
**Fifth meeting of the Adaptation Committee
Bonn, Germany, 5-7 March 2014**

Revised scoping paper

**Meeting to gather up-to-date information on adaptation, including the
limits of adaptation, in collaboration with IPCC – WGII**

Recommended action by the Adaptation Committee

The AC, at its fifth meeting, may wish to endorse the concept paper and designate (an) AC member(s), supported by the secretariat, to engage with the IPCC secretariat and the Co-Chairs of WGII to collaborate on the meeting and to identify and invite relevant IPCC authors.

Introduction

The Conference of the Parties, at its 18th session, adopted the draft three-year work plan of the Adaptation Committee (AC). Within this work plan, the AC agreed to “convene a meeting to gather up-to-date information on adaptation, including the limits of adaptation, in collaboration with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Working Group II (IPCC-WGII)”. The AC further agreed to take into account the outcomes of the work programme on loss and damage, and to cooperate with the Nairobi work programme (NWP) and the IPCC-WGII when planning for and undertaking the meeting.

In order to enhance coherence and synergy, the AC, at its 4th meeting, organized the activities of its work plan along three workstreams:

1. A workstream on technical support and guidance to the Parties on adaptation action;
2. A workstream on technical support and guidance to the Parties on means of implementation;
3. A workstream on awareness-raising, outreach and sharing of information.

The AC agreed to undertake the meeting as an in-session meeting during the 40th session of the Subsidiary Bodies, which will take place in Bonn, Germany from 4–15 June 2014, and as part of its workstream on awareness-raising, outreach and sharing of information. Outcomes of the meeting are expected to inform activities under the workstream on technical support and guidance to the Parties on adaptation action.

This revised scoping paper builds upon an earlier scoping paper prepared for AC3¹ and intends to serve as a basis for the AC to commence its consideration of this meeting. The paper first provides an overview of activities undertaken by IPCC-WGII, the NWP and as part of the work on programme on loss and damage. In addition, it provides information on relevant activities undertaken by the LEG, in support of the NAPs and in the context of the Structured Expert Dialogue (SED). The paper then reflects on the objective and expected outcome of the meeting, on potential topics and concludes with ways forward.

¹ AC/2013/17. Available at < unfccc.int/files/adaptation/application/pdf/scoping_paper_on_meeting_with_ipcc_wg_ii_15_may.pdf>.

Relevant activities undertaken by IPCC-WGII, the NWP, work programme on loss and damage, the LEG and activities related to NAPs and the SED*IPCC-WGII*

The IPCC WGII is tasked to carry out periodic assessments on the current state of knowledge about the observed and potential impacts of climate change and options for adaptation, through regular assessments of the most recent information published in scientific, technical, and socio-economic literature worldwide. The Working Group's contribution to the Fifth Assessment Report (AR5) will be considered in Yokohama, Japan, from 25–29 March 2014.

In addition to regional and sectoral assessments of climate change impacts and vulnerability, four chapters in the WGII volume of AR5 will deal with different aspects of adaptation including:

- Ch. 14 — Adaptation needs and options;
- Ch. 15 — Adaptation planning and implementation;
- Ch. 16 — Adaptation opportunities, constraints and limits;
- Ch. 17 — Economics of adaptation.

Following the publication of AR5, the IPCC-WGII will organize outreach activities at various national, regional and international events and meetings, including UNFCCC sessions, to publicize and disseminate the main findings.

Nairobi work programme

Since its inception in 2005, the NWP has gathered up-to-date information on adaptation provided by Parties and partner organizations, catalysed targeted adaptation actions and promoted knowledge sharing and learning on adaptation. Information has been collected, analysed and disseminated through numerous workshops, expert meetings, fora of focal points of partner organizations and knowledge products such as technical papers, syntheses of good adaptation practices, compilations, reports and online databases with contributions from and engagement of a wide range of stakeholders.²

COP 19 agreed to continue the work programme, addressing the knowledge needs arising from, inter alia, relevant workstreams and bodies under the Convention, including the Adaptation Committee, and the knowledge needs identified by Parties. Parties also requested the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) to consider and further elaborate additional activities, including the timing of such activities in the implementation of the NWP, at its 40th session.³

Loss and damage

During 2011–2013, the implementation of the work programme on loss and damage resulted in the development of knowledge resources, the sharing of knowledge, mutual learning and a framework for action.⁴

COP 19 established the Warsaw international mechanism for loss and damage associated with climate change impacts (Loss and damage mechanism), as the main vehicle under the Convention to address loss and damage in a comprehensive, integrated and coherent manner. In addition, COP 19 established an executive committee in order to guide the implementation of the functions of the Loss and damage mechanism. The Committee is requested to develop its initial two-year workplan for the implementation of the functions of the Loss and damage mechanism for consideration at SB 41 (December 2014).⁵

LEG and NAPs

Since its establishment in 2001, the LEG has been assisting LDCs in preparing and implementing national adaptation programmes of action, which focus on immediate and short-term adaptation needs. This support has been extended to the national adaptation plan process, which addresses

² More information on the NWP is available at <www.unfccc.int/nwp>.

