



United Nations

FCCC/SBSTA/2017/INF.2



Framework Convention on
Climate Change

Distr.: General
4 May 2017

English only

Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice

Forty-sixth session

Bonn, 8–18 May 2017

Item 12 of the provisional agenda

Cooperation with other international organizations

Summary of cooperative activities with United Nations entities and intergovernmental organizations that contribute to the work under the Convention

Note by the secretariat


Summary

The secretariat engages in collaborative activities, initiatives and programmes with United Nations entities, convention secretariats and intergovernmental organizations that enhance and contribute to the work under the Convention, the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement. The key objective of the secretariat in such engagement is to support the implementation of the Convention, the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement and to support Parties and the UNFCCC process in general in an efficient and effective manner. This document includes information on relevant collaborations between the secretariat and other intergovernmental organizations since the forty-fourth session of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice.

GE.17-07204(E)



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I. Introduction

A. Mandate

1. The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA), at its thirtieth session, requested the secretariat to prepare, before sessions at which the agenda item on cooperation with relevant international organizations is to be taken up, an information paper summarizing relevant cooperative activities.¹

B. Background and scope

2. Article 7, paragraph 2(l), of the Convention states that the Conference of the Parties (COP) shall seek and utilize the services and cooperation of, and information provided by, competent international organizations and intergovernmental and non-governmental bodies. Thus, the secretariat accords high priority to working with other international organizations, including United Nations entities, secretariats of other multilateral environmental agreements and the scientific community.

3. This document summarizes the main cooperative activities carried out by the secretariat and other international organizations since April 2016, the publication date of the previous summary,² which was prepared for SBSTA 44 (hereinafter referred to as the reporting period).

C. Possible action by the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice

4. The SBSTA may wish to take note of the information provided in this document. It may also wish to invite Parties to provide guidance on the scope and direction of the cooperative activities presented in chapters II and III below. The SBSTA may further wish to make recommendations on: (1) key priority areas in which the secretariat should enhance efforts to leverage the potential contributions of other intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) to addressing climate change; and (2) possible approaches to undertaking such efforts, including the establishment of public–private partnerships.

II. Specific areas of cooperation

5. This chapter provides an overview of the cooperative activities undertaken by the secretariat during the reporting period, including activities that were undertaken in support of the efforts of Parties to ratify the Paris Agreement in 2016. It is not, however, a comprehensive account of all such activities, initiatives and programmes undertaken by the secretariat.

¹ FCCC/SBSTA/2009/3, paragraph 128.

² FCCC/SBSTA/2016/INF.3.

A. Technology

1. Implementation of the Technology Mechanism

6. Article 4, paragraph 1(c), of the Convention stipulates that all Parties are to promote and cooperate in the development, application and diffusion, including transfer, of technologies, practices and processes that control, reduce or prevent anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases (GHGs) in all relevant sectors. COP 16³ established the Technology Mechanism to facilitate the implementation of enhanced action on technology development and transfer to support the full implementation of the Convention. The Technology Mechanism consists of two components: the Technology Executive Committee (TEC) and the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN). The Technology Mechanism also serves the Paris Agreement.⁴

7. As the policy component of the Technology Mechanism, the TEC analyses technology policy issues and provides policy recommendations to countries to enhance climate technology development and transfer. The TEC also facilitates collaboration among technology stakeholders and promotes coherence across technology activities. In supporting the work of the TEC during the reporting period, the secretariat engaged with many United Nations organizations, IGOs and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

8. The secretariat supported the internal task forces of the TEC, established to support the implementation of the workplan of the TEC for 2016–2018. During the reporting period, the task forces included representatives of, and drew upon inputs from, the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre, the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the Green Climate Fund (GCF), the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture, the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas, the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), the South Centre, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation.

9. The secretariat organized the 12th and 13th meetings of the TEC, in which several United Nations organizations, IGOs, such as the International Energy Agency (IEA), IRENA and the World Intellectual Property Organization, and NGOs participated either in person or via the live webcast and social media platforms managed by the secretariat.

10. As the implementation arm of the Technology Mechanism, the CTCN supports developing countries to implement climate technologies. It has three core services:

- (a) Providing technical assistance at the request of developing countries;
- (b) Creating access to knowledge on climate technologies;
- (c) Fostering collaboration among climate technology stakeholders.

11. During the reporting period, the secretariat collaborated with the CTCN and followed the work of the Advisory Board of the CTCN. It also continued to collaborate with UNEP and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the host organizations of the Climate Technology Centre. The secretariat participated in CTCN regional activities for national designated entities organized by UNEP and UNIDO.

2. Technology needs assessments

12. Developing countries undertake technology needs assessments (TNAs) to identify their technology priorities for mitigating GHGs and adapting to climate change. Through

³ Decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 117.

⁴ Article 10, paragraph 3, of the Paris Agreement.

TNAs, developing countries create technology action plans for the implementation of climate technologies.

13. During the reporting period, the secretariat continued to collaborate with the GEF, UNEP and the UNEP DTU Partnership⁵ in the TNA global project, phase II. The project provides financial and technical support to 26 developing countries undertaking TNAs.

14. The secretariat also collaborated with the CTCN, UNEP and the UNEP DTU Partnership in supporting the TEC on TNA matters, and in developing guidance on how to translate TNA results, especially technology action plans, into implementable projects.⁶

3. Technology facilitation mechanism

15. Paragraph 70 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development announced the launch of a technology facilitation mechanism to support the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).⁷ During the reporting period, the secretariat took part in the United Nations Interagency Task Team on Science, Technology and Innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals. The task force is one of the components of the mechanism and consists of over 30 United Nations organizations. As part of this collaboration, the secretariat participated in the first annual Multi-stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals.

B. Climate finance

1. Cooperation with UNFCCC funds

(a) Green Climate Fund

16. By decision 1/CP.16,⁸ the COP designated the GCF as an operating entity of the Financial Mechanism. The arrangements between the COP and the GCF state that the relevant secretariats may, as necessary and subject to the direction of the Board of the GCF and the COP, cooperate and exchange views on matters relevant to the operation of the Financial Mechanism, including the implementation of those arrangements between the COP and the GCF, coordination with other international financing channels and the participation of representatives in meetings of relevant bodies.

17. The secretariat closely followed the meetings of the Board of the GCF as the Board made progress in operationalizing the GCF and took funding decisions on project proposals. In turn, representatives of the GCF secretariat participated in various meetings and workshops held under the Convention, including: the meetings and the annual forum of the Standing Committee on Finance (SCF); an in-session workshop on long-term climate finance and on linkages between the Technology Mechanism and the Financial Mechanism; the Facilitative Dialogue on Enhancing Ambition and Support; and the second High-level Ministerial Dialogue on Climate Finance. Furthermore, during COP 22, the Board of the GCF organized the first annual meeting between the GCF and the constituted bodies under the Convention on enhancing the cooperation and coherence of engagement.

⁵ The partnership, formerly known as the UNEP Risoe Centre, operates under a tripartite agreement between Denmark's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Technical University of Denmark (DTU) and UNEP.

⁶ This work was undertaken in response to a COP mandate to the TEC (decision 17/CP.20, paragraph 13).

⁷ See <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/post2015/transformingourworld>.

⁸ Decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 102.

(b) Global Environment Facility

18. The GEF serves as an entity entrusted with the operation of the Financial Mechanism.⁹ The memorandum of understanding between the COP and the GEF states that the relevant secretariats shall cooperate and exchange on a regular basis views and experience necessary to facilitate the effectiveness of the Financial Mechanism in assisting Parties to implement the Convention.¹⁰

19. During the reporting period, the secretariat interacted regularly with the GEF secretariat through its participation in GEF Council meetings and in the context of GEF Expanded Constituency Workshops.

20. In turn, the GEF secretariat participated in events such as the Facilitative Dialogue on Enhancing Ambition and Support at COP 22 and delivered a keynote statement during that event on the Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency. The GEF secretariat also participated in the High-level Ministerial Dialogue on Climate Finance at COP 22 and participated in meetings of thematic bodies under the Convention, such as the SCF. This proved particularly useful to the preparation by the SCF of draft guidance for the GEF for consideration by the COP.

(c) Adaptation Fund

21. The secretariat continued to interact with the Adaptation Fund Board (AFB) secretariat during the reporting period. It participated in the meetings of the AFB, at which it discussed with the Board the relevant decisions taken in Paris that might affect the Adaptation Fund. The secretariat also contributed to the workshops on climate finance readiness organized by the AFB secretariat, at which a representative of the secretariat delivered a presentation on the state of climate finance under the Convention.

