.int/9761>>.

²⁰ <<http://unfccc.int/9785>>.

²¹ Available at
<http://unfccc.int/files/adaptation/cancun_adaptation_framework/adaptation_committee/application/pdf/20160704_report_acleg__mandates_cop21.pdf>.

²² The side event is scheduled to take place on 10 November 2016 from 1.15 to 2.45 p.m.

B. Gaps and needs related to adaptation arising from the Paris Agreement and the decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its twenty-first session

20. The LEG initiated consideration of gaps and needs related to adaptation for the LDCs that would arise from the implementation of the Paris Agreement and other outcomes of COP 21 by looking at what is new and different in relation to adaptation planning and implementation, and identified the following initial set of issues:

(a) Obligations, process-related issues and issues of which the details are under consideration and in relation to which the LDCs may require support:

- (i) The global stocktake;
- (ii) The transparency framework for action and support;
- (iii) Assessment by the SBI of progress made in the process to formulate and implement NAPs;
- (iv) Adaptation communications;
- (v) Nationally determined contributions;
- (vi) Modalities to recognize adaptation efforts of developing country Parties, as referred to in Article 7, paragraph 3, of the Paris Agreement;
- (vii) Methodologies for taking the necessary steps to facilitate the mobilization of support for adaptation in developing countries in the context of the limit to the global average temperature increase referred to in Article 2 of the Paris Agreement;
- (viii) Methodologies for reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support referred to in Article 2 of the Paris Agreement;

(b) Technical issues on which the LDCs may require support regarding how to factor them into their work on adaptation:

- (i) The global goal on adaptation;
- (ii) Links to sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty;
- (iii) Formulation of NAPs with funding from the GCF;
- (iv) Additional guiding principles, such as gender sensitivity;
- (v) Co-benefits of adaptation and mitigation;
- (vi) The adaptation continuum;
- (vii) Monitoring and evaluation of action and support.

21. The LEG also identified specific gaps and needs for the LDCs in relation to the issues mentioned in paragraph 20 above and decided to further refine the gaps and needs and to identify how they can be addressed either by the LEG, other bodies and organizations or the SBI and the COP. It noted that some of the issues may be relevant to its mandate to consider the need to update the LDC work programme.²³

²³ Decision 19/CP.21, paragraph 3.

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

22. The LEG discussed a concept note on the assessment by the SBI of progress made in the process to formulate and implement NAPs, covering the scope of the assessment, approach, sources of information and interim activities leading to the assessment at SBI 48.

23. On the scope of the assessment, the following areas were identified on the basis of decision 4/CP.21:

- (a) The achievement of the objectives of the process to formulate and implement NAPs;
- (b) Experiences, best practices, lessons learned, gaps and needs;
- (c) Support provided and received in the process to formulate and implement NAPs;
- (d) The status of developing countries in undertaking the process to formulate and implement NAPs;
- (e) The application of the guiding principles of the process to formulate and implement NAPs contained in decision 5/CP.17, paragraph 3.

24. The following were identified as potential sources of information for the assessment:

- (a) The submissions referred to in decision 4/CP.21, paragraph 12(a). The LEG discussed possibilities for developing guiding questions for those submissions;
- (b) Information from Parties submitted through NAP Central, guided by the questionnaire referred to in decision 4/CP.21, paragraph 12(b);²⁴
- (c) Annual reports on progress made in the process to formulate and implement NAPs prepared for the SBI;
- (d) The reports on the meetings of the LEG;
- (e) Information shared during official outreach events (e.g. NAP Expos, Adaptation Forums, technical expert meetings on adaptation, and LEG and AC side events);
- (f) National communications and other relevant national reports;
- (g) Appropriate information from United Nations organizations, the NAP-GSP, relevant networks and regional centres;
- (h) Reports and submissions from the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism and its implementing agencies on financial support provided and activities implemented to contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the process to formulate and implement NAPs;
- (i) Reports and submissions from multilateral and bilateral institutions and organizations on financial resources provided to support the process to formulate and implement NAPs.

25. The LEG noted that it will be helpful to consider indicators for the assessment, both for the process (such as those developed under the tool for monitoring and evaluation of

