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## Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice

Forty-third session

Paris, 1–4 December 2015

Item 4 of the provisional agenda

**Report of the Adaptation Committee**

## Subsidiary Body for Implementation

Forty-third session

Paris, 1–4 December 2015

Item 8 of the provisional agenda

**Report of the Adaptation Committee**

## Report of the Adaptation Committee\*

### *Summary*

This report covers the work of the Adaptation Committee (AC) between November 2014 and October 2015. It contains organizational and procedural information, including information on meetings held and changes in chairmanship and membership. The report highlights progress made in the implementation of the workplan of the AC in the areas of promoting coherence in adaptation under the Convention and synergies with organizations, centres and networks; providing technical support and guidance to Parties on adaptation actions and on means of implementation; and outreach and sharing of information. The report also contains the Committee's workplan for the period 2016–2018. It concludes with recommendations to the Conference of the Parties through the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation.

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\* This document was submitted after the due date in order to take into consideration the outcomes of the 8<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Adaptation Committee.

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## I. Introduction

### A. Mandate

1. The Conference of the Parties (COP) decided that the Adaptation Committee (AC) shall operate under the authority of, and be accountable to, the COP, which should decide on its policies in line with relevant decisions.<sup>1</sup>
2. The COP requested the AC to report annually to the COP, through the subsidiary bodies, including on its activities, the performance of its functions, guidance, recommendations and other relevant information arising from its work, and, as appropriate, on further action that may be required under the Convention, for consideration by the COP.<sup>2</sup>

### B. Scope of the report

3. This report contains information on the work undertaken by the AC between November 2014 and October 2015, including its workplan for the period 2016–2018. It also contains recommendations for consideration by the COP, as referred to in paragraph 4 below.

### C. Possible action by the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation

4. The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) are invited to consider the information contained in this report. In particular, they may wish to consider the recommendations contained in chapter IV below and forward them to the COP for further consideration as appropriate.

## II. Organizational and procedural matters

### *Meetings and workshops*

5. During 2015, the AC held its 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> regular meetings (AC 7 and AC 8) on 24–27 February and 9–12 September, respectively. Webcasting was made available to enable live and on-demand coverage of the plenary discussions at its meetings.<sup>3</sup> All regular meetings of the Committee were open to observers.<sup>4</sup>
6. Furthermore, the AC convened a workshop on the means of implementation for enhanced adaptation action (2–4 March) and an expert meeting on promoting livelihoods and economic diversification (7 and 8 September), in collaboration with relevant partner organizations of the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change (NWP).

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<sup>1</sup> Decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 95.

<sup>2</sup> Decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 96.

<sup>3</sup> Available at <<http://gaia.world-television.com/unfccc/ac07/>> and <<http://unfccc6.metafusion.com/ac08/channels/ac08-live>[http://unfccc4.metafusion.com/kongresse/ac06/templ/ovw\\_small.php?id\\_kongressmain=278](http://unfccc4.metafusion.com/kongresse/ac06/templ/ovw_small.php?id_kongressmain=278)>, respectively.

<sup>4</sup> All documents, presentations and summary outcomes for each agenda item are available at <[unfccc.int/8785](http://unfccc.int/8785)> (for AC 7) and <[unfccc.int/9029](http://unfccc.int/9029)> (for AC 8).

7. Additionally, in response to an invitation of SBI 40,<sup>5</sup> the AC, in collaboration with the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG), organized a workshop to share experiences, good practices, lessons learned, gaps and needs on the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans (16 and 17 April).
8. All the above-mentioned meetings took place in Bonn, Germany. The AC also organized an Adaptation Forum in conjunction with the Global Adaptation Network Forum in Panama City, Panama, on 7 March.
9. At its 8<sup>th</sup> meeting, the AC agreed on the dates for its meetings in 2016 as follows:
- (a) 9<sup>th</sup> meeting: 1–3 March;
  - (b) 10<sup>th</sup> meeting: 13–15 September.
10. The AC welcomed with appreciation the funding support from the Governments of Japan and the Netherlands for the second Adaptation Forum referred to in paragraph 8 above and the participation of invited experts at AC 7, respectively.