22. The AFB secretariat in turn participated in meetings of constituted bodies under the Convention, including the SCF. It also interacted with the Adaptation Committee (AC) on matters related to adaptation finance, especially on financing for national adaptation plans (NAPs) in developing countries.

23. With regard to the issue of possible future institutional linkages and relations between the Adaptation Fund and other institutions under the Convention, the secretariat and the AFB secretariat continued to provide mutual advice from the legal perspective and operational standpoint of the Adaptation Fund, respectively.

2. Cooperation through the work of the Standing Committee on Finance

24. The secretariat supports the work of the SCF, including in relation to collaboration and concrete outreach activities with IGOs and other interested stakeholders, as well as the development and implementation of an activity-based communication strategy of the SCF. All meetings of the SCF are webcast; an official notification is issued on the UNFCCC website informing admitted IGOs about the possibility of attending the SCF meetings,¹¹ and personalized invitation letters are sent to representatives of IGOs to participate in each meeting of the SCF.¹²

25. First and foremost, the secretariat engages with a variety of institutions through the support that it provides for the organization of SCF forums. The fourth SCF forum, titled

⁹ Decision 3/CP.4, paragraph 1.

¹⁰ Decision 12/CP.2, annex, paragraph 10.

¹¹ See <http://unfccc.int/3153.php>.

¹² Further information on the meetings of the SCF, including webcasts and lists of participants, is available at <http://unfccc.int/6881.php>.

“Financial instruments that address the risks of loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change”, took place on 5 and 6 September 2016 in Manila. It was hosted by the Asian Development Bank in collaboration with the Climate Change Commission of the Government of the Philippines.¹³ The forum was organized as a stand-alone event with about 200 participants representing different regions and a variety of institutions, including the public and private sector, NGOs, think tanks and international organizations. More than 30 resource persons were invited as presenters, panellists and facilitators. Concrete outreach activities of the SCF in relation to the organization of the forum, with the support of the secretariat, included an initial outreach event to consult with relevant stakeholders at COP 21; a call for inputs from SCF members and interested stakeholders on the scope and purpose of the forum, as well as on relevant case studies and potential organizations and events with which to partner; close cooperation with the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts; and attendance by SCF members and presentation of a summary of the outcomes of the 2016 SCF forum at the international event titled “Insuring climate and disaster resilience: innovations and solutions for sustainable development”, organized by the UNEP Finance Initiative Principles for Sustainable Insurance and the Philippine Insurers and Reinsurers Association in Manila on 7 September 2016.¹⁴

26. In line with an invitation by COP 22, the SCF will continue the deliberations on the topic of the 2017 SCF forum at its first meeting in 2017, held from 7 to 9 of March 2017.¹⁵ The secretariat will continue to facilitate the engagement of the SCF with a wide variety of climate finance stakeholders in the organization of the fifth SCF forum once the topic and scope of the event have been agreed on by the SCF.¹⁶

27. Furthermore, the SCF, with the support of the secretariat, closely collaborates with climate finance stakeholders specializing in measurement, reporting and verification of support. Various international financial institutions and other IGOs involved in the tracking and reporting of climate finance, including but not limited to multilateral development banks, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the UNEP Finance Initiative, the International Development Finance Club and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), contributed to the preparation of the SCF 2016 biennial assessment and overview of climate finance flows. The external contributors provided data on climate finance flows as well as expert input on the underlying technical report of the biennial assessment through participation in SCF meetings as observers and in technical meetings on the biennial assessment.¹⁷ The SCF, through its collaboration with external contributors, was able to provide an overview of climate finance flows and identify further ways to improve the consistency and transparency of financial information in national reports as part of its summary and recommendations,¹⁸ which informed deliberations on climate finance at COP 22. The collaborations also informed external contributors on the recommendations by the SCF in their ongoing efforts to harmonize methodologies for the tracking and reporting of climate finance flows.

¹³ Information on the fourth SCF forum, including the programme, list of speakers and presentations, is available at <http://unfccc.int/9410.php>.

¹⁴ The summary report on the 2016 SCF forum on “Financial instruments that address the risks of loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change” is contained in annex III to document FCCC/CP/2016/8.

¹⁵ Decision 8/CP.22, paragraph 9.

¹⁶ See www.unfccc.int/SCF/Forum.

¹⁷ More information is available at <http://unfccc.int/10028.php>.

¹⁸ The summary and recommendations by the SCF on the 2016 biennial assessment and overview of climate finance flows are contained in the annex to decision 8/CP.22.

3. Cooperation through the in-session workshop on long-term climate finance

28. The in-session workshop on long-term climate finance was held on 18 May 2016 in Bonn, Germany, in conjunction with the forty-fourth sessions of the subsidiary bodies. Participants discussed adaptation finance, needs for support to developing country Parties and cooperation on enhanced enabling environments and support for readiness activities, in line with decision 5/CP.20.¹⁹ A wide range of climate finance experts from international organizations and the private sector engaged in fruitful discussions during panel and breakout group discussions and included representatives of Siguler Guff, the African Risk Capacity, the World Bank and UNDP. Following the workshop, a summary report was prepared for consideration at COP 22 to inform the second biennial High-level Ministerial Dialogue on Climate Finance, which was convened at COP 22 in accordance with decision 3/CP.19.²⁰

4. Cooperation through the in-session workshop on the modalities for the accounting of financial resources provided and mobilized through public interventions in accordance with Article 9, paragraph 7, of the Paris Agreement

29. The secretariat organized an in-session workshop on 8 November 2016 in conjunction with SBSTA 45 to inform the work of the SBSTA on the development of modalities for the accounting of financial resources provided and mobilized through public interventions in accordance with Article 9, paragraph 7, of the Paris Agreement.²¹ Many representatives of IGOs involved in the tracking and reporting of climate finance, including multilateral development banks and international development finance institutions, participated in the workshop and actively exchanged views on the challenges related to, gaps in and options for improvements to the existing modalities for the accounting of financial resources, as well as on possible new elements of accounting modalities. A representative of the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) delivered a scene-setting presentation to introduce the work of IATI, with a view to informing the development of accounting modalities. A representative of OECD took an active role as a panellist to lead the discussions, particularly on the accounting of mobilized private finance. SBSTA 45 welcomed the constructive sharing of views during the in-session workshop and further encouraged United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies, as well as other organizations, to inform the development of modalities for the accounting of financial resources provided and mobilized through public interventions, including by convening technical meetings, with the input and participation of developing and developed country Parties.²²

C. Capacity-building

1. Cooperation in relation to the framework for capacity-building in developing countries

30. In accordance with decisions 2/CP.7 and 29/CMP.1, the secretariat collaborates with a number of IGOs to collect and compile the information needed by the COP, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol and the subsidiary bodies to annually monitor the progress made in the implementation of the framework for capacity-building in developing countries established by decision 2/CP.7.

¹⁹ More information on the workshop is available at <http://unfccc.int/6814.php>.

²⁰ The report is available at <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2016/cop22/eng/05.pdf>.

²¹ FCCC/SBSTA/2016/2, paragraph 108.

²² FCCC/SBSTA/2016/4, paragraphs 107 and 109.

The information submitted by the above-mentioned organizations is uploaded on the capacity-building portal,²³ a web-based platform which, through an interactive world map, enables external users to search, identify and download capacity-building information submitted since 2008 by United Nations organizations, specialized agencies and related organizations. In particular, in 2015 the COP invited United Nations agencies and multilateral organizations to provide information to the secretariat for the capacity-building portal.²⁴ Following this invitation, in 2016, 14 IGOs submitted information on capacity-building activities undertaken in 2015.

2. Cooperation through the Durban Forum on capacity-building

31. COP 17 requested the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) to further enhance the monitoring and review of the effectiveness of capacity-building by organizing an annual in-session Durban Forum for in-depth discussion on capacity-building.²⁵ Representatives of IGOs specialized in areas considered in the agendas of the annual meetings of the Durban Forum are invited to contribute to the in-depth discussions and cooperate with the secretariat on the organization of their interventions. The 5th meeting of the Durban Forum took place in Bonn on 20 May 2016, in conjunction with SBI 44.²⁶ The focus of the meeting was on how to enhance the capacity of developing country Parties in effectively implementing the Paris Agreement. Representatives of IGOs contributed to the discussions and delivered presentations on the following topics:

- (a) Sharing lessons learned from the implementation of national adaptation programmes of action and NAPs to inform support to nationally determined contributions (NDCs);
- (b) Gender mainstreaming in implementing actions related to NDCs;
- (c) Capacity-building gaps to access financial resources in developing country institutions;
- (d) Capacity-building needs to enhance sustainable technology development and deployment in countries.