³ For more information see decision 17/CP.19.

⁴ For more information see <unfccc.int/6056>.

⁵ For more information see decision 2/CP.19.

medium- and long-term adaptation needs. The comprehensive NAP process, as envisaged by the LEG's technical guidelines, is expected to generate up-to-date knowledge on adaptation, including ways to integrate it into development planning, in LDCs and, where applicable, in non-LDC developing countries. Through its various activities, the LEG has gathered a wealth of information on adaptation in LDCs, including country experiences, best practices and lessons learned.⁶

In addition, the AC has undertaken relevant activities on NAPs. It reviewed existing guidelines to determine their adequacy and any remaining gaps, in particular the LEG's technical guidelines for the NAP process. To further support developing countries seeking to formulate and implement NAPs, the AC established, in accordance with its rules of procedure, a task force on NAPs and invited participation on the task force by the LEG, the TEC, the SCF and the GCF Board. The AC agreed that external members and experts could be actively engaged in and support the task force, as necessary and under the guidance of the AC.

SED

The SED established at COP 18 seeks to ensure the scientific integrity of the 2013-2015 review of the adequacy of the long-term global goal through a focused exchange of views, information and ideas. The SED considers scientific information relevant to the review through regular scientific workshops and expert meetings and will assist the preparation and consideration of synthesis reports on the review.⁷ The third meeting of the SED will take place during SB40 and focus on the outcomes of the WGII contribution to AR5.

Objective and expected outcomes of the meeting

The objective of the meeting is to raise awareness, promote outreach and share up-to-date information about adaptation by engaging with the IPCC on the AR5.

Expected outcomes include:

- A report on the meeting, to be prepared in the third quarter of 2014.
- As agreed in the elaboration of activities at AC4, relevant outcomes of the meeting will also feed into an information paper on national adaptation planning, which will include identified good practices for integrating adaptation into national development policies, processes and actions.

In addition, the Adaptation Committee may consider additional outcomes, such as:

- Using the information gathered at this meeting for the 2014 Thematic Report on national adaptation.
- Considering, as appropriate, recommending relevant activities to be carried out under the NWP (SBSTA 30 invited the Adaptation Committee, in accordance with its mandates and functions, to provide further recommendations for activities to be undertaken under the NWP).⁸
- Feeding any relevant information needs into the work of the interim L&D Executive Committee this year (through its two members on the L&D Executive Committee).

Format and topics of the meeting

The IPCC will organize a special IPCC-SBSTA event at the margins of SB40 at which it will present the results of the contribution of WGII to AR5. Having the meeting between the IPCC and the AC, after the official IPCC event, would give the AC an opportunity to engage IPCC authors in a dialogue on:

⁶ Information is available at <unfccc.int/6491>.

⁷ Information on the different meetings of the SED is available at <unfccc.int/7521>.

⁸ See decision 7/CP.19, paragraph 10.

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- How to use the content of relevant IPCC AR5 WGII chapters to inform the paper on national adaptation planning and what might be useful from their perspective in terms of content for the AC's 2014 thematic report and the AC's overview report;
 - How key findings and gaps identified at the end of each chapter could inform future AC, NWP, NAPs, and L&D work, as appropriate and relevant. With respect to the AC's work, specifically, this could include more concrete ideas on raising awareness, outreach and sharing of information about adaptation. It could also potentially be about technical guidance and support via AC input into the NWP, the work on NAPs and the work of the Loss and Damage mechanism.

The meeting could include opening presentations from the AC and IPCC authors and then a facilitated dialogue and be between 2-6 hours long. The meeting would involve IPCC authors, AC members, members from the executive committee of the Loss and damage mechanism, the chairs/facilitators of the contact group on the NWP, members of the LEG and other stakeholders, as appropriate.

Way forward

The AC may wish to designate (an) AC member(s) and request the secretariat to engage with the IPCC secretariat and the Co-Chairs of WGII to collaborate on the meeting and to identify and invite relevant IPCC authors.

Timing of the event will need to be considered closer to SB40 and take into account timing of the IPCC-SBSTA special event, the AC special event, the SBSTA Research Dialogue as well as the third meeting of the SED.