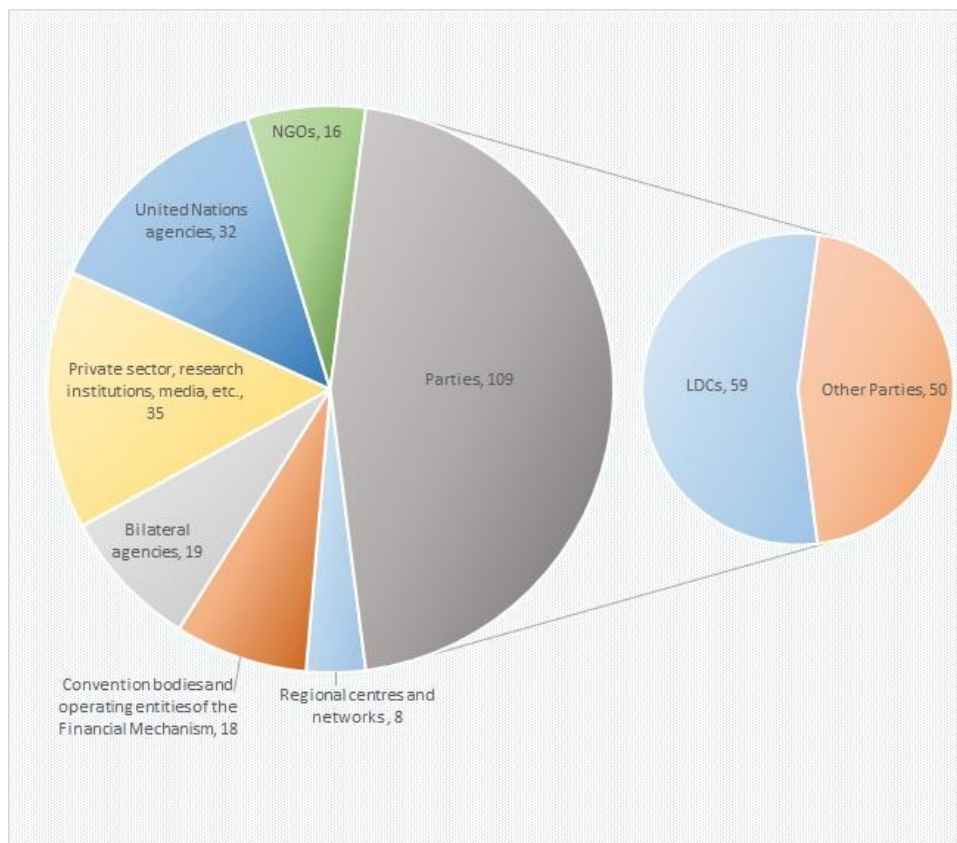
²⁴ Available at <<http://www4.unfccc.int/nap/Pages/assessingprogress.aspx>>.

progress, effectiveness and gaps or PEG M&E tool)²⁵ as well as for the outcomes of achieving the objectives of the process to formulate and implement NAPs.

D. NAP Expo

26. The LEG discussed the outcomes of the NAP Expo that was held in Bonn from 11 to 15 July 2016.²⁶ The event was organized under the theme “Advancing national adaptation plans post-Paris” to promote the exchange of experiences and to foster partnerships between a wide range of actors and stakeholders on how to advance NAPs. It brought together 250 participants, which included Party experts, representatives of the GCF secretariat, the GEF and its agencies, United Nations and other organizations and agencies, bilateral agencies, NAP support programmes, regional centres and networks, the private sectors, researchers as well as other non-Party stakeholders (see the figure below for a breakdown).

Summary of the participants in the NAP Expo held in Bonn, Germany, from 11 to 15 July 2016



Abbreviations: LDCs = least developed countries, NGOs = non-governmental organizations.

27. The event was divided into various keynote sessions touching on innovative adaptation solutions, followed by parallel sessions for the discussion of further technical details.

²⁵ Described in document FCCC/SBI/2015/7, paragraphs 33–35.

²⁶ See <<http://unfccc.int/9547>> and <<http://napexpo.org/2016>> for more information on the event, the programme, the advisory group and the co-organizers and all presentations made at the event.

28. The LEG decided to prepare a report on the event, covering detailed information on the discussions and experiences of countries, as well as brief outreach products to cover major event highlights. Specific topics to highlight in the outreach products will include, inter alia, accessing funding from the GCF for the process to formulate and implement NAPs, assessments related to the 2 °C global temperature increase limit and a focus on concrete adaptation solutions. The report and the outreach products will be available via NAP Central once completed.²⁷

29. The LEG took note of the following highlights from the discussions and the experiences shared at the NAP Expo:

(a) Many countries have initiated the process to formulate and implement NAPs and are in need of financial support to advance concrete activities;

(b) A high-level NAP mandate with clear objectives is crucial to sustain the adaptation processes;

(c) There are a diversity of success stories and adaptation solutions addressing country-specific issues that can be documented and shared to serve as inspiration to other countries;

(d) There are many types of plans that would comprise a NAP, including sectoral, subnational and local plans, which would give the necessary detail for an effective adaptation response at the national level;

(e) Various resources exist that countries can start to use to underpin their risk and vulnerability assessments in the context of the 2 °C global temperature increase limit;²⁸

(f) Several issues were identified that would require further technical elaboration, for example how to establish baselines when designing adaptation actions with a view to future assessment of results and outcomes, and the continuum of responses from coping to pre-emptive and contingency planning;

(g) Information and communication technologies can serve as a tool for optimizing the collection and transfer of data and producing information and services for adaptation planning and implementation;

(h) Synergies between various global processes (climate change, sustainable development and disaster risk reduction), as well as between different adaptation programmes, can be facilitated by identifying common tasks and making use of available information through enhanced inter-agency cooperation;

(i) Following the decision of the COP for the GCF to expedite support for the LDCs and other developing country Parties for the formulation of NAPs, consistent with decisions 1/CP.16 and 5/CP.17, and for the subsequent implementation of policies, projects and programmes identified by them,²⁹ the GCF Board approved a funding allocation of USD 3 million per country towards work on NAPs;

(j) Identifying one or a few systems to serve as pillars of a national strategy for climate change adaptation can allow for targeted work on adaptation planning and implementation and help to align and focus country efforts.

²⁷ <<http://unfccc.int/nap>>.

²⁸ One example is the Inter-Sectoral Impact Model Intercomparison Project data archive and publications, available at <<http://www.isimip.org>>.

²⁹ Decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 46.