D. Action for Climate Empowerment

1. United Nations Alliance on Climate Change Education, Training and Public Awareness

32. The United Nations Alliance on Climate Change Education, Training and Public Awareness (UN Alliance) aims to support Parties in their efforts to initiate and undertake activities related to the implementation of Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE). The secretariat, in partnership with the UN Alliance members, Morocco and the Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection, organized Education Day at the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Marrakech on 14 November 2016. During Education Day, the UN Alliance organized a high-level event to discuss how education can accelerate the implementation of the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals.

33. Furthermore, the secretariat organized a workshop to support the implementation of the Doha work programme on Article 6 of the Convention, with financial support from the

²³ See http://unfccc.int/cooperation_and_support/capacity_building/items/7204.php.

²⁴ Decision 14/CP.21, paragraph 10.

²⁵ Decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 144.

²⁶ See <http://unfccc.int/9439>.

Nordic Council of Ministers, on 27 May 2016 in Bonn. At the workshop, ACE national focal points, Party representatives and civil society delegates shared good practices, lessons learned and experiences in implementing the Doha work programme. Experts from the UN Alliance moderated the working group discussions. The workshop contributed to strengthening the existing skills and capacities of ACE national focal points.

2. Global Action Programme on Education for Sustainable Development

34. The Global Action Programme on Education for Sustainable Development, which is the outcome of the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005–2014), was launched in November 2014 at the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development in Aichi-Nagoya, Japan. The overall goal of the global action programme is to generate and scale up action at all levels and in all areas of education and learning to accelerate progress towards sustainable development and to contribute to the post-2015 agenda. The global action programme established five partner networks: (1) policy support; (2) whole-institution approaches; (3) educators; (4) youth; and (5) local communities. The secretariat participated in the 2nd meeting of the global action programme partner networks held at the UNESCO headquarters in Paris on 5 and 6 July 2016 and provided policy inputs for scaling up the implementation of climate change education.

3. Action for Climate Empowerment Guidelines

35. In 2016, the secretariat developed, in partnership with UNESCO, a publication titled *Action for Climate Empowerment: Guidelines for Accelerating Solutions through Education, Training and Public Awareness*. The publication is intended to facilitate the work of ACE national focal points to implement the Doha work programme on Article 6 of the Convention. The ACE guidelines were officially launched during the high-level event at Education Day at the Marrakech Conference.

4. 4th Dialogue on Action for Climate Empowerment

36. The secretariat organized the 4th Dialogue on Action for Climate Empowerment on 18 and 19 May 2016 during SBI 44 in collaboration with United Nations entities. During the dialogue, Parties, IGOs, NGOs, the private sector, media and other relevant stakeholders shared best practices and lessons learned regarding public awareness, public participation and public access to information in relation to climate change, with international cooperation acting as a cross-cutting theme. Representatives of the UN Alliance provided technical support and moderated working group discussions. On 22 August, the secretariat published a summary report on the 4th Dialogue on Action for Climate Empowerment.²⁷

5. Youth and climate change

37. The secretariat works together with United Nations entities and youth organizations to mobilize active and meaningful youth participation in the climate change process through the United Nations Joint Framework Initiative on Children, Youth and Climate Change (JFI). The secretariat coordinated the participation of JFI members in youth activities at SBI 44. Moreover, the secretariat worked closely with JFI, the Office of the Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth and Connect4Climate to organize Young and Future Generations Day at the Marrakech Conference. Furthermore, to shine a light on existing

²⁷ FCCC/SBI/2016/11. See also http://unfccc.int/cooperation_and_support/education_and_outreach/dialogues/items/9414.php.

climate change actions by youth, the secretariat, in partnership with the UNDP–GEF Small Grants Programme, JFI, Television for the Environment and Connect4Climate, organized the Global Youth Video Competition on Climate Change. Young people from 77 different countries submitted videos showcasing the power of young people to act as key players in reaching innovative and ambitious solutions on climate change.

6. One UN Climate Change Learning Partnership

38. The secretariat continues its close engagement with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research with regard to the advancement of the One UN Climate Change Learning Partnership (UN CC:Learn), a cooperative initiative of 35 multilateral organizations. UN CC:Learn supports member States, United Nations agencies and other development partners in designing and implementing results-oriented and sustainable learning to address climate change. In addition, UN CC:Learn hosts the primary e-learning platform on climate change which is currently available in six languages. UN CC:Learn is a tool that contributes directly to the implementation of the Doha work programme on Article 6 of the Convention. The secretariat participated in the meeting of the steering committee of UN CC:Learn on 24 and 25 February 2016 held in Geneva, Switzerland, and provided policy and technical recommendations for its action plan.

E. Adaptation

1. Adaptation and loss and damage

39. The secretariat collaborates with many IGOs and United Nations organizations in supporting adaptation activities, including through the work of the AC, in promoting synergy and strengthening engagement with national, regional and international organizations, centres and networks. The secretariat also engages with a wide range of organizations in support of the work of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG), including the implementation of national adaptation programmes of action. Furthermore, the secretariat supports the work under the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts, the process to formulate and implement NAPs and the work under the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change (NWP). Specific IGOs that the secretariat cooperates with include, but are not limited to: the GEF, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the secretariats of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR), UNDP, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, UNEP, the World Health Organization (WHO), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), UNESCO and the World Bank.

2. Adaptation Committee

40. The AC is the advisory body of the COP on adaptation to climate change. The AC seeks to promote greater coherence in the way that adaptation is addressed by all countries and raise the profile of adaptation. The secretariat supports the work of the AC, including working with all IGOs involved with adaptation activities. Specific activities carried out during the reporting period include the following:

(a) The AC considered the possible establishment of a partnership platform with national, regional and international organizations, centres and networks to provide technical support to developing country Parties on adaptation. As a follow-up, it conducted a side event at the forty-fourth sessions of the subsidiary bodies to consult with national, regional and international organizations, centres and networks on collaboration to provide technical

support. The event revealed that a wide range of regional centres and networks are already in place, offering a large variety of support and utilizing different modalities of collaboration, and that their interest in collaborating with the AC is high. The AC therefore agreed not to establish a new partnership platform but to enhance collaboration and synergy between existing ones. It requested the NWP, in collaboration with the CTCN, to prepare an overview of the landscape of existing platforms, including gaps, and report back to the 12th meeting of the AC on progress made;

(b) The AC conducted the technical examination process on adaptation (TEP-A) with the objective of identifying concrete opportunities for strengthening resilience, reducing vulnerabilities and increasing the understanding and implementation of adaptation action. The TEP-A includes annual technical expert meetings on adaptation, bringing together a broad group of stakeholders, including United Nations organizations and IGOs, to discuss policies, actions and concrete opportunities and their implementation. Discussions held at these meetings, as well as other information relevant to the topic of the respective year, are reflected in an annual technical paper prepared by the secretariat in consultation with the AC;²⁸

(c) The 2016 AC Adaptation Forum was held in the context of the 2016 Adaptation Futures 2016 conference in Rotterdam, the Netherlands, in May 2016. The AC used the opportunity presented by the broad range of adaptation experts participating in the conference not only to inform them of the adaptation aspects of the Paris Agreement, but also to receive input from the participants on specific new tasks arising from decision 1/CP.21;

(d) The AC accepted an invitation from the UNEP Global Adaptation Network to organize a session during the 5th Asia-Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Forum, which took place in October 2016. The theme of the forum was “Adapting and living below 2 °C: bridging the gaps in policy & practice”, and explored platforms and concrete pathways for even stronger partnerships between adaptation stakeholders at all levels.

41. All AC meetings are open to observers, including IGOs. Observers have been invited to provide general statements at the opening and closing of the meetings, to provide concrete suggestions during the discussions on specific agenda items and to actively participate in the work of breakout groups. Such active engagement of observers and the possibility of feeding additional experience and expertise into the discussions were deemed to be beneficial for furthering the work of the AC and its quest for synergy.

3. Least Developed Countries Expert Group

42. The secretariat continues to facilitate the work of the LEG through collaboration with various organizations, regional centres and networks, consistent with the relevant mandates of the LEG.²⁹ Specific activities of the secretariat include:

(a) Interacting with the GCF to consider how to best support least developed country (LDC) Parties in accessing funding from the GCF for the formulation and implementation of NAPs. In that context, the GCF secretariat conducted special sessions on accessing funding from the GCF for the process of formulating and implementing NAPs

²⁸ The technical paper prepared on the basis of the 2016 TEP-A is contained in document FCCC/TP/2016/6.

