

Annex

Initial guidelines for the formulation of national adaptation plans by least developed country Parties

I. Introduction

1. The elements described in paragraphs 2–6 below are indicative of the activities that can be undertaken in the development of national adaptation plans (NAPs). The planning of such activities will depend on national circumstances and should be determined by least developed country Parties.

II. Elements of national adaptation plans

A. Laying the groundwork and addressing gaps

2. Activities undertaken under this element would be planned with a view to identifying weaknesses and gaps in enabling environments, and addressing them as necessary, to support the formulation of comprehensive adaptation plans, programmes and policies, through, inter alia:

(a) Identification and assessment of institutional arrangements, programmes, policies and capacities for overall coordination and leadership on adaptation;

(b) Assessment of available information on climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation, measures taken to address climate change, and gaps and needs, at the national and regional levels;

(c) Comprehensive, iterative assessments of development needs and climate vulnerabilities.

B. Preparatory elements

3. In developing NAPs, consideration would be given to identifying specific needs, options and priorities on a country-driven basis, utilizing the services of national and, where appropriate, regional institutions, and to the effective and continued promotion of participatory and gender-sensitive approaches coordinated with sustainable development objectives, policies, plans and programmes. Activities may include the following:

(a) Design and development of plans, policies and programmes by considering decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 14(a), to address the gaps and needs referred to in paragraph 2 above;

(b) Assessments of medium- and long-term adaptation needs, and, as appropriate, development needs and climate vulnerabilities;

(c) Activities aimed at integrating climate change adaptation into national and subnational development and sectoral planning;

(d) Participatory stakeholder consultations;

(e) Communication, awareness-raising and education.

C. Implementation strategies

4. Activities carried out as part of the implementation strategies would take into consideration the following:

- (a) Prioritizing work according to development needs and climate change vulnerability and risk;
- (b) Strengthening institutional and regulatory frameworks to support adaptation;
- (c) Training and coordination at the sectoral and subnational levels;
- (d) Public dissemination of information on the national adaptation plan process, to be made available to the public and to the UNFCCC secretariat;
- (e) Considering other relevant multilateral frameworks and international programmes and initiatives, with a view to building on and complementing existing adaptation planning.

D. Reporting, monitoring and review

5. These activities, including national adaptation plan documents, could be included in national strategies and plans, as appropriate.

6. Under this element, Parties should undertake a regular review, at intervals that they determine:

- (a) To address inefficiencies, incorporating the results of new assessments and emerging science and reflect lessons learned from adaptation efforts;
- (b) To monitor and review the efforts undertaken, and provide information in their national communications on the progress made and the effectiveness of the national adaptation plan process.

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