



## **CYPRUS AND THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION ON BEHALF OF THE EUROPEAN UNION AND ITS MEMBER STATES**

**This submission is supported by Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Iceland, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Serbia.**

**Nicosia, 14 September 2012**

**Subject: Views on potential future areas of work of the Nairobi work programme**

The EU welcomes the decision taken in Durban launching the process to reconsider, at the thirty-eighth session of SBSTA, the work areas of the Nairobi work programme with a view to making recommendations to the COP at its nineteenth session on how best to support the objectives of the Nairobi work programme.

Cyprus and the European Commission, on behalf of the EU and its 27 Member States, welcome this opportunity to share its views on this subject.

### **General comments**

The EU welcomes the significant progress made in implementing activities under the Nairobi Work Programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change<sup>1</sup>. The EU notes that the NWP has developed into a broad platform for sharing of information and building knowledge on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change between practitioners, experts, relevant international and regional institutions and policymakers. The NWP also plays an important role in efforts to enhance capacity on adaptation issues among practitioners and covers a wide range of issues that are of interest to all countries.

The EU therefore believes that decision 2/CP.11 should continue as the basis for future activities underlining the catalytic role of the convention.

The EU also notes that additional efforts have been made to enhance the needs-orientation and the dissemination and relevance of information generated through the NWP.

However, some challenges remain on how to enhance the dissemination of information generated through the programme and deliver this to the relevant actors and stakeholders in order to enable informed decision making, for example in the least developed countries..

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<sup>1</sup> FCCC/SBSTA/2012/INF.1

## Specific suggestions

In order to further improve the Nairobi work programme the EU suggests to focus on efforts to enhance the catalytic role of the NWP in understanding how to improve the use of data, information and knowledge on vulnerability, impacts and adaptation by stakeholders at different levels. In so doing, the NWP should aim to address this across existing thematic areas, and while allowing for exchange of experiences, lessons learned and identification of best practices to enhance the ongoing efforts to better inform decision making, planning and implementation of measures to assess vulnerabilities and impacts and enhance adaptive capacities.

The EU also suggests considering in the context of work area adaptation planning and practices, lessons learned with regard to the integration of adaptation into relevant policy areas and coherence with sustainable development practices. Experiences and lessons learned from countries on what constitutes effective adaptation and how to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of efforts undertaken could also be considered under this work area.

With regard to the work area climate related risks and extreme events the EU proposes including a focus on slow onset events such as sea level rise, melting of glaciers or degradation of ecosystems to better complement the extreme events already addressed under this work area.

The EU would also like to encourage the inclusion of gender perspective and participation of women in relevant activities under the NWP (e.g. workshops).

The EU sees great value in building on the work undertaken to date under the NWP to inform the ongoing work on the elements of the Cancún Adaptation Framework and notes the potential to draw on the activities of the Adaptation Committee and the Cancún Adaptation Framework in general, as appropriate, in further elaborating the NWP including priority setting.

It is of great importance to make best use and enhance the engagement of organizations and institutions outside of the UNFCCC, such as WMO, FAO, WHO, other Rio Conventions, UNISDR, UNEP, UNDP, and other relevant stakeholders etc. in the work under the NWP in order to strengthen the catalytic role of the Convention.

The EU looks forward to consider with other Parties the further development of the Nairobi work programme within its current mandate and taking into account the other ongoing work on adaptation under the Convention.