²⁹ Decisions 8/CP.13, paragraphs 2 and 5; 6/CP.16, paragraph 5; 12/CP.18, paragraphs 7 and 8; 4/CP.21, paragraph 10; and 19/CP.21, paragraphs 2(c), 5, 6, 9, 10, and 11.

during the NAP Expo held in July 2016,³⁰ targeting delegates from the LDCs. The GCF secretariat continues to engage in the LEG regional training workshops on NAPs;

(b) Inviting the GEF and its agencies to the meetings of the LEG to continue to further explore issues faced by LDC Parties related to accessing funds from the Least Developed Countries Fund and to explore ways to further collaborate to support the work of the LEG;

(c) Engaging relevant organizations, regional centres and networks in designing and conducting regional training workshops on NAPs;³¹

(d) Involving the GCF, the GEF and its agencies, United Nations organizations, international organizations and agencies, and regional centres and networks in the NAP Expo held in July 2016;³²

(e) Inviting regional centres and networks to nominate one focal point each for the LEG, in accordance with decision 19/CP.21, paragraph 10, to 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.

4. Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts

43. The Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for guides the implementation of the functions of this mechanism. One of the key functions is strengthening dialogue, coordination, coherence and synergies among relevant stakeholders, including by fostering dialogue, coordination, coherence and synergies among all relevant institutions, bodies, processes and initiatives outside of the Convention, with a view to promoting cooperation and collaboration across relevant work and activities at all levels.³³

44. The Executive Committee engages and collaborates with relevant organizations and expert bodies through the implementation of its workplan,³⁴ as well as in the context of the operationalization of the two mandates resulting from COP 21.³⁵ The secretariat continues to support the work of the Executive Committee, including by working with United Nations entities, IGOs, networks, processes and expert bodies involved. Specific activities carried out during the reporting period include the following:

(a) The Executive Committee operationalized, according to its procedures and mandate, an expert group on non-economic losses, engaging United Nations entities, IGOs and other relevant expert bodies, and established both a technical expert group on comprehensive risk management and transformational approaches, and a task force on displacement. In accordance with the terms of reference of each expert group, United Nations agencies, admitted IGOs and other relevant organizations and networks have been invited to nominate technical experts. A number of representatives of United Nations

³⁰ See <http://napexpo.org/2016/>.

³¹ During the reporting period, a regional training workshop on NAPs for anglophone African LDCs was held in Lilongwe, Malawi, from 27 February to 3 March 2017. See http://unfccc.int/adaptation/workshops_meetings/items/6989.php#NAPs.

³² See <http://napexpo.org/2016/>.

³³ In accordance with decision 2/CP.19, paragraph 5(b).

³⁴ See <http://unfccc.int/8805>.

³⁵ Decision 1/CP.21, paragraphs 48 and 49.

entities and IGOs have already been nominated as technical expert members to these groups;³⁶

(b) The Executive Committee convened a technical meeting on migration, displacement and human mobility, held from 27 to 29 July 2016 in Casablanca, Morocco, in close collaboration with IOM, who hosted the meeting. Over 40 experts and organizations, including United Nations entities and IGOs, from the migration and displacement community were engaged prior to the meeting in the preparation of a set of background documents, and produced a synthesis of relevant information³⁷ and draft recommendations based on the outcomes of the meeting;³⁸

(c) The Executive Committee organized a side event at the forty-fourth session of the subsidiary body sessions to showcase key challenges, risks and lessons learned from addressing non-economic losses associated with climate change impacts. A representative of WHO participated in the panel along with representatives of IGOs and other relevant organizations. Many other representatives of United Nations entities and IGOs attended the event and took part in the awareness-raising campaign organized by the Executive Committee in the lead-up to the side event.³⁹

45. During the reporting period, the Executive Committee invited relevant organizations to provide information on:

(a) The content, design and use of the clearing house for risk transfer through a user needs assessment;⁴⁰

(b) Conducting research on climate risk analysis/management to support regional, national and/or subnational governments through a questionnaire;

(c) Enhancing the understanding of and expertise on how the impacts of climate change are affecting patterns of migration, displacement and human mobility, and the application of such understanding and expertise.⁴¹

46. The Executive Committee also has a standing invitation for relevant organizations to provide input and information on:

(a) Efforts undertaken to incorporate climate risk and resilience into development projects and into investment criteria and decisions, as well as information on any research and development efforts undertaken on financial instruments and tools that address the risks of loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change;

(b) Key messages in the context of action area 7 of the initial two-year workplan of the Executive Committee, including making recommendations for addressing any gaps and challenges;⁴²

(c) Best practices, challenges and lessons learned from existing financial instruments at all levels that address the risk of loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change;⁴³

³⁶ See <http://unfccc.int/9976>.

³⁷ Three sets of synthesis documents were produced: the first by IOM, University of Liège, the Norwegian Refugee Council and the United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security; the second by the Platform on Disaster Displacement and UNHCR; and the third by IOM.

³⁸ See <http://unfccc.int/9682>.

³⁹ See <http://unfccc.int/9546>.

⁴⁰ See <http://unfccc.int/9997>.

⁴¹ See <http://unfccc.int/9504>.

⁴² See <http://unfccc.int/9727>.

(d) Facilitating access to information, including through collaborative channels or databases, and technologies to track the impacts of, and enable approaches to address, loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, including slow onset events;

(e) The scope of current efforts undertaken in addressing slow onset events associated with climate change impacts.⁴⁴

47. All meetings of the Executive Committee are open to observers. During the reporting period, the 3rd (26–30 April 2016)⁴⁵ and 4th (19–23 September 2016)⁴⁶ meetings of the Executive Committee took place with the active participation of a broad range of expert observers from United Nations agencies, IGOs and NGOs, including the private sector, especially in areas related to humanitarian assistance; migration, displacement and human mobility; and financial instruments and tools, including risk transfer.

48. At the meetings, observers actively engaged in providing concrete suggestions based on their specific expertise and experience during the deliberations in both plenary and parallel working group settings. Such active engagement of observers was highly appreciated by, and deemed to be beneficial for furthering the technical work of, the Executive Committee and its quest for synergy and coherent cooperative action at the international level.

5. National adaptation plans

49. The secretariat's cooperation with various organizations continues to contribute to the evolution of action and the provision of support to developing countries for the formulation and implementation of NAPs. Specific activities of the secretariat include:

(a) Facilitating the engagement of a wide range of organizations in supporting the LEG in providing technical guidance and support to the LDCs, as well as collaborating with the GCF, the GEF and its agencies on designing support in response to mandates provided by the COP;

(b) Engaging, through the NAP Technical Working Group, various organizations, including those developing supplements to the technical guidelines for the process to formulate and implement NAPs, to further develop and harmonize technical materials in support of NAPs;

(c) Mobilizing United Nations organizations and its specialized agencies, bilateral and multilateral agencies, and regional networks and centres in the design and implementation of NAP Central.⁴⁷

50. Furthermore, the secretariat is among the partners of the NAP Global Support Programme.⁴⁸ The programme, established in response to an invitation made by the COP,⁴⁹ is aimed at supporting the LDCs through the brokering of knowledge, institutional support and technical support to advance their NAPs.

⁴³ See <http://unfccc.int/9404>.

⁴⁴ See <http://unfccc.int/9430>.

⁴⁵ See <http://unfccc.int/9647>.

⁴⁶ See <http://unfccc.int/10061>.

⁴⁷ FCCC/SBI/2015/19, paragraph 32.

⁴⁸ See <http://www.undp-alm.org/projects/naps-ldcs>.

⁴⁹ Decision 5/CP.17, paragraph 23.

6. Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change

51. The NWP contributes to advancing adaptation action through knowledge by providing knowledge support to Parties, in particular developing countries, as well as to the constituted bodies (the AC and the LEG) through the following four areas of work: (1) engaging a growing network of non-Party stakeholders to share their experience and expertise; (2) synthesizing the latest information and capturing knowledge on key adaptation issues; (3) fostering science–policy–practice collaboration to close knowledge gaps; and (4) disseminating knowledge and fostering learning to boost adaptation action at all levels.

52. NWP partner organizations encompass a broad spectrum of expertise, experience and knowledge and play an important role in the implementation of activities under the work programme. Since its inception, the NWP has engaged over 340 partners, including a number of United Nations system organizations and other IGOs.⁵⁰

53. United Nations system organizations and IGOs are critical in supporting the evolving work of the NWP, which aims to enhance collaboration with global and regional knowledge networks and NWP partners so as to strengthen the production and dissemination of knowledge on adaptation and invite regional centres and networks to serve as regional knowledge platforms for the implementation of the activities under the NWP.