30. The LEG discussed arrangements for the next NAP Expo. The event is planned to take place in Bonn in March/April 2017. The LEG agreed that further details regarding the theme and specific topics for the event will be developed through the NAP Expo advisory group.³⁰

31. The LEG also discussed matters relating to regional NAP Expos.³¹ It agreed to convene a regional NAP Expo during the 11th International Conference on Community-Based Adaptation, scheduled to take place in Kampala in June 2017, and to explore opportunities with partners of the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change (NWP) and others for convening other regional NAP Expos. The LEG also discussed the possibility of conducting a regional NAP Expo during the 6th Climate Change and Development in Africa conference being organized by the African Climate Policy Centre of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, scheduled to take place in Addis Ababa in October 2016.

E. Matters relating to the Green Climate Fund

32. The LEG discussed its activities in relation to engaging with the GCF secretariat on accessing funding from the fund for the formulation and implementation of NAPs.

33. The LEG noted with appreciation that the GCF secretariat conducted three special sessions on accessing funding from the fund for the process to formulate and implement NAPs during NAP Expo 2016, targeting delegates from the LDCs.

34. The first session provided countries with the latest information on how best to engage with the GCF secretariat in order to access funding for the formulation and implementation of NAPs. Below are key points from the first session:

(a) The role of the GCF national designated authorities (NDAs) or focal points includes:

(i) Convening all national stakeholders to identify priority sectors to be financed by the GCF;

(ii) Communicating nomination letters for direct access to the GCF secretariat;

(iii) Communicating no-objection letters for projects/programmes to the GCF secretariat;

(iv) Providing leadership on the development of national requests for readiness support;

(v) Providing broad strategic oversight of GCF activities in their countries;³²

(b) As at 13 July 2016, 141 countries, 47 of them LDCs, had officially nominated an NDA or a focal point;³³

(c) As at 13 July 2016, USD 13 million had been committed to strengthen NDAs or focal points in 49 countries, 19 of them LDCs;³⁴

³⁰ FCCC/SBI/2016/7, paragraph 38.

³¹ FCCC/SBI/2016/7, paragraph 39.

³² More information on NDAs is available at <<http://www.greenclimate.fund/partners/countries/readiness#about-ndas>>.

³³ See <http://www.greenclimate.fund/documents/20182/318991/NDA_and_Focal_Point_nominations_for_the_Green_Climate_Fund.pdf/eeace75b-aa59-489c-8914-c0940debe01f>.

³⁴ Bangladesh, Benin, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Democratic Republic of

(d) As at 13 July 2016, 33 institutions had been accredited to implement GCF projects and programmes. Of these, 1 was from an LDC.³⁵

35. The second session introduced the countries to the sample process to formulate and implement NAPs based on the NAP technical guidelines, which represents a minimum set of steps and building blocks for an effective process at the national level.

36. The third session was conducted in collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme and UNDP as a hands-on exercise with the countries on developing sample proposals for accessing funding from the GCF for NAPs. Participants were taken through the sample process to formulate and implement NAPs developed by the LEG,³⁶ identifying gaps and needs as well as priority activities, and then translating those into a logframe using the GCF funding template.³⁷

37. The LEG decided to use the materials and the summary of the discussions from the sessions referred to in paragraphs 34 and 36 above to develop a user guide for the LDCs on accessing funding from the GCF for the formulation and implementation of NAPs. This will subsequently inform relevant components of the materials for the training on NAPs referred to in paragraphs 41–43 below.

38. Furthermore, as part of the discussions during the meeting, the GCF secretariat provided an update on support for NAPs. Countries can access USD 3 million funding for the formulation of NAPs, referred to in paragraph 29(i) above, through any of the GCF delivery partners, as well as through other entities accredited by other funds such as the Adaptation Fund. Requests can be submitted using an application template available on the GCF website.³⁸ The application template is a revised GCF readiness template, which has been adjusted to accommodate specific issues related to the formulation and implementation of NAPs.

39. The GCF secretariat mentioned that, as at 8 September 2016, no requests for funding from developing countries had been received. However, it mentioned that up to 12 countries were currently being supported by various delivery partners to access funding and that funding requests were expected at any time.

40. The GCF secretariat further highlighted that the GCF Board decision B.13/09 requests the GCF to work closely with the LEG and the AC on supporting enhanced access to the GCF by developing countries. The LEG on the other hand emphasized the need to be engaged in such matters relating to NAPs, particularly with regard to supporting the LDCs.

F. Technical guidance and support for the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans

1. Training on national adaptation plans

41. The LEG reviewed its training strategy for the regional training workshops on NAPs and addressed the following issues:

(a) The distribution of the workshops will seek to address geographical regions and language needs;

the Congo, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Guinea, Liberia, Mali, Rwanda, Senegal, Timor-Leste, Togo, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu and Zambia.

³⁵ Centre de Suivi Ecologique of Senegal.

³⁶ FCCC/SBI/2015/INF.14, paragraphs 20 and 21, and figure 1.

³⁷ Available at <<http://www.greenclimate.fund/partners/countries/fine-print>>.

³⁸ <<http://www.greenclimate.fund/partners/countries/fine-print>>.