#### *Membership*<sup>6</sup>

11. Pursuant to decisions 2/CP.17 and 16/CP.19, AC 7 re-elected Mr. Juan Hoffmaister for a second term as Co-Chair and elected Mr. Donald Lemmen for a first term as Co-Chair.
12. The COP, by its decision 2/CP.17, decided that AC members shall serve for a term of two years and shall be eligible to serve a maximum of two consecutive terms of office.<sup>7</sup> Based on these rules, half of the AC members were elected initially for a term of three years and half of the members for a term of two years. The first term of office of half of the members came to an end before AC 7. The following members were re-elected at COP 20: Mr. Luke Daunivalu, Mr. Juan Hoffmaister, Mr. Fredrick Kossam, Mr. Clifford Mahlun, Mr. Klaus Radunsky and Ms. Sumaya Ahmed Zakieldean. Members elected for the first time were Mr. Donald Lemmen and Mr. Ali Shareef.
13. The terms of office of the remaining eight members will come to an end before the 9<sup>th</sup> meeting of the AC (AC 9) and the positions will be open for nominations at COP 21.
14. In addition to attending their regular meetings, AC members work intersessionally via electronic means to advance work on particular topics through dedicated ad hoc groups established on a range of agreed priorities.

### **III. Progress made in the implementation of the workplan of the Adaptation Committee**

15. The AC has made significant progress in implementing and completing its workplan. Table 1 shows the activities undertaken and indicates the paragraphs in this document where further details are available. Recommendations for consideration by the COP informed by this work are contained in chapter IV below.

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<sup>5</sup> See document FCCC/SBI/2014/8, paragraph 106.

<sup>6</sup> See <unfccc.int/6944> for a list of all members.

<sup>7</sup> Decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 106.

Table 1  
**Activities of the workplan of the Adaptation Committee undertaken in 2015**

<i>Description</i>	<i>Paragraph cross reference</i>
Map mandates, workplans and/or decisions with adaptation relevance	17
Compare and analyse maps in order to identify areas of duplication and gaps and synergies	17
Implement activities to reduce duplication, address gaps and strengthen synergies	17–83
Convene a meeting on livelihood and economic diversification	34–38
Convene a workshop on means of implementation	49–50
Draw key issues (based on previous work) to provide guidance on means of implementation, and consider the need of, and scope for a joint task force	48–52
Prepare input document with information and recommendations on means of implementation for consideration by the Conference of the Parties (COP)	51–52
Convene an in-session side event at COP 21 on means of implementation	63–64
Organize an Adaptation Forum	67–71
Prepare an overview report	63

16. Table 2 indicates additional activities that have been mandated to be undertaken by the AC in 2015.

Table 2  
**Additional mandated activities undertaken by the Adaptation Committee in 2015**

<i>Description</i>	<i>Paragraph cross reference</i>
Report on collaboration with the Green Climate Fund	53–61
Convene a workshop on national adaptation plans (NAPs) in collaboration with the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG)	30–31
Explore options for enhancing reporting related to NAPs as part of the workshop referred to above	31
Collaborate with partner organizations of the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change and the LEG in the development of case studies on adaptation planning	42–43
Consider making efforts to reduce and avert losses and damages among particularly vulnerable developing countries, vulnerable populations and the ecosystems they depend on, and share the outcomes with the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts	79

## **A. Promoting coherence in adaptation under the Convention and synergies with organizations, centres and networks**

### **1. Promoting coherence in adaptation under the Convention**

17. The AC regularly considers mandates, workplans and/or decisions with relevance to adaptation under the Convention in order to identify areas of duplication, address gaps and promote synergies. To facilitate such consideration, it requested the secretariat to prepare an information paper (after COP 20) and an oral update (after the forty-second sessions of the subsidiary bodies) of relevant mandates as well as proposed next steps for collaboration in order to enhance coherence and reduce duplication.