54. The Lima Adaptation Knowledge Initiative, an action pledge under the NWP,⁵¹ is a collaborative effort between UNEP and the secretariat, and aims to prioritize adaptation knowledge gaps and catalyse responses to close knowledge gaps in the context of various subregions and thematic domains (e.g. different sectors and areas of vulnerabilities). The International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development and the International Water Management Institute are collaborating with UNEP and the secretariat on the implementation of the Lima Adaptation Knowledge Initiative in the Hindu Kush Himalayan region and the Indian Ocean islands, respectively. The priority-setting workshops for the Lima Adaptation Knowledge Initiative in the Hindu Kush Himalayan region and the Indian Ocean islands took place back to back with the Asia Pacific Adaptation Network forum in October 2016 in Colombo.

55. The secretariat has taken the opportunity of a number of events and mandated activities on various thematic areas to strengthen the engagement of existing NWP partners and reach out to relevant non-Party stakeholders, as follows:

(a) At the 2016 NAP Expo, the co-organization of the technical session with the LEG on vulnerable communities, groups and ecosystems in adaptation planning and implementation⁵² led to the strengthening of collaboration with relevant NWP partner organizations and the identification of expert organizations in the field of vulnerable communities and/or ecosystems. As well as contributing to various sessions held during the NAP Expo, these organizations could contribute their expertise to future technical work under the NWP, including the upcoming call for submissions on ecosystem and water resources.⁵³ Interested expert organizations will also be invited to join the NWP as partner organizations;

⁵⁰ A list of partners is available at unfccc.int/nwp.

⁵¹ Details of the action pledge are available at unfccc.int/nwp.

⁵² Additional information on the expert meeting is available at <http://napexpo.org/2016/sessions/parallel-special-events/>.

⁵³ FCCC/SBSTA/2016/2, paragraph 15(c)(i).

(b) A joint networking event with the Urban Climate Change Research Network took place during Habitat III,⁵⁴ in order to attract non-Party stakeholders working on human settlements and foster collaboration with relevant stakeholders in ongoing work under the NWP addressing human settlements;

(c) In accordance with the role of the NWP as a knowledge hub that supports enhanced action on adaptation, the 10th Focal Point Forum on health and adaptation that took place in conjunction with COP 22 provided an opportunity for over 150 participants, involving policymakers, researchers, practitioners and representatives of financial institutions, not only to exchange information on the actions that they are engaged in, but also to identify strategic areas of collaboration in order to close critical knowledge gaps in the area of climate impacts on health.

56. The secretariat also developed new partnerships with regional centres and networks with a view to them undertaking regional activities. As a result, a total of 68 submissions were provided by 21 organizations, including 19 NWP partner organizations, focusing on sharing and disseminating knowledge on good practices and lessons learned in relation to ecosystems, water resources, health and human settlements and on linking national and local adaptation planning.^{55, 56}

57. The Adaptation Knowledge Portal was developed as a gateway for sharing information and knowledge on adaptation and for facilitating adaptation planning and implementation at all levels.⁵⁷ Information disseminated through the portal includes information generated under the NWP, by relevant bodies and workstreams on adaptation under the UNFCCC process, and by NWP partners and broader adaptation communities of practice.

F. Mitigation

1. Enhancing pre-2020 mitigation ambition, REDD-plus⁵⁸ and supporting the implementation of nationally determined contributions

(a) Nationally appropriate mitigation actions

58. Pursuant to decision 1/CP.16, developing countries are to implement nationally appropriate mitigation actions (NAMAs) in the context of sustainable development, supported and enabled by technology, financing and capacity-building, aimed at achieving a deviation from 'business as usual' emissions by 2020.

59. The secretariat continued its support activities⁵⁹ on NAMAs through cooperation with a number of international and bilateral organizations, with the expectation that all related activities will be taken forward in the context of support to NDCs as of 2018.

⁵⁵ The submissions are available at <http://unfccc.int/9557.php>.

⁵⁶ Document FCCC/SBSTA/2016/INF.1 provides a synthesis of the outcomes of the knowledge-sharing activities undertaken by the regional centres and networks and international organizations at the regional level.

⁵⁷ The Adaptation Knowledge Portal is available at <http://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NWP/Pages/Home.aspx>.

⁵⁸ In decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 70, the Conference of the Parties encouraged developing country Parties to contribute to mitigation actions in the forest sector by undertaking the following activities: reducing emissions from deforestation; reducing emissions from forest degradation; conservation of forest carbon stocks; sustainable management of forests; and enhancement of forest carbon stocks.

⁵⁹ As requested in decision 1/CP.18, paragraph 23, and decision 16/CP.18, paragraph 11.

During the reporting period, support and cooperation have been advanced, including through the following:

- (a) Cooperation with the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit and the Nairobi Framework Partnership on the organization of regional capacity-building workshops to facilitate the preparation and implementation of NAMAs;⁶⁰
- (b) Organizing the NAMA Marketplace at selected global conferences, an initiative whereby selected NAMAs are presented to a panel of potential donors and investors;
- (c) Producing technical material on various aspects of mitigation including:
 - (i) An update to the *Guidance for NAMA Design in the Context of Nationally Determined Contributions: a Tool to Realize GHG Mitigation under NDCs*,⁶¹ in cooperation with UNDP and the UNEP DTU Partnership;
 - (ii) The publication of the *Compendium on GHG Baselines and Monitoring: National-level Mitigation Actions*, in cooperation with the World Bank, the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and others.⁶²

(b) REDD-plus

60. The secretariat has participated in and contributed to several forest-related activities with other member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF), either jointly as a member of the CPF or through collaboration with individual members of the partnership.⁶³ The secretariat is also an observer on the policy board of the United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (UN-REDD) and collaborates closely with UN-REDD partner agencies. Furthermore, the secretariat continues to follow, as an observer, the work related to REDD-plus⁶⁴ of the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility and the Forest Investment Program under the Strategic Climate Fund of the World Bank.

61. The secretariat continues to support the activities of all Parties by maintaining a REDD-plus Web Platform,⁶⁵ which contains information from Parties, relevant organizations and stakeholders.⁶⁶ The secretariat improved and further developed this platform to include the Lima REDD-plus Information Hub.⁶⁷

⁶⁰ Additional information is available at <http://unfccc.int/focus/mitigation/items/7429.php>.

⁶¹ Available at <http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/climate-and-disaster-resilience/guidance-for-nama-design-in-the-context-of-nationally-determined.html>.

⁶² Available at <http://namanews.org/news/category/support/pub/>.

⁶³ The partner organizations of the CPF are: the Center for International Forestry Research, CBD, FAO, the GEF, the International Tropical Timber Organization, the International Union for Conservation of Nature, the International Union of Forest Research Organizations, the UNCCD and UNFCCC secretariats, UNDP, UNEP, the United Nations Forum on Forests, the World Agroforestry Centre and the World Bank.

⁶⁴ In decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 70, the COP encouraged developing country Parties to contribute to mitigation actions in the forest sector by undertaking the following activities: reducing emissions from deforestation; reducing emissions from forest degradation; conservation of forest carbon stocks; sustainable management of forests; and enhancement of forest carbon stocks.

⁶⁵ See <http://redd.unfccc.int/>.

⁶⁶ As requested in decision 2/CP.13, paragraph 10.

⁶⁷ Pursuant to decision 9/CP.19, paragraph 19.

(c) Nationally determined contributions

62. In accordance with Article 4, paragraph 2, of the Paris Agreement, each Party shall prepare, communicate and maintain successive NDCs that it intends to achieve. Parties shall pursue domestic mitigation measures, with the aim of achieving the objectives of such contributions. Further, in accordance with Article 4, paragraph 9, of the Paris Agreement, Parties shall communicate an NDC every five years.

63. Following the success of a set of regional NDC dialogues, organized in cooperation with UNDP, the secretariat extended this initiative into 2017 to assist countries with the NDC implementation phase. The initiative has provided a space for representatives of planning, finance and/or environment ministries to discuss technical and political aspects of NDC implementation. In the reporting period, a total of four dialogues were organized, including one for the Pacific region.

64. The secretariat has also taken an active role in the design of the NDC Partnership, which is a coalition of governments and international institutions to support developing countries with their NDCs and achievement of the SDGs. The secretariat has been engaged in setting up the support unit and in the development of its knowledge platforms.

2. Cooperation with the International Civil Aviation Organization and the International Maritime Organization

65. The secretariat collaborates closely with the secretariats of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the International Maritime Organization (IMO)⁶⁸ in order to address emissions from international aviation and maritime transport.