(b) The topics for the training will take into account the vision of the LEG and the emerging gaps and needs for the LDCs in addressing adaptation. Initial broad topics identified include climate risk analysis, risk and vulnerability assessment, the identification of adaptation options, the economic appraisal of adaptation options, accessing funding from the GCF, coherence between efforts and roles of different actors, and links to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);

(c) The workshops will be structured to accommodate the different stages countries are at in the formulation and implementation of NAPs;

(d) Resource persons will be drawn from the LEG, the GCF, the GEF and its agencies, NWP partner organizations and other relevant actors.

42. The LEG agreed to explore holding the first workshop at the end of November or in early December and the rest in 2017. Further design aspects of the workshops will be addressed by the NAP technical working group.

43. In addition, the LEG noted that a number of organizations are planning to organize training activities related to NAPs.³⁹ It agreed to explore how best to promote synergy and complementarity with those efforts through the engagement of such organizations in a training network. The training activities would continue to be featured on the Global NAP Calendar maintained on NAP Central.⁴⁰

2. Case studies on national adaptation plans

44. The LEG noted the progress made during the NAP Expo by the NAP technical working group on the consideration of the Open NAP case studies, particularly for Madagascar and Malawi.⁴¹ It agreed to continue to consolidate information on the case studies and to explore opportunities to interact further with respective country teams on the margins of SBI sessions and the regional events of the LEG.

45. Furthermore, the LEG decided that it will test the tool for the monitoring and evaluation of progress, effectiveness and gaps in the process to formulate and implement NAPs in these Open NAP case studies.

46. The LEG agreed to extend an invitation to NWP partner organizations to participate in the case studies. The LEG noted that there are several organizations already interested in engaging in or contributing to the Open NAP case studies. These are: the Africa Climate Policy Centre, with an interest in supporting case studies in the African island States;⁴² Conservation International, with an interest in supporting technical work on the case studies, including in countries where the organization has programmes; and the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development, with an interest in supporting case studies in the countries of the Hindu Kush Himalayas.⁴³

³⁹ The NAP-GSP under its second phase is planning to conduct six regional training workshops on NAPs. FAO will be conducting in-country workshops on impact evaluation and cost-benefit analysis of adaptation options, and on gender mainstreaming in national policies. The Global Climate Change Alliance under its new phase includes the organization of regional conferences and technical workshops, among other activities, in order to promote the exchange of views and experiences in climate change adaptation.

⁴⁰ <<http://www4.unfccc.int/nap/Pages/GlobalNAPCalendar.aspx>>.

⁴¹ Currently the Open NAP case studies are being conducted for Bhutan, Madagascar, Malawi, Niger and Tuvalu.

⁴² Cabo Verde, Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius, Sao Tome and Principe, and Seychelles.

⁴³ Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Myanmar, Nepal and Pakistan.

47. The LEG also noted that some countries are eager to share the outcomes of the Open NAP case studies at the national level, and it agreed to explore ways to help the countries to share the case studies to address that need.

3. Supporting the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans through NAP Central

48. The LEG noted that countries are continuing to share their NAPs on NAP Central and that there are now NAPs from four countries on the platform.⁴⁴ The LEG also noted that there is merit in having adaptation plans and strategies from other countries that are not LDCs,⁴⁵ as they will serve as a good resource for the LDCs when formulating and implementing their NAPs.

49. The LEG further noted that the online questionnaire referred to in decision 4/CP.21, paragraph 12(b), has been implemented on NAP Central in order to collect information from Parties on progress in the process to formulate and implement NAPs. The information provided by Parties will be summarized on an ongoing basis and will serve as a resource for the annual progress reports on NAPs and the work of the LEG in supporting NAPs. The questionnaire will also be used to consolidate the outcomes of all surveys related to NAPs in one place.

4. Supplementary materials to the national adaptation plan technical guidelines

50. Under its current work programme, the LEG is planning to prepare a technical paper on advancing work on regional planning by next year.

51. The LEG took note of the following supplementary materials to the technical guidelines for the process to formulate and implement NAPs that are in various stages of development:

- (a) FAO voluntary guidelines to support the integration of genetic diversity into national adaptation planning;
- (b) An FAO agriculture supplement to the LEG technical guidelines for the NAP process, planned to be finalized in 2016;
- (c) An FAO country support guidance document on fisheries and aquaculture;
- (d) UNDP–Inter-Agency Secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction guidelines for integrating disaster risk reduction into national adaptation planning. An updated draft has been available since mid-2016.

52. The LEG noted that the NAP technical working group is continuing to work with the different organizations that are developing supplementary materials in order to build a framework for integrating other supplementary materials to the technical guidelines into a coherent and development-centred approach to formulating and implementing NAPs.

5. National adaptation plan technical working group

53. The LEG noted that the NAP technical working group held a meeting during the NAP Expo to discuss activities to be undertaken under the current work programme of the LEG. It also noted the enthusiasm of the group, particularly of those that have been extensively engaged in providing support for NAPs, to agree on an integrating framework towards national vulnerability and adaptation assessment, and other approaches to

⁴⁴ Available at <<http://www4.unfccc.int/nap/Pages/national-adaptation-plans.aspx>>.

⁴⁵ Available at <<http://www4.unfccc.int/nap/Pages/adaptation-plans-and-strategies.aspx>>.

advancing the provision of technical support to countries for their NAPs. The workplan for the group will be discussed further during the LEG monthly teleconferences, with inputs from relevant partner organizations.