18. The AC was mindful of the relevance of this discussion within the context of its future workplan, noting the need to consolidate work, rather than adding to its ambitious workstreams.

19. Good progress has been made in ensuring coherence in the area of means of implementation of adaptation action. This was achieved through the activities described in chapter III.B.2 below, as well as through direct collaboration with relevant constituted bodies under the Convention. With regard to the latter, the presiding officers have explored informal ways of exchanging information on current and future work of the respective entities and upcoming opportunities for collaboration. This includes two informal meetings of the Co-Chairs of the AC, the Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Finance (SCF), the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Technology Executive Committee (TEC), the Director of the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN) and Chair of the LEG. The first of these meetings took place during COP 20 and a second such meeting was held on the margins of the forty-second sessions of the subsidiary bodies.

20. The AC also enhanced its collaborative efforts with the Board of the Green Climate Fund (GCF) (see paras. 54–60 below) and participated in the TEC adaptation task force, meetings of the CTCN, as well as in a range of in-session events at the forty-second sessions of the subsidiary bodies, including sessions of the structured expert dialogue on the 2013–2015 review of the adequacy of the long-term global goal.

21. With regard to the work on national adaptation plans (NAPs), and in addition to the workshops and documents referred to in chapter III.B.1 below, the AC has continued and enhanced its collaboration with the LEG. This includes joint work under the Committee's NAP task force,<sup>8</sup> collaboration on the NAP Expo,<sup>9</sup> and taking part in the LEG regional training workshops on NAPs. A member of the AC is further serving in the LEG advisory group for the development of NAP Central<sup>10</sup> and in a team for reviewing the methodology and selection of best practices and lessons learned in addressing adaptation.

22. The AC has also been engaged in work relating to the coherence of reporting under the Convention, by further contributing to the work of the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (CGE). The AC provided inputs to the sections on vulnerability and adaptation assessments of the CGE training materials for the preparation of national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention.

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<sup>8</sup> See <unfccc.int/8858>.

<sup>9</sup> See <<http://unfccc.int/8887>>.

<sup>10</sup> See also paragraph 72 below.

## **2. Promoting synergies with organizations, centres and networks**

23. COP 17 requested the AC to engage with, and draw on the expertise of, relevant institutions, organizations, frameworks, networks and centres outside of the Convention, including those at the intergovernmental, regional, national and, through them, subnational levels, where appropriate. The COP agreed that the Committee should seek input from intergovernmental, international, regional, national and subnational organizations, centres and networks, the private sector and civil society in undertaking its work, and should invite advisers drawn from them to participate in its meetings as expert advisers on specific issues as they arise.<sup>11</sup>

24. In this context, the AC has promoted active observer participation in its meetings. Observers have been invited to provide general statements at the opening and closing of the meetings, to provide concrete suggestions during the discussions on specific agenda items and to actively participate in the work of breakout groups. Such active engagement of observers and the possibility of feeding additional experience and expertise into the discussions were deemed to be beneficial for furthering the work of the Committee and its objectives to create synergies and maintain transparency.

25. Representatives of relevant organizations, centres and networks have also been invited to participate in workshops and other events organized by the AC. The Committee has collaborated with other entities, including: through the Adaptation Forum with the United Nations Environment Programme and the Global Adaptation Network; by seeking input from the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) on its work on NAPs and the monitoring and evaluation of adaptation; and by ensuring coherent collaboration with the National Adaptation Plan Global Support Programme (NAP–GSP) by nominating a member as the permanent liaison between the AC and the NAP–GSP. The AC further actively participated in a workshop organized by the Global Climate Observing System on enhancing systematic observation and related capacity, especially in developing countries, to support preparedness and adaptation in a changing climate.

## **B. Providing technical support and guidance to the Parties**

26. The AC has made progress on a range of activities aimed at providing technical support and guidance to the Parties in two main areas, namely on adaptation actions and on means of implementation, which include finance, technology and capacity-building.