66. The secretariat holds the status of an observer in relation to both organizations and regularly participates in meetings of the Committee on Aviation Environmental Protection (CAEP) under ICAO and the Marine Environment Protection Committee under IMO. During such meetings, the secretariat informs Parties on relevant developments under the UNFCCC by providing oral and written statements as well as by engaging directly with Parties if requested. Furthermore, the secretariat works collaboratively with the secretariats of ICAO and IMO on relevant issues. In the context of the work of ICAO and IMO to address GHG emissions from international aviation and maritime transport, respectively, the secretariat also participates in technical working groups addressing climate-relevant matters under both bodies. The secretariat seconded a staff member to ICAO in order to support its ongoing work on market-based approaches to addressing GHG emissions from international aviation. The secretariat is also actively contributing to the work of CAEP and its Global Market-Based Measure Technical Task Force, specifically on the development of measurement, reporting and verification, a registry system and criteria for emission units.

67. In response to reoccurring invitations made by the SBSTA, the secretariats of ICAO and IMO continuously report on their relevant actions to address GHG emissions from international aviation and maritime transport to the SBSTA under its agenda item on emissions from fuel used for international aviation and maritime transport. The SBSTA regularly takes note of these reports and their activities and results. In addition, both the ICAO and IMO secretariats organized interactive side events at the Marrakech Conference.

68. The secretariat is collaborating with ICAO by participating in the work of its technical expert groups related to the implementation of ICAO Assembly resolution A39-3,⁶⁹ which decided to implement a global market-based measure (GMBM) scheme in the form of the Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation. GMBM

⁶⁸ Decision 18/CP.5, paragraph 3.

⁶⁹ Available at http://www.icao.int/Meetings/a39/Documents/Resolutions/a39_res_prov_en.pdf.

aims at addressing any annual increase in total carbon dioxide emissions from international civil aviation (i.e. civil aviation flights that depart in one country and arrive in a different country) above the 2020 level, taking into account the special circumstances and respective capabilities of countries.

3. Collaboration with the International Energy Agency

69. The secretariat collaborates closely with IEA on a number of issues in relation to energy and climate change. A 2016 highlight was the preparation of the IEA *World Energy Outlook 2016*,⁷⁰ for which the secretariat provided inputs to and comments. The two organizations have regular exchanges on energy-related issues, including data, projections and policies.

70. Furthermore, the secretariat maintains constant cooperation with IEA in the context of data exchange and support for the expert reviews of national GHG inventories from Parties included in Annex I to the Convention. In 2016, particular focus was accorded to the improvement of the associated joint cooperation processes as well as the renewal of the cooperation legal arrangements between the two organizations. The secretariat is currently discussing with IEA the possibility of expanding the cooperation on data, with the aim of better supporting the implementation of the Paris Agreement.

71. The secretariat has also initiated collaboration with IEA with a view to using data on cost and efficiency of technology for the purpose of setting country-specific standardized baselines.

4. Collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Environment Programme

72. The secretariat collaborates with UNEP in the preparation of the UNEP emissions gap and adaptation gap reports.⁷¹

73. In relation to clean development mechanism (CDM) methodologies for the building sector and a city-wide approach to mitigation actions, the secretariat is collaborating with UNEP on its Sustainable Building and Climate Initiative. Several joint workshops have been organized to explore approaches to the quantification of the impact of mitigation activities in these sectors.

74. Additionally, the UNFCCC and UNEP have established a joint work programme to address the following activities and deliverables:

- (a) A unified United Nations view on mobilizing financial stakeholders to action through systemic change;
- (b) Supporting countries to develop comprehensive national climate financial road maps;
- (c) Mobilizing non-State action on climate finance.

5. Collaboration with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

75. The secretariat contributed actively to the completion of the work of the task force on a set of key climate change related statistics and indicators created in 2014 by the Bureau of the Conference of European Statisticians. The final report of the task force that defines an internationally comparable set of key climate change related statistics and

⁷⁰ Available at <http://www.worldenergyoutlook.org/publications/weo-2016/>.

⁷¹ See <http://www.unep.org/emissionsgap>.

indicators is now in preparation and is expected to be published soon. This work will help national statisticians to engage more actively in, and contribute more extensively to, the preparation of GHG inventories and other climate-related data.

76. In addition, the secretariat contributed to the organization and conduct of the second expert forum for producers and users of climate change related statistics, conducted at the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) offices in Geneva from 5 to 7 October 2016.⁷² The event, which was well attended by representatives of national statistical offices of UNECE members and other countries, addressed a wide range of climate-related topics, such as strengthening energy statistics for analysing climate change; a set of climate change indicators (see para. 75 above); a road map; and progress on improving climate change related statistics and measurement of disasters and extreme events. The meeting included a session on the Paris Agreement and other outcomes of COP 21, which was chaired and facilitated by a UNFCCC representative.

6. Contribution to the operation of the United Nations wide data portal

77. The secretariat provides regular updates to GHG data, on the basis of Parties' annual submissions. The data are presented on UNdata,⁷³ which contributes to the capability of this portal to serve as a United Nations wide platform for data dissemination within and outside the United Nations system. The secretariat also participates in the regular data manager meetings to provide inputs and discuss the developments related to the associated data systems and data management. Although such meetings did not take place in 2016, the secretariat remains committed to contributing to them.

7. Collaboration related to the Montreal Protocol

78. The secretariat collaborates on a regular basis with the secretariat for the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and for the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer in the context of addressing ozone-depleting substances that have high global warming potential. The secretariats closely coordinate relevant work and participate regularly in each other's meetings, thereby exchanging expertise and knowledge, particularly in the lead-up to the adoption of the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol.⁷⁴ In particular, there have been several exchanges related to how experience with the CDM could be used for the assessment of hydrofluorocarbon projects under the Montreal Protocol.

8. Collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

79. The secretariat is engaged in close long-term collaboration with FAO, providing joint technical support and expertise to countries on matters relating to climate change adaptation and mitigation in the agriculture, forestry and other land-use (AFOLU) sector. FAO, as an implementing agency, contributes technical input to the UNFCCC policymaking process based on its experience through direct work with member countries. The secretariat contributes to the work of FAO on climate change through the provision of guidance on the UNFCCC policy process, as well as through collaboration at the technical level, including sharing of data and information submitted by Parties. The collaboration aims at enhancing countries' capacity to integrate adaptation, mitigation and the SDGs into activities undertaken in the AFOLU sector, including their NDCs. These joint activities

⁷² Meeting information is available at <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=41299#/>.

⁷³ See <http://data.un.org/>.

⁷⁴ See http://conf.montreal-protocol.org/meeting/mop/mop-28/final-report/English/Kigali_Amendment-English.pdf.

facilitate the implementation of the Paris Agreement and advance the Global Climate Action Agenda.⁷⁵

80. In order to meet their reporting requirements under the Convention, Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties) should have in place a system that enables them to submit reports on a regular basis. The UNFCCC project on technical assistance for sustainable national GHG inventory management systems in Western Africa was launched in May 2014 and is designed to provide in-kind technical assistance from 2014 to 2016 to seven Western African countries (Benin, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Senegal and Togo) for establishing and maintaining the institutional, legal and procedural arrangements needed to perform national GHG inventory system functions (inventory planning, preparation and management) and to improve the quality of GHG inventories for the energy, agriculture and forestry sectors. The regional project is based on the identification of inventory-related problems, the assessment of technical assistance needs and the identification of the required technical interventions to address the needs developed in close collaboration with the participating countries and with FAO with regard to the agriculture and forestry sectors.

9. Collaboration with the International Labour Organization on just transition of the workforce and the creation of decent work

81. The secretariat initiated collaboration with the International Labour Organization (ILO) on matters related to just transition of the workforce and the creation of decent work, which is one of the work programmes of the improved forum on the impact of the implementation of response measures. In 2016, ILO provided substantial inputs to the secretariat regarding the preparation of a technical document on just transition of the workforce and the creation of decent work. In addition, in 2016, the secretariat initiated the process of developing long-term collaboration with ILO to catalyse action on just transition of the workforce and the creation of decent work in the context of global action on climate change. Under this collaboration, the UNFCCC and ILO plan to contribute regularly to each other's work with common objectives, including capacity-building and sharing information and expertise related to just transition of the workforce and the creation of decent work.

10. Collaboration with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

82. In 2016, the secretariat collaborated with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) to organize a joint event to foster dialogue between United Nations agencies on the impacts of mitigation measures and their linkages with trade in the context of the implementation of the Paris Agreement.

11. Collaboration with the World Bank on the use of the clean development mechanism beyond the Kyoto Protocol

83. The secretariat developed a fruitful collaboration with the World Bank on the use of the CDM for the results-based financing of mitigation activities. Mechanisms such as the Carbon Initiative for Development and the Pilot Auction Facility use the CDM infrastructure to evaluate the impact of the mitigation activities that they incentivize.