6. Specific support to the least developed countries

54. The LEG discussed the various ways in which specific support is being provided to the LDCs upon request. These include:

(a) Providing technical comments on draft NAPs and other documents that countries share with the LEG for such inputs;

(b) The “Ask the LEG” section on NAP Central, designed to document frequently asked questions;⁴⁶

(c) Interaction with LDC country teams during LEG meetings and events. At its meetings and events held in the LDCs, the LEG engages with national adaptation teams comprised of the government lead agency for work on adaptation and relevant national institutions, as well as local communities, to discuss specific experiences, challenges, gaps and needs in relation to adaptation.

55. The LEG also discussed the possibility of further promoting peer-to-peer learning among the LDCs as well as with developing and developed countries. It noted that this could be done through a twinning programme that would pair interested countries to work together in their assessments and formulation of adaptation plans so that they can learn from and support each other.

G. Vulnerable communities, groups and ecosystems

56. The LEG reviewed a summary of the technical session organized with NWP partner organizations on the consideration of vulnerable communities, groups and ecosystems in adaptation planning and implementation during NAP Expo 2016. It took note of the following key issues arising from the summary:

(a) Recognizing the interlinkages between vulnerable communities and ecosystems, it is crucial to design adaptation options that strengthen the overall resilience of both communities and ecosystems to climate change;

(b) Countries have accumulated early experiences and lessons learned with regard to considering vulnerable communities, groups and ecosystems in NAPs;

(c) Existing information on assessment and mapping tools, empirical evidence of good practices and lessons learned need to be documented and shared at all levels;

(d) Countries need to advance their work from planning to implementation on the basis of their long-term priorities, recognizing that comprehensive planning is useful but not critical to initiate implementation;

(e) Countries should consider ecosystem-based adaptation measures as part of an overall approach to adaptation;

(f) Local, indigenous and traditional knowledge should be taken into account so as to develop adaptation plans that are in line with the ways in which vulnerable communities wish to adapt.

⁴⁶ Available at <<http://www4.unfccc.int/nap/Pages/asktheLEG.aspx>>.

57. The LEG discussed a draft outline for an information paper on considerations regarding vulnerable communities, groups and ecosystems in the context of the process to formulate and implement NAPs that was developed on the basis of the outcomes of the technical session referred to in paragraph 56 above. It decided to further engage NWP partner organizations in preparing an information paper based on the draft outline.

58. The LEG extended its gratitude to the NWP partner organizations that participated in the NAP Expo event and the subsequent work on producing the draft outline referred to in paragraph 57 above.

H. Support for coherence and synergy of adaptation under the Convention

1. Collaboration with other bodies under the Convention

59. The LEG extended its appreciation to the AC for its continued collaboration, noting that Mr. Fredrick Kossam (Malawi) was designated by the committee to participate in the LEG meeting as a way to further ensure coherence and synergy between the two groups. The LEG also noted the planned attendance of Mr. Abias Huongo (Angola) at the 10th meeting of the AC in order to provide updates to the committee and engage on relevant matters. The LEG nominated Ms. Beth Lavender (Canada) to act as the representative of the LEG on the AC task force on NAPs, and Mr. Aderito Santana (Sao Tome and Principe) to act as an alternate member.

60. The LEG took note of the following update from the NWP on areas of collaboration between the LEG and the NWP:⁴⁷

(a) Inputs were provided on the identification of regional centres and networks to be invited to nominate focal points to the LEG;

(b) NWP partner organizations co-organized a technical session with the LEG on vulnerable communities, groups and ecosystems during the NAP Expo;

(c) NWP partner organizations held a brainstorming discussion on opportunities for inputs and collaboration on the work on NAPs, particularly regarding Open NAPs and the NAP Expo;

(d) A call for action pledges in support of NAPs has been disseminated to NWP partner organizations.

61. The LEG agreed to continue to engage NWP partner organizations in various activities, including training on NAPs, the NAP Expo, NAP Central, Open NAPs and providing overall technical support to the LDCs.

62. The LEG considered a letter and a draft document for inputs from the Technology Executive Committee (TEC) regarding a mandate from the COP requesting the TEC, in collaboration with the Climate Technology Centre and Network, the AC and the LEG, to consider how it can help Parties to align their technology needs assessments with the process to formulate and implement NAPs.⁴⁸ The LEG agreed to review the document and provide comments to the TEC and to be ready to engage further with the TEC on the mandate.

63. The LEG also considered a letter from the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention inviting the LEG to a dialogue on the margins of the forty-sixth sessions of the subsidiary bodies in

⁴⁷ FCCC/SBI/2016/7, paragraph 58.

⁴⁸ Decision 3/CP.21, paragraph 5.

order to explore potential areas of collaboration. The LEG agreed to confirm its interest in and availability for the dialogue.

2. Regional approaches in adaptation planning and implementation

64. The LEG discussed a conceptual scoping of regional approaches and issues as part of the steps in the provision of technical guidance and advice on regional approaches in adaptation planning and implementation. It agreed that pursuing regional approaches would help in the following:

(a) Enabling countries to extend their NAPs to include regional projects and programmes;

(b) Facilitating the integration of climate change adaptation into regional development initiatives (e.g. corridors, power pooling, transboundary conservation and water resources management);

(c) Incorporating regional/global processes in national vulnerability and risk assessments;

(d) Exploring/extending climate change adaptation solutions to the region (e.g. food security, agribusiness and planned migration);

(e) Addressing similar vulnerabilities and risks (synergy).

