

Submission by Nepal on behalf of the Group of the Least Developed Countries on Experiences on the Application of Guidelines for the Formulation of National Adaptation Plan Process for Least Developed Countries

On behalf of the Group of the Least Developed Countries (LDC Group), Nepal welcomes the invitation of the UNFCCC Secretariat to submit views and information on experiences on the application of guidelines for the formulation of National Adaptation Plan (NAP) process for Least Developed Countries (LDCs) in accordance with decision 5/CP.17, paragraph 7. Recalling the 2012 submission by the LDC Group on the support to NAP process in LDCs and COP 18 decisions on NAP, LDC Group attaches high priority to the urgency of initiating NAP process to address the on-going and emerging threats of climate change through medium- and long-term climate change adaptation efforts in addition to the continued support to implementation of the National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) to address the urgent and immediate adaptation needs.

The LDC Group further recalls the COP 18 decision regarding the guidance to the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the operating entity of the financial mechanism of the Convention, for the operation of the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF), to provide funding to enable the preparation of NAP by the LDCs.

In cognizant of the fact that adaptation is a priority for the LDCs, the group further reaffirms that a significant share of new multilateral funding for adaptation should flow through the Green Climate Fund (GCF), and requests the GCF Board to balance allocation of funds between adaptation and mitigation activities.

The LDC Group appreciate the work of the LDC Expert Group (LEG) in developing and sharing the NAP technical guidelines based on the initial guidelines as per decision 5/CP.17 (Annex: Initial guidelines for the formulation of NAPs by LDCs), and overview of the NAP process during COP 18. The LDC Group expects that the technical guidelines will be used as a guiding document, and will assist in the formulation of NAP. The guidelines are expected to help establish a country-driven process to formulate NAP as per specific national circumstances.

The LDC Group also takes note of the initiatives undertaken by various development partners and non-governmental organizations in developing ideas, generating awareness, building capacities for climate adaptation planning, and promoting NAP process in some countries, including 'training on preparing NAPs in South Asia' in November 2012 and the side-event on NAP organized by the Gambia and International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) in Doha in December 2012.

Based on the information to date and lack of clarity on how the NAP process will be funded, it is too early to share experiences in using the initial guidelines for the formulation of NAP by LDCs

as per decision 5/CP.17, and also the use of NAP technical guidelines prepared by the LEG. However, LDCs have ample experience regarding the preparation and implementation of NAPA which would provide valuable input in the formulation of NAP.

Those LDCs who are participating in the Strategic Programme for Climate Resilience (SPCR) as a part of the Pilot Programme for Climate Resilience (PPCR) with support from the Climate Investment Fund are engaged in developing climate adaptation planning as a long-term effort for making development and infrastructures climate resilient. The LDC Group expects that experiences of the LDCs and other countries participating in the PPCR would be helpful in formulating NAPs in the LDCs. It will be of great use if a forum was found to help LDCs and other countries participating in this programme to share their experiences.

The experiences of those LDCs which are in different stages of conceptualising the start of the NAP process would also be valuable to other LDCs as they embark on the formulation of their NAPs.

LDC Group stands ready for implementation of initial guidelines as well as technical guidelines as soon as possible. LDC Group urges developed country parties, development partners, UN and international organisations, to provide adequate technical and funding support with easy access and flexible procedure within 2013 so that LDCs can start NAP formulation process without delay. Furthermore, the LDCs anticipate speedy response from GEF to the COP decisions in order to provide funding support to LDCs for the formulation of NAPs.

The LDC Group considers that information on experiences in using the NAP guidelines could be shared once full-fledged funding and capacity building support is in place.

8 February 2013