84. The World Bank, through the CDM reform working group, is collaborating with the secretariat on the further development of the CDM to make it serve the Convention beyond the Kyoto Protocol. Each year, the CDM reform working group meets at least twice and prepares a workplan on the methodologies that need to be developed to broaden the

⁷⁵ See http://unfccc.int/paris_agreement/items/9983.php.

applicability of the mechanism and those that need to be simplified. The working group has also made several proposals related to the simplification and streamlining of the CDM project cycle.

12. Collaboration with the International Renewable Energy Agency

85. The secretariat collaborated with IRENA and the International Atomic Energy Agency to organize energy planning and capacity-building programmes for experts from energy planning offices at ministries, electric utilities and specialized agencies in 10 countries from the Economic Community of West African States between October 2015 and March 2016. The cooperation initiative included preparation of technical data for the development of a standardized baseline for the power sector (a 'grid emission factor') to facilitate access to carbon finance for renewable energy and energy efficiency projects. As part of the initiative, the secretariat, through its regional collaboration centres, continued working with African countries for the development of grid emission factor standardized baselines.

13. Collaboration with the technical working group of international financial institutions

86. Since 2012, international financial institutions, including multilateral development banks, have come together to form a technical working group to harmonize approaches for GHG accounting. The working group, currently with over 30 members, has made critical progress in the past few years to develop harmonized methodologies for renewable energy, energy efficiency and transport. The secretariat hosted the technical working group meeting on GHG accounting on 15 and 16 June 2016 in Bonn. The meeting, besides focusing on technical issues, identified priority areas to enhance collaboration, broaden sectoral coverage and measures to accelerate the pace of development of harmonized standards, building on the work of the participating international financial institutions and the UNFCCC secretariat on methodological issues.

14. The clean development mechanism and the Nairobi Framework Partnership

87. The Nairobi Framework Partnership⁷⁶ is an initiative that began with the collaboration of the secretariat with a number of agencies, including UNDP, UNEP, the UNEP DTU Partnership, the World Bank, the African Development Bank, UNCTAD, the International Emissions Trading Association and the Asian Development Bank. The Carbon Markets and Investment Association joined the partnership as a cooperating organization. The Nairobi Framework was established with the specific target of helping developing countries, especially those in sub-Saharan Africa, to improve their level of participation in the CDM. Following the adoption of the Paris Agreement, Nairobi Framework partners have expanded the scope of the partnership to include providing support to developing countries for the preparation and implementation of their NDCs with a focus on carbon finance, technology transfer and capacity-building, and for mitigation by creating an enabling environment at the national level, regulatory mechanisms and carbon markets, including the CDM.

88. Together, the partners of the Nairobi Framework Partnership, in cooperation with other organizations, continue to support the organization of regional carbon forums and events. The 8th African Carbon Forum was successfully held in June 2016 in Kigali, followed by a high-level segment. Also under the Nairobi Framework Partnership umbrella and in collaboration with Banco de Desarrollo de América Latina (CAF), the Inter-American Development Bank and the Latin American Energy Organization, the 10th Latin

⁷⁶ See https://cdm.unfccc.int/about/Nairobi_Framework/index.html.

American and Caribbean Carbon Forum was held in Panama City in September 2016. The 7th Asia-Pacific Carbon Forum was organized in collaboration with the Asian Development Bank, the International Emissions Trading Association and the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies and held in September 2016 in Jeju, Republic of Korea. The secretariat also organized specific sessions for designated national authorities on Nairobi Framework Partnership activity held back to back with the African Carbon Forum, the Asia-Pacific Carbon Forum and the Latin American and Caribbean Carbon Forum. The Nairobi Framework Partnership conducted a survey⁷⁷ on NDCs in 2016. The survey examined the elements needed to enable Parties to implement the NDCs submitted under the Paris Agreement. The outcomes of the survey served as the basis for the preparation of the Nairobi Framework Partnership project portfolio.⁷⁸

89. The secretariat also delivered, through its Regional Collaboration Centres (RCCs) and their partnerships, a series of capacity-building and engagement events.

90. Through its RCCs, the secretariat continues its direct provision of support to project participants and developers for the development of new CDM projects and standardized baselines. The centres are being operated in partnership with the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies, St. George's University, Banque Ouest Africaine de Développement, the East African Development Bank and CAF.

91. Through the CDM Loan Scheme,⁷⁹ which is administered by the United Nations Office for Project Services and the UNEP DTU Partnership, no new loans have been approved during the reporting period. The implementing agency and the secretariat are working closely with loan recipients that wish to continue under the CDM Loan Scheme to help them to identify ways to progress through the project cycle, including making adjustments to loan agreement terms, if appropriate.

G. Transparency

1. Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention

92. The Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (CGE) assists non-Annex I Parties by providing them with technical support and advice in an effective, adequate and sustainable manner to build country capacity to meet their reporting requirements under the Convention. To that effect, in 2014, the CGE laid out its vision and strategies to respond effectively to the mandate given to it by the COP. The strategies cover the areas of technical support and advice, operational management, communication and outreach, as well as collaboration and cooperation with other global initiatives. As part of its technical support to non-Annex I Parties, the CGE has collaborated with UNDP, UNEP and the IPCC.

2. Collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Environment Programme

93. The CGE, with support from the secretariat, collaborates with the GEF-funded UNDP and UNEP jointly administered Global Support Programme for the preparation of national communications and biennial update reports by non-Annex I Parties. This programme provides technical guidance and support for the timely preparation and

⁷⁷ See http://bit.ly/NFP_NDCsurvey.

⁷⁸ See <https://nfppartnership.org/projects/>.

⁷⁹ See <http://cdmloanscheme.org/>.

submission of national communications and biennial update reports to the COP, and complements the efforts of the CGE by facilitating the provision of technical support to non-Annex I Parties at both the subregional and national levels. Through their representation in the CGE, UNDP and UNEP contribute to various elements of the work programme of the CGE.

3. Collaboration with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

94. The secretariat collaborated with the IPCC to jointly organize three regional workshops with a view to facilitating the preparation by non-Annex I Parties of their national GHG inventories through the use of, among other resources, the *2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories* and related inventory software, as well as of the tools available to support the establishment of national institutional arrangements compatible with a frequent submission of national GHG inventories.

4. Collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

95. FAO provided training on land-use management techniques for the UNFCCC project on technical assistance for sustainable national GHG inventory management systems in Western Africa, which was launched in May 2014 and concluded in September 2016. It was designed to provide in-kind technical assistance to seven Western African countries (Benin, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Senegal and Togo).

5. Global Environment Facility

96. The Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency was established by the COP through decision 1/CP.21. Its aim is to strengthen the institutional and technical capacities of developing countries to meet the enhanced transparency requirements under the Paris Agreement, leading up to 2020 and beyond. During the reporting period, the secretariat participated in the consultative dialogues organized by the GEF, which led to the rapid operationalization of the Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency.

H. Climate knowledge: science, research and systematic observation

97. Cooperation with the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS) secretariat and other agencies has been a large and important component of the further development and enhancement of scientific knowledge on climate change through research and systematic observation of the climate system around the world. In that context, the secretariat continues to collaborate closely with scientific programmes, agencies and organizations, including the IPCC, WMO, GCOS, the World Climate Research Programme, UNEP, the World Conservation Monitoring Centre, UNESCO and the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs. COP 22 endorsed the new GCOS implementation plan that will guide the implementation of the global observing system for the next 10 years.⁸⁰ At COP 22, WMO delivered a presentation on the status of the global climate, and will continue to deliver such presentations at all future sessions of the COP.

98. Collaboration with the IPCC, in its role as the primary provider of scientific information to the UNFCCC process, continued in the past year. The SBSTA and the IPCC organized a joint event on advice on how the assessments of the IPCC can inform the global stocktake,⁸¹ which helped the SBSTA to finalize its advice to the Ad Hoc Working

⁸⁰ See decision 19/CP.22.

⁸¹ See <http://unfccc.int/9535.php>.

Group on the Paris Agreement on this matter. The secretariat closely follows the work of the IPCC and participates as an observer in its meetings.

99. The IPCC continuously responds to the various mandates and invitations arising from the UNFCCC process, including on preparing a special report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5 °C,⁸² as invited by COP 21. The secretariat has collaborated with the IPCC as well as other United Nations organizations and IGOs, inter alia, in the following activities during the reporting period:

- (a) The 8th Research Dialogue, held during SBSTA 44;⁸³
- (b) The Earth Information Day held during COP 22;⁸⁴
- (c) Jointly organizing regional workshops to facilitate the preparation by non-Annex I Parties of their national GHG inventories through, among others, the use of the *2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories*, including the inventory software, as well as the tools available to support the establishment of suitable national institutional arrangements to support the frequent submission of national GHG inventories.