65. The LEG further identified examples of areas in which adaptation issues may be addressed at the regional level. These included ecosystems (terrestrial and marine), food, water, energy, trade, human mobility, migration, diseases and natural disasters (e.g. droughts and tropical cyclones). It noted that some of the key actors and stakeholders in these areas would be regional economic commissions, river basin authorities and regional power pools, in addition to the regional centres and networks, and others.

66. As immediate next steps, the LEG decided to analyse GCF and GEF programming documents to see how regional approaches are supported and to conduct case studies or mapping of different scenarios for regional entry points.

I. Engaging regional centres and networks

67. The LEG considered a list of regional centres and networks to be invited to nominate one focal point each for the LEG, in accordance with decision 19/CP.21, paragraph 10. It applied the following criteria for the identification of potential regional centres and networks:

(a) Regional centres with particular areas of technical expertise that may potentially assist in addressing gaps and needs for adaptation for the LDCs, such as data gaps, regional downscaling of climate change scenarios, GCF readiness support and other areas;

(b) Regional centres and networks guided by an intergovernmental body or supported by recognizable institutional arrangements and with a proven track record in serving the LDCs on a wide range of activities on adaptation;

(c) Regional or global centres and networks that have regional programmes and initiatives on issues related to adaptation;

(d) Accredited institutions under the Convention.

68. The regional centres and networks will support the LEG in undertaking the following activities, among others:

- (a) Providing technical guidance and support on adaptation, including through the advisory, working and/or support groups established by the LEG to support various activities;
- (b) Providing technical guidance and advice on regional approaches to adaptation planning;
- (c) Providing technical support to countries in the development and application of regional- and national-level climate change scenarios in relation to the 2 °C global temperature increase limit specified in the Paris Agreement, and in the implementation of other provisions of the Paris Agreement;
- (d) Enhancing support for the readiness of the LDCs to access funding from the GCF for the formulation and implementation of NAPs;
- (e) Organizing regional events and activities such as regional training on NAPs and regional NAP Expos;
- (f) Fostering links to broader issues that connect with NAPs (e.g. the implementation of the SDGs and the consideration of gender, vulnerable communities and ecosystems).

69. The LEG agreed that the term for the focal points should be aligned with the work programme of the LEG.

IV. Discussions with the Government of Liberia and relevant organizations

A. Discussions with the Government of Liberia

70. The LEG held discussions with the adaptation team of the Government of Liberia in order to discuss progress made as well as gaps and challenges faced by Liberia in addressing adaptation. The team led by the Environmental Protection Agency of Liberia provided information in relation to: a NAPA/LDCF project entitled “Enhancing resilience of vulnerable coastal areas to climate change risks”⁴⁹ and the country’s efforts regarding the process to formulate and implement NAPs.

71. The team communicated that Liberia is already facing severe climate change impacts such as coastal erosion, unpredictable rainfall patterns and flooding, with unprecedented impacts on coastal areas, agriculture, fisheries, infrastructure, and health and safety, among other important sectors or themes of development. The seriousness of the climate change impacts in the coastal areas has subsequently framed the country’s adaptation strategy, whereby priority is now given to efforts in the area. The team provided details of the design and implementation aspects of the NAPA/LDCF coastal adaptation project. The project, which has now completed implementation, entailed the construction of a breakwater revetment system along a 500 m coastline. One of the key benefits of the project has been the provision of solid evidence to local communities on how such preventive measures can effectively protect the communities and livelihoods from sea level rise and storms. This has created motivation for the surrounding community, whereby it has now taken over the responsibility for maintaining the systems and has put a stronger voice

⁴⁹ More information on the project is available at <<http://www.thegef.org/project/enhancing-resilience-vulnerable-coastal-areas-climate-change-risks>>.

in its development planning in order to prioritize resources towards expanding the systems to ensure complete coverage.

72. The team also elaborated the steps being taken towards the formulation of a NAP. Firstly, an interim multidisciplinary team led by the Environmental Protection Agency of Liberia has been put in place to support the initial work. Secondly, a stocktaking exercise of relevant information was conducted in 2015. Based on the stocktaking and current experience, sectors being identified as entry points for national strategy are coastal zones and agriculture. Thirdly, the national team is working with UNDP to prepare a proposal for funding from the GCF for the NAP work. The proposal will also include investment components on projects in the coastal and agriculture sectors. The country envisions having a robust NAP in place by the end of 2017.

73. In addition, the team highlighted the country's rich forest resource base, as well as its abundant rainfall despite shifting patterns, which present opportunities for carbon sequestration and clean energy production, respectively.

74. Furthermore, the team indicated that the greatest challenges for Liberia are funding (which will be addressed if the country succeeds with planned efforts to access the GCF), a lack of appropriate technology, limited human and institutional capacity, and the low economy base of the country.

