Note from the High-Level Champions

Over the course of the Bonn Climate Change Conference in May 2017, we have held consultations with Parties, constituted bodies and observers on our proposed approach and draft work programme as published on 4 May 2017. These consultations have been extremely valuable and we appreciate the constructive feedback that delegates have given, their willingness to engage and the support they have expressed to the overall approach. Based on the consultations, it is clear that the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action is a valuable tool for both Parties and non-Party stakeholders for building collaboration, enhancing constructive dialogue and collectively driving ambitious climate action.

We will be guided fully by all the views expressed during the consultations. However, it is an impossible task to adequately reflect the entirety of the feedback received, but there are several essential points, which design a new collaborative approach between Parties and non-Party stakeholders, we wish to fully recognize the importance of. These are:

- The Partnership needs to be firmly guided by the aims of the Paris Agreement and act as an enabling environment to support the realization of these aims through voluntary collaboration;
- A firm link is needed between the Marrakech Partnership and the Facilitative Dialogue in 2018. While the mode of this link is a matter for further consideration by Parties, it is well recognized that the Partnership is a critical tool for feeding in the experiences, success stories, lessons learned and progress achieved by all actors, complemented with specific recommendations of high-impact policy levers and collaboration opportunities for further scaling up action, as Champions we commit to acting as envoys for these messages;
- The Technical Examination Processes, including Technical Expert Meetings, should be viewed as an integral part of the Marrakech Partnership. Strong synergies can potentially also be created with the UNFCCC constituted bodies, where objectives and work programmes are aligned and overlap;
- Our engagement as Champions with the Marrakech Partnership should focus on strengthening initiatives and broadening participation by bringing on new initiatives, coalitions and actors who are committed to the implementation of action consistent with the aims of the Paris Agreement, our Yearbook of Climate Action will provide transparency on the progress and impact of these efforts;
- The catalyzation by the Partnership of immediate mitigation and adaptation action needs to be undertaken in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). To be genuinely transformative, the action across the various thematic areas must also develop impactful solutions that are meaningful to local communities and address the universal needs as expressed in the SDGs.

The attached document outlines the approach which will be taken to realize the purpose of the Partnership up to 2020. As a next step, we will update the work programme to reflect the feedback received and issue a revised version by the end of June 2017. As High-level Champions, we remain committed to deliver on the mandate given to us by Parties by providing a collective framework that enables urgent pre-2020 action and increasing the scale and pace of transformative action towards the aims established by Article 2 of the Paris Agreement.

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Further, Faster, Now
Accelerating Global Climate Action together through the Marrakech Partnership

I. Mission and core activities

Mission statement
1. The Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action will strengthen collaboration between Parties and non-Party stakeholders to allow greater mitigation and adaptation actions to be implemented immediately. These actions will be guided by the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement and undertaken in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

General approach
2. The Marrakech Partnership will strengthen collaboration between Parties and non-Party stakeholders by:
   a. Maximizing the convening power of the UNFCCC process to connect stakeholders to enhance the effectiveness and impact of their efforts;
   b. Enhancing the connections between various aspects of the UNFCCC process related to enabling action, including the Technical Examination Processes on Mitigation and Adaptation, the relevant aspects of the work programmes of the constituted bodies, the mandated High-Level Events on Climate Action and various related engagement opportunities connected to the broader UNFCCC process;
   c. Strengthening the connectivity with local, national, regional and international actions, with potential to promote innovative technologies and solutions that are scalable and replicable.

Scope and activities
3. The Partnership will focus on encouraging activities that galvanize immediate climate actions in the period between now and 2020, to support the realization and overachievement of the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), and spur new climate actions in areas of untapped mitigation and adaptation potential. The Partnership will enable the Champions to report progress through an annual Yearbook on Global Climate Action and the Summary for Policymakers. These activities will be designed to provide maximum value to the 2018 Facilitative Dialogue, aiming to materialize the link between the Parties and non-Party stakeholders, and ultimately to enable enhanced NDCs. The Champions will act as envoys for these messages from the experience of implementation into the Facilitative Dialogue process.

4. To achieve this, the Partnership will continually:
   a. Increase the number of stakeholders engaged in the implementation of ambitious climate action and enhance the commitment of those stakeholders already engaged;
   b. Elaborate and publicize the immediate action required to enable accelerated achievement of the economic and social tipping points towards transformative climate action;
   c. Engage directly with these stakeholders and through intermediaries to build the connections and networks that enable and help them to undertake these necessary actions;
   d. Provide transparency on the status of implementation of the commitments and scale of contribution by these stakeholders;
   e. Maximize opportunities for collaboration and dialogue between Parties and non-Parties.
   f. Facilitate alignment between actions to address climate change and the SDGs.
II. Operational approach

5. To accomplish the objectives specified above, the Marrakech Partnership will apply an iterative cycle of activities up to 2020 as represented in Figure 1. Annex 1 contains a more elaborate outline of this approach up to 2018.

6. While the Partnership has been launched under the authority of the High-Level Champions in 2016 and the current and future Champions will continue to utilize the Partnership to deliver on their mandate to strengthen high-level engagement, the Partnership belongs to the full community of actors and will operate through a shared and distributed leadership of all actors.

7. Within the activities indicated in Figure 1 above, the Champions’ core role will be to engage to support the strengthening of initiatives and coalitions through high-level advocacy, including clear communication of both success stories and of barriers faced in implementation.