I. Gender

100. The secretariat continues to strengthen its collaboration with other IGOs to mainstream gender considerations in various climate change thematic areas, raise awareness of the importance of gender considerations and celebrate women's leadership and climate action. The secretariat is also an active participant in the United Nations system wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women and in the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality. Some of the secretariat's activities with a focus on gender and climate change or with gender-related components during the past year include the following:

(a) Several IGOs participated in the workshop held during SBI 44 on gender-responsive climate policy with a focus on adaptation, capacity-building and training for delegates on gender issues, including presentations by the GEF and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) and facilitation by the GCF. The resulting workshop report set out a summary of recommendations and next step actions on developing a further work programme;

(b) The organization of Gender Day at the Marrakech Conference on 15 November 2016 included activities that focused on critical issues, including access to climate finance viewed through a gender lens, and implementation of transformative, gender-responsive NDCs. A number of IGOs, including UN Women, UNDP, UNEP, the GCF, the GEF, the Adaptation Fund, the Inter-American Development Bank and OECD, collaborated with the secretariat in the organization of Gender Day and actively contributed to the events held;

(c) The secretariat continued its engagement with the inter-agency working group on gender, known as the GEF Gender Partnership, including in the development of an online training programme on gender and the environment in collaboration with, among others, the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, FAO, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, UNEP, the secretariats of other multilateral environmental agreements and the GEF;

⁸² See <http://www.ipcc.ch/report/sr15/>.

⁸³ See <http://unfccc.int/9475.php>.

⁸⁴ See <http://unfccc.int/science/9949.php>.

(d) The secretariat also collaborated in events organized by IGOs, including a workshop on gender-responsive mitigation in Asia organized by the Asian Development Bank, the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies and the SNV Netherlands Development Organisation, and a webinar on gender and mitigation organized by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and the Gender Equality for Climate Change Opportunities initiative.

J. Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals

101. The secretariat supports various activities towards the implementation of the SDGs, with a specific focus on the implementation of goal 13 (“Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts”), and is also closely engaged in activities with relevant agencies on the achievement of goals 4, 5, 7 and 15.⁸⁵ Such activities include:

(a) SBSTA 45 requested the secretariat, in the context of the NWP, to explore opportunities to strengthen partnerships with regional centres and networks, local and municipal governments, the private sector, scientific organizations, academia, organizations representing indigenous and traditional communities, spiritual and religious groups, gender constituencies, youth organizations and the mass media, and the linkages with the SDGs, as appropriate.⁸⁶ To this end, among other planned activities, the secretariat will continue the NWP interview series, focusing on activities that NWP partners are undertaking towards the implementation of the SDGs;⁸⁷

(b) As an active observer agency along with other United Nations organizations, the secretariat supports the work of the Inter-agency Expert Group on SDG Indicators⁸⁸ in the development of the global indicator framework for monitoring and reporting on progress made in the implementation of the SDGs. The secretariat is the custodian agency for various indicators under goal 13, and works in close collaboration with UNISDR, WMO, UNEP, OECD, the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, FAO, IEA, WHO and UNESCO regarding the provision of support to IEAG-SDGs, the preparation of workplans for the further development of indicators, and the provision of inputs to support the preparation of the Secretary-General’s annual SDG reports;

(c) The secretariat, through its RCCs, is supporting work on SDGs, in particular through participation in the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific Regional Coordination Mechanism (RCM), which aims to strengthen policy and programme coherence of the United Nations at the regional level, foster and enhance inter-agency collaboration and provide a platform for exchanging views on major strategic developments and challenges facing the region;

(d) At the operational level, the RCM operates through six thematic working groups to focus on specific operational programmatic issues that could benefit from improved regional cooperation. The staff at the RCCs actively participated in three thematic working groups of the RCM related to the issues of climate change. This forum provides an opportunity to partake in the strategic planning of interventions with other

⁸⁵ See <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/>.

⁸⁶ FCCC/SBSTA/2016/4, paragraph 19.

⁸⁷ Further information and video clips can be found in the December 2016 NWP eUpdate, available at <http://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NWP/News/Pages/SDG-video-.aspx>.

⁸⁸ Further information on the Inter-agency Expert Group on SDG indicators is available at <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/iaeg-sdgs/>.

United Nations agencies. Other RCCs are also replicating this practice in other regions, while also participating in United Nations inter-agency committees and task forces.

K. Climate Action Agenda

1. Engagement with non-Party stakeholders under decision 1/CP.21

102. Decision 1/CP.21 is the foundation for the work on global climate action under the UNFCCC formal process and includes several mandates, building on the Lima–Paris Action Agenda, to engage Parties and non-Party stakeholders to scale up climate action.

103. In accordance with this decision, in April 2016, the serving and incoming Presidents of the COP appointed high-level champions: Ms. Laurence Tubiana from France and Ms. Hakima El Haite from Morocco. The secretariat also established an interim team to support their work and the work undertaken on global climate action.

104. During COP 22, the champions, in collaboration with the climate action partners, organized a series of events in the following thematic areas: agriculture, forests, human settlements, transport, energy, water, oceans, and business and industry.⁸⁹ The organization of these showcase and dialogue events was supported by a wide range of international organizations, including FAO, UNDP, UNEP, IRENA, Sustainable Energy for All and the Executive Office of the Secretary-General. The events were also supported by a wide variety of representative organizations and initiatives.

105. Based on consultations with Parties and non-Party stakeholders throughout 2016 and in particular at COP 22, the high-level champions launched the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action⁹⁰ during the mandated high-level event on 17 November 2016. This partnership creates a basis for enhanced engagement with IGOs and non-Party stakeholders in the period up to 2020.

106. New commitments from non-Party stakeholders were published on the Non-State Actor Zone for Climate Action platform and enhanced functionality was introduced to track the progress of voluntary initiatives and provide an overview of the climate action events convened during the session of the COP.

2. Caring for Climate initiative

107. The private sector has proved to have significant potential to contribute, through technology and finance, to the fight against climate change. The secretariat continues its engagement in the Caring for Climate initiative with the United Nations Global Compact and UNEP. The initiative seeks to advance the role of business in addressing climate change.

108. Under the Caring for Climate initiative, the secretariat continued to engage in the organization of a focus event on business. The Caring for Climate Business Forum provided a venue for business and investors to meet with governments, civil society and the United Nations to advance the climate agenda.

⁸⁹ See <http://climateaction.unfccc.int/event-calendar/>.

⁹⁰ See http://unfccc.int/files/paris_agreement/application/pdf/marrakech_partnership_for_global_climate_action.pdf.

III. Regular cooperation with the United Nations Headquarters and other United Nations organizations

A. Activities initiated by the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination

109. The United Nations system is engaged in an action-oriented and coordinated effort to support the international community in addressing the challenge of climate change. United Nations entities contribute to the joint effort of addressing climate change through programmes and projects based on their areas of expertise, intergovernmental mandates and available resources.

110. The United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination is the highest-level coordination forum of the United Nations system. It supports and reinforces the coordinating role of the intergovernmental bodies of the United Nations system on social, economic and related matters. The secretariat participates in the work of the High-Level Committee on Programmes.

B. Support to the Secretary-General

111. The secretariat placed high value on its close coordination and collaboration with the United Nations Headquarters, in particular with the Climate Change Support Team of the Secretary-General. The secretariat ensures good communication and coordination with this team throughout the year.

112. In cooperation with Climate Change Support Team, the secretariat supported South–South cooperation through a high-level forum organized during COP 22. The secretariat also cooperated with the team in the production of a report on South–South cooperation⁹¹ to catalyse the implementation of NDCs and the SDGs.

C. Joint liaison group of the Rio Conventions

113. Through the joint liaison group of the Rio Conventions, the secretariat maintains close cooperation with the secretariats of the CBD and the UNCCD. Since SBSTA 42, the secretariats of CBD, UNCCD and the UNFCCC have continued their collaboration, helping to highlight the synergies in the implementation of each convention on the ground and at the national level.

D. Environment Management Group

114. The secretariat supported the United Nations system-wide coordination body on environment and human settlements, the Environment Management Group, in coordinating the implementation of the commitment of all United Nations organizations, funds and programmes to achieve climate neutrality by 2020 and in work on other relevant United Nations system issues.

⁹¹ Report will be made available on the UNFCCC website.