B. Discussions with relevant organizations

1. Information shared by the organizations

75. UNDP provided an update on its provision of support to the LDCs, focusing on NAPs, NAPAs, capacity development for risk-informed planning and budgeting, and support to the LDCs for accessing adaptation finance. Between 2013 and 2016, UNDP, through the NAP-GSP, provided support to 16 countries⁵⁰ to conduct stocktaking exercises and develop road maps for NAPs. Training at the national level was also conducted for the countries in order to enhance their capacity for NAPs. UNDP also received requests from nine LDCs⁵¹ for support to develop project proposals to access funding from the GCF for the formulation and implementation of NAPs. UNDP further indicated that a project proposal from Chad for accessing funding from the LDCF in order to advance its NAP had been approved, and five more from Bangladesh, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malawi, Niger and Senegal were still awaiting funding from the same. UNDP mentioned that four LDCs (Gambia, Nepal, Uganda and Zambia) are being supported through a Government of Germany funded UNDP-FAO joint programme on integrating agriculture into NAPs. Furthermore, Bangladesh, Cambodia and Nepal have been supported in developing integrated financing frameworks and public expenditure and institutional reviews targeting climate finance. Expenditure reviews have been conducted in these countries and nine more LDCs,⁵² of which some are still in progress. In addition, four LDCs⁵³ are receiving support for skills development in economic appraisal methods for climate change impacts on key sectors, including cost-benefit analysis of investment

⁵⁰ Angola, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Comoros, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Gambia, Guinea, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal and United Republic of Tanzania.

⁵¹ Burundi, Chad, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Madagascar, Niger, Senegal and United Republic of Tanzania.

⁵² Benin, Bhutan, Ethiopia, Kiribati, Rwanda, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu and Zambia.

⁵³ Bangladesh, Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic and Nepal.

options under the UNDP capacity-building programme on the economics of climate change adaptation. Two countries (Benin and Nepal) are receiving support under the UNDP climate finance readiness programme.

76. The World Bank shared information on the Pilot Programme for Climate Resilience (PPCR) and the linkages with NAPs. Under PPCR, countries engage in a two-phase process: first to prepare a Strategic Program for Climate Resilience (SPCR) with grant funding of USD 1.5 million per country; and second to implement and manage the SPCR investment plan with up to USD 50 million in grants or loans per country. The World Bank indicated that the PPCR approach is closely aligned with the NAP technical guidelines and hence countries can easily build on or align their PPCR work with the process to formulate and implement NAPs. PPCR has launched its second round and the countries involved are in the stage of the preparation of their SPCRs.⁵⁴ The first round included 19 countries⁵⁵ that are now in various stages of implementation of their SPCRs. The World Bank shared the following recommendations that would ensure an effective process, based on lessons learned from PPCR:

- (a) Include and get endorsement from the highest levels of government across multiple sectors;
- (b) Build quantitative and qualitative understanding of climate variability and change;
- (c) Focus on transformational (not incremental) investments and policy changes;
- (d) Engage in inclusive and participatory stakeholder consultations at all levels;
- (e) Make your programme country specific;
- (f) Do not forget the private sector, but also acknowledge it has different needs/modes of engagement;
- (g) Set up your monitoring and reporting system early in the process;
- (h) Learn from others.

77. FAO shared information on its work on climate change adaptation at the global, regional, national and subnational levels. The work includes facilitating global platforms to coordinate action on climate change, facilitating access to finance, forming partnerships, developing and applying tools and data sets in order to support adaptation in agriculture, implementing field programmes and sharing good practices. FAO also mentioned the following upcoming activities that may be relevant to the formulation and implementation of NAPs:

- (a) A webinar series for the integration of agriculture in NAPs, focusing on technical topics: impact evaluation; cost–benefit analysis; gender, monitoring and evaluation; climate finance; and the integration of the agriculture sector;
- (b) In-country training on impact evaluation, the cost–benefit analysis of adaptation options, and gender mainstreaming in national policies.

78. Conservation International highlighted its ongoing programmes in Liberia, Madagascar and South Africa on integrating ecosystems into national planning, including

⁵⁴ Countries receiving support under the second round of PPCR: Bhutan, Ethiopia, Gambia, Honduras, Kyrgyzstan, Madagascar, Malawi, Philippines, Rwanda and Uganda.

⁵⁵ Countries receiving support under the first round of PPCR: Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cambodia, Dominica, Haiti, Grenada, Jamaica, Mozambique, Nepal, Niger, Papua New Guinea, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Tajikistan, Tonga, Yemen and Zambia.

the development of a training strategy for application at the national level. It mentioned further work in developing a tool for integrating ecosystems into adaptation planning and implementation, which is being developed in collaboration with other relevant organizations and with inputs from the LEG. It indicated its interest in contributing to the LEG training on NAPs.

2. Emerging issues, gaps and challenges for the least developed countries

79. The following issues, gaps and challenges were identified during the discussions with the organizations:

(a) Countries have undertaken various activities in laying the groundwork and identifying gaps and needs with regard to the formulation and implementation of NAPs. They are now eager to access funding in order to undertake concrete activities and advance their work on NAPs;

(b) A lot of in-country support is required for the LDCs to advance their work in the formulation and implementation of NAPs, particularly with regard to accessing funding, conducting risk analysis, risk and vulnerability assessment, and economic appraisal and ways to link adaptation with the SDGs. This could include mobilizing experts to work hand-in-hand with the country teams at the national level;

(c) Capacity-building from the very bottom is needed, by embedding training on adaptation in formal education systems;

(d) On the early warning projects being supported by UNDP in Africa,⁵⁶ there is improvement in the number of observing systems and technologies. The challenge now is how to convert the data into knowledge that helps decision-making at the national level. However, there is ongoing work under the umbrella of the World Meteorological Organization Global Framework for Climate Services⁵⁷ in several countries in Africa to address the challenge.