8. The UNFCCC support unit will:
   a. Convene stakeholders to enable enhanced cooperation, including through events at UNFCCC sessions;
   b. Facilitate connection with other established UNFCCC processes and bodies;
   c. Enable transparency in progress reporting through NAZCA;
   d. Support aggregate reporting of progress, in particular through the Summary of Policymakers and the Yearbook of Global Climate Action;
   e. Provide operational support to the High-level Champions and the knowledge transfer and continuity of functions to future Champions.

9. The various coalitions and initiatives remain fully responsible for:
   a. The development of specific roadmaps to further their success;
b. The recruitment of new members and participants;
c. The support to implementation of activities by participants; and
d. The reporting of progress on achieving their commitments and plans and resulting impact.

III. Organizing ourselves
10. To create effective connections between the levels of actors and to ensure a broadened and deepened connection with those directly engaged in implementation, three communities/groups emerging from the past years of ad-hoc engagement will be established as described below: a Climate Action Leadership Network, a Climate Action Collaboration Forum and Communities of Climate Action Practice.

Climate Action Leadership Network
11. The need for broader leadership for the action agenda was highlighted in Marrakech. Neither the Champions nor the secretariat will be able to alone achieve all the aims of the Marrakech Partnership until 2020. For this, there is a need for a broad range of stakeholders to help with advocacy, expanding distributed leadership and mobilizing more “hands on deck”. The Leadership Network will be a voluntary network of senior decision-makers committed to the Paris Agreement and to cooperation in the delivery of immediate climate action.

Climate Action Collaboration Forum
12. At an operational level, there is also a need to have a broad range of stakeholder groups, international organizations, sectoral expert organizations, coalitions, initiatives and alliances to align their efforts with the Marrakech Partnership to maximize synergies and impact. The Climate Action Collaboration Forum will be established to facilitate alignment of the work of these actors. Participation would be open to all organizations, coalitions and initiatives that have their work guided by the criteria of relevance, scale, specificity, transparency in progress, impact/results-oriented and ownership/capacity as defined at COP 22. All participating entities will be reflected on the NAZCA platform.

13. The Forum would have five main streams of work:
   a. Priority-identification;
   b. Recruitment cooperation;
   c. Engagement and outreach alignment;
   d. Event planning;
   e. Tracking and reporting coordination.

Communities of Climate Action Practice
14. To maintain established relationships in the thematic areas and scale up the level of engagement, informal Communities of Practice will be established for each thematic area. These communities will be open to the participation of stakeholders implementing action in each thematic area, allowing action and collaboration to expand to new areas.

IV. Delivering on this approach
15. The High-Level Champions and UNFCCC support unit will immediately commence establishing the communities/groups identified above by:
   a. Establishing a founders group for the Leadership Network by the end of June 2017;
   b. Inviting existing established initiatives to confirm participation in the Collaboration Forum by the end of June 2017 and opening a continuous call for the addition of new initiatives;
c. Working with Parties, initiatives and relevant international organizations to establish and develop the Communities of Practice.

16. To deepen the connection between the UNFCCC process and the broad array of activities occurring throughout the world, the UNFCCC support unit will also open a call for co-branding of events with the Marrakech Partnership. To be co-branded with the Partnership, events would need to make appropriate arrangements to ensure continuity with ongoing efforts towards enhanced implementation, i.e. offer to take forward specific aspects of the identified priorities and/or provide specific inputs on barriers faced in implementation of the identified priorities.

17. At COP 23, the Partnership will organize several activities aimed at showcasing success and solutions, elaborating high-impact policy approaches and identifying means to address barriers faced. These events will be organized across all thematic areas from 9 to 11 November as outlined in Figure 2 below.

18. In addition to the thematic events and the mandated High-Level Event on Global Climate Action, a series of high-level roundtables will be organized to facilitate enhanced high-level engagement. To ensure a clear focus for these roundtables and enable all stakeholders to mobilize the participation of relevant senior decision makers, these events will focus on the interaction between Climate Action and “SDG2: End Hunger, Achieve Food Security and Improved Nutrition and Promote Sustainable Agriculture” and “SDG11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable”. The focus of these events will remain on ambitious and urgent climate action, however anchoring this focus in SDG2 & 11 will allow for a broader engagement on the implementation of actions is specific socioeconomic activities with high mitigation potential and high adaptation needs.
19. These roundtables will build upon the TEMs at the May session, the Summary for Policymakers and other inputs developed in collaboration with relevant international expert organizations and stakeholders.

20. The roundtables on Climate Action and SDG11 will address issues such as urban planning for resilience in coastal cities, energy efficiency buildings, decarbonization of urban transport, water and sanitation in the context of climate induced water scarcity and excess (flooding) and salinization.

21. The roundtables on Climate Action and SDG2 will address issues such as the impact of climate change on fisheries; approaches to water resource management to ensure food security; impacts of soil salinization due to sea-level rise; the resiliency of current cropping systems; management of soil organic carbon; livestock management; and transport and storage efficiency.

22. To provide clarity to all stakeholders, it is further proposed that such high-level engagement at future sessions would be organized as follows, with the specific focus within these areas to be elaborated by future High-level Champions:
   a. COP 24 (2018) - “SDG12: Responsible production and consumption” and “SDG8&9: Decent work and economic growth & Industry, innovation and infrastructure”;