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**Compilation of relevant documents for Action Area 3, activity (b) and Action Area 8, activity (b)  
of the Excom workplan**

<b>Action Area 3:</b> Enhance data on and knowledge of the risks of slow onset events and their impacts, and identify ways forward on approaches to address slow onset events associated with the adverse effects of climate change with specific focus on potential impacts, within countries and regions
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<b>Activity (b):</b> Foster the establishment or strengthening of collaborative channels, building from existing efforts, to strengthen dialogue, coordination, coherence and synergies to enhance, share and manage knowledge and understanding of slow onset events and approaches to address them
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<b>Expected results:</b> Collaborative channels for collecting and sharing relevant information established or strengthened
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<b>Action Area 8:</b> Complement, draw upon the work of and involve, as appropriate, existing bodies and expert groups under the Convention, as well as relevant organizations and expert bodies outside the Convention at all levels, as the Executive Committee executes the above-mentioned elements of the workplan
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<b>Activity (b):</b> Identify and establish appropriate channels and modalities to foster relevant partnerships, dialogue, coordination, coherence and synergy with the public and private sectors at the international, regional and national levels
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<b>Expected results:</b> Relationships developed at multiple levels
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This note compiles the information contained in the note to kick off e-brainstorming on collaborative channels, modalities to foster partnerships/dialogue/coordination/ synergy, sent on 18 January 2016, and feedback received by 30 January 2016, in relation to Action Area 3, activity (b) and Action Area 8, activity (b).

*Grey highlights indicate the feedback received by 30 January in response to the note to kick off e-brainstorming on collaborative channels, modalities to foster partnerships/dialogue/coordination/synergy, sent on 18 January 2016. Un-highlighted parts represent the original content of the note.*

### **Some general observation on nature of collaborative relationships/channels/partnerships**

Establishing (and maintaining) collaborative relationships/channels/partnerships are an ongoing process and a number of factors contribute to collaborative linkages:

- Regular contact through purposeful meetings;
- Frequent communication through telephone calls and mail;
- A focus that is results centered;
- A plan that delineates shared goals and objectives;
- Appropriate representation during the meetings.

What else should we keep in mind?

- The preparation and sharing of tangible products of collaboration (e.g. reports, papers and other documents; documentaries, with lessons from different regions; visible pilot/demonstration projects/activities for adaptive replication);
- Attention to how the collaborative relationship benefits all parties involved. For example, through discussion with a research entity, the Excom and the research entity might discover that certain knowledge or information needs that the Excom (on behalf of the Parties) has aligns with information the research entity would like to develop.

### **Key questions to answer before establishing or strengthening collaborative channel, partnership**

- *Question 1:* Explore the purpose. What are mutual benefits of the collaboration or partnership?
- *Question 2:* What would be the potential nature of the partnerships (as this will have implications for accountability, engagement modalities)?  
Examples:
  - Formal, e.g. through MoU, partnership agreement/ semi-formal, e.g. mutual understanding on the voluntary nature of contributions or activities/informal; ongoing/ad hoc, thematic, regional.
- *Question 3:* What functions would these partnerships serve?  
Examples:
  - Information-sharing, active collaboration, etc.;
  - Provision of insights and expertise as input to a wide range of activities, including events and publications produced by other key players in the loss and damage arena, design of loss of damage interventions, etc.;
  - Evidence for entities with operational foci that their programming should take loss and damage into account.
- *Question 4:* Who to collaborate with?  
Examples:

- Depends on purpose – national governments, UN agencies engaged in relevant work, humanitarian organizations, insurance industry, affected communities or groups.

*Theoretically, this sounds useful, but it is likely to be problematic in practical terms. How would we identify these parties and further how would they be engaged? Perhaps this group can be better considered as part of the outreach, as opposed to who to directly collaborate with?*

- One specific group that should be engaged, especially in relation to SOEs, are scientific entities in charge of monitoring climatic change (national academies, space agencies, meteorological services), to inform decision making on issues related to slow onset climate events.

- Who are the players that should be considered?
- What relevant partnerships and channels exist?
- What are the gaps or deficiencies of the current partnerships and channels?
- What are the reasons for any deficiencies?
- What products could the collaboration result in?
  - Shared outcomes/products would ensure the visibility and enable the measurement of progress in collaboration;
  - Closely linked to question 4 on purpose of collaboration.

### Initial activities/modalities

Examples for AA 8(b) and AA 3(b):

- Hold cross-participation in meetings and working groups; various ways to keep each other abreast of recent developments; and the identification of areas for coordination.
  - *Example of the Adaptation Committee* - initial activities led to specific collaborations, including a Forum on Adaptation Finance together with the SCF and work on technologies for adaptation together with the TEC, which led to the development of technology briefs on adaptation.
- Map and make best use of the on-going activities e.g. NAP Expo 2016; SCF Forum; World Humanitarian Day; World Meteorological Organization meetings, meetings of the UN Convention on Combatting Desertification, the Our Oceans Conference, which has a focus area on ocean acidification. **It would be useful to create calendar of relevant events in 2016.**
- Map and make best use of existing partnerships e.g. 300 partners of the Nairobi work programme, NAP focal points.
- In order to increase the engagement of the private sector, the Excom could first identify key actors and then convene a meeting to foster greater contribution of the private sector in the area of loss and damage.
- Promote the adoption of open data policies into global, regional, and national climate services – including open data standards that open up opportunities for scientific collaboration and information dissemination.
- In order to increase the engagement of the private sector, the Excom could first identify key actors and then convene a meeting to foster greater contribution of the private sector in the area of loss and damage.
- Collaboratively, prepare documentaries (written or audio-visual or both) with lessons from different regions.
- Undertake pilot or demonstrative projects and activities (various regions) with lessons learned, shared.

- Engage in the preparation of peer reviewed papers and other products (to ensure regional and perspective-balance).
- Engage in exchange programmes between regions and countries and between public and private entities.

#### **Examples for AA 3(a) and (b)**

- Map and develop inventory of agencies / institutions / private sector actors working on the risk and impacts of slow-onset events (consider approaching IPCC for first guidance);
- Identify actors to support the identification of “ways forward on approaches to address slow onset events associated with the adverse effects of climate change” (e.g. insurance sector; scientific community).
- Undertake an assessment of capacity at regional agencies (knowledge base and scientific tools) to determine the potential regional impacts of slow onset events;
- Identify gaps in current work.
- Make recommendations for further work to close these gaps and to advance the work in this area.

#### **A summary of general comments**

- Appears to be more geared towards AA 8(b), on collaborative channels under the Convention (modes of working for the Excom) than AA 3(b) on slow onset events. The latter will likely require different actors to be involved in, and perhaps different modalities of collaboration.
- The focus on “coherence” (definitions that are aligned across communities/organizations) of collaboration in both AAs might provide the opportunity to make sure it is clear we are talking about human-induced climate change, when reaching out to collaborative partners. In the climate impacts sciences, hardly any paper is comparable with any other because all make different assumptions, use different baselines, different climate change scenarios, different population growth scenarios etc. To this end, we may want to consider parameters for coherence, not necessarily at this point, but perhaps later, when more is known/gathered, especially in the context of slow onset events (SOEs). At this stage, we might need to take a broader approach, especially in the case of SOEs, where there is still ongoing primary research and evolving understandings of 'where we are at' in terms of impacts and timing. It may be that before we begin to identify coherence parameters for work on SOEs, we should first have a clearer understanding of who is doing what on SOEs and what the content of that work is.