3. Collaboration on specific activities

80. The following specific areas of collaboration were agreed on at the meeting:

(a) The implementation of the work programme of the LEG for 2016–2017: the LEG will continue to engage organizations in various activities, including supporting the LDCs in accessing funding from the GCF for: the formulation and implementation of NAPs; training on NAPs, the NAP Expo, Open NAPs, regional approaches, vulnerable communities, groups and ecosystems; and the implementation of NAPAs and the LDC work programme;

(b) The review of draft NAPs: the organizations will promote the sharing of draft NAPs by the countries being supported with the LEG for comments before finalization, allowing for sufficient time to the extent possible for the LEG to provide inputs. The draft NAPs should be shared when inputs are still possible and not when they have been finalized;

(c) Training and other activities undertaken by the organizations: organizations are to engage the LEG in the planning and execution of their NAP-related training activities, and vice versa.

⁵⁶ See <<http://adaptation-undp.org/projects/programme-climate-information-resilient-development-africa-cirda>>.

⁵⁷ See <<http://www.wmo.int/gfcs>>.

4. Enhancing synergy across the different programmes and initiatives

81. In order to further enhance synergy across the different programmes and initiatives, and to ensure coherence and complementarity, the following recommendations were agreed upon at the meeting:

(a) The LEG is to operationalize the communication network in order to coordinate training on all aspects related to NAPs;

(b) Closely relate the work of the LEG to the organizations' work so as to emphasize the importance of attending the LEG meetings, in order to allow productive interaction;

(c) Align training efforts, especially those between regional events of the LEG and in-country workshops of agencies;

(d) Prepare a document listing the various funds for adaptation, and the status of countries in accessing those funds, including the identification of any gaps and needs, so the LEG and others can help to address those matters;

(e) Agencies are to share information with the LEG on countries being supported, and those that have submitted support requests to the agencies – there is a need to explore how all other agencies can do this effectively;

(f) Develop a document on linkages between PPCR and NAPs, showing how synergy between the two processes can be enhanced, as well as with other adaptation processes;

(g) The LEG is to compile and share information summarizing the status of countries in the formulation and implementation of NAPs, through the tracking tool being implemented on NAP Central.⁵⁸

V. Vision for supporting adaptation in the least developed countries

82. The LEG discussed how to further enhance outreach on its vision for supporting adaptation in the LDCs⁵⁹ and how to monitor progress made towards the achievement of the vision. It noted that the vision provides a framing for all activities and interaction with the LDCs and other stakeholders and it agreed to continue to explore ways to enhance outreach on the vision.

83. During the discussions with organizations, the LEG referred to the vision, focusing on how best the organizations could support the LEG in achieving the vision. A key suggestion was further strengthening collaboration between the LEG and the organizations in supporting the LDCs in the formulation and implementation of NAPs (see chapter IV.B.3 above for related information on collaboration).

84. On monitoring progress made towards the achievement of the vision, the LEG noted that some components of the vision, such as the formulation of robust and good-quality NAPs, will be easy to measure, while others may require deeper analysis. It was agreed that efforts need to be made to enhance the sharing of information between the LEG and the different organizations that support the LDCs on NAPs, in order to effectively monitor progress made by the LDCs and the support being provided to them.

⁵⁸ FCCC/SBI/2016/7, annex I.

⁵⁹ FCCC/SBI/2016/7, paragraph 15.

VI. Further ways to enhance support for the least developed countries

85. The LEG noted that the LDCs will require enhanced support as they advance in the process to formulate and implement NAPs, especially as they actively engage in assessments. Specific areas for support would include:

(a) Technical guidance and support on practical steps for accessing funding from the GCF for the formulation of NAPs and the implementation of policies, projects and programmes;

(b) Access to data, methods and tools for undertaking vulnerability and risk assessments, taking into account the 2 °C global temperature increase limit referred to in Article 2 of the Paris Agreement, and other interlinked issues;

(c) Building capacity to run climate scenarios, undertake assessments and perform economic appraisal of adaptation options;

(d) Technical guidance and support on linking NAPs to the SDGs;

(e) Designing implementation strategies for NAPs that effectively integrate national efforts to engage with the GCF and other funding channels while building on existing adaptation activities.

86. The LEG also noted the diversity of programmes and activities that countries can build upon as they undertake their work. They include several possibilities for the LDCs to request and access support for their work. The LEG agreed to continue to compile and make available as much information as possible on NAP-related activities and programmes on NAP Central. The LEG will also use the NAP Calendar on NAP Central to provide up-to-date information to countries and relevant stakeholders on various events on NAPs.

87. The LEG agreed to continue engaging with relevant organizations and entities to further explore how best to coordinate and harmonize efforts to provide effective support to the LDCs, in accordance with the vision of the LEG articulated in document FCCC/SBI/2016/7, paragraph 15.

Annex**Members of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group as at
7 September 2016**

Mr. Abias Huongo	Angola
Mr. Erwin Künzi	Austria
Ms. Sonam Lhaden Khandu	Bhutan
Mr. Idrissa Semde	Burkina Faso
Ms. Beth Lavender	Canada
Mr. Adrian Fitzgerald	Ireland
Mr. Benon Yassin	Malawi
Mr. Naresh Sharma	Nepal
Mr. Aderito Santana	Sao Tome and Principe
Mr. Adao Soares Barbosa	Timor-Leste
Ms. Mery Yaou	Togo
Mr. Fredrick Manyika	United Republic of Tanzania
Mr. Brian Phillips	Vanuatu