### **1. Technical support and guidance on adaptation actions**

27. The main focus of the work of the AC on technical support and guidance is on NAPs for developing countries, in close collaboration with the LEG. In addition, during 2015, the AC further focused on two specific issues feeding into that work, namely livelihoods and economic diversification, and the monitoring and evaluation of adaptation. It also discussed further modalities for the provision of technical support to developing countries, including through the work of its ad hoc group on technical support.

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<sup>11</sup> Decision 2/CP.17, paragraphs 100 and 105.

*National adaptation plans*

28. At AC 7, the Committee's NAP task force endorsed a set of prioritized activities and next steps to be carried out in 2015. This included consideration of a scoping note for a technical paper on long-term adaptation planning and an overview paper of support available for developing countries for the process to formulate and implement NAPs. AC 8 considered and endorsed the outlines of both documents, and agreed that the latter will be issued in the form of a user-friendly publication that will also be made available in hard copy by COP 21.<sup>12</sup> The technical paper on long-term adaptation planning will be issued in 2016.

29. Furthermore, the NAP task force agreed that the NAP technical guidelines, developed by the LEG, should be translated into the remaining official United Nations languages, in addition to the English, French, Spanish and Portuguese versions that are already available.<sup>13</sup> As a start, the task force agreed to translate the guidelines into Arabic, and this is currently in process.

30. Following an invitation of SBI 40,<sup>14</sup> the AC, in collaboration with the LEG, organized a workshop, back-to-back with the NAP Expo, drawing upon experts and practitioners at different levels to share experiences, good practices, lessons learned, gaps and needs on the process to formulate and implement NAPs.<sup>15</sup> The workshop built on the outcomes of the previous year's meeting organized by the NAP task force,<sup>16</sup> the work on the means of implementation for enhanced adaptation action and on information exchanged during the NAP Expo. The workshop was informed by an information paper.<sup>17</sup>

31. COP 20 decided that there is a need to enhance the reporting on the process to formulate and implement NAPs and noted that there is a need to strengthen the existing reporting related to the process. The COP decided to explore reporting options as part of the workshop referred to in paragraph 30 above. It decided to further consider how to enhance reporting related to the NAP process at SBI 42.<sup>18</sup> SBI 42 then initiated its consideration of options on this matter, taking into account information contained in the report on the workshop. The SBI agreed to continue that consideration at SBI 44.<sup>19</sup>

32. The AC continued its collaboration with the LEG on the development of NAP Central:<sup>20</sup> one Committee member participated in the advisory group established by the LEG and reported on progress made on NAP Central at AC 7 and AC 8.

33. At AC 7 the Committee agreed to integrate its work on financial support for NAPs into its ongoing consideration of means of implementation for adaptation.

*Promoting livelihoods and economic diversification*

34. The AC convened an expert meeting, led by its members, on promoting livelihoods and economic diversification to build resilience in the context of planning, prioritizing and implementing adaptation actions. The meeting took place on 7 and 8 September 2015 (immediately before AC 8), building on the relevant work undertaken under the NWP on this matter.

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<sup>12</sup> A paper copy can be requested by e-mailing <AC@unfccc.int>, and the electronic version is available at <unfccc.int/6997.php#AC>.

<sup>13</sup> See <unfccc.int/7279>.

<sup>14</sup> FCCC/SBI/2014/8, paragraph 106.

<sup>15</sup> The report on the workshop is contained in document FCCC/SBI/2015/INF.6.

<sup>16</sup> See <unfccc.int/8858>.

<sup>17</sup> FCCC/SBI/2014/INF.14.

<sup>18</sup> Decision 3/CP.20, paragraphs 6–8 and 10.

<sup>19</sup> FCCC/SBI/2015/10, paragraph 75.

<sup>20</sup> <unfccc.int/nap/sitepages/Home.aspx>.



35. In this context, and in response to a recommendation by the AC, SBSTA 41 concluded that the secretariat, under the guidance of the Chair of the SBSTA and in collaboration with relevant NWP organizations, should support the expert meeting.<sup>21</sup>

36. The expert meeting<sup>22</sup> was attended by 44 experts on livelihood and economic diversification and was informed by a variety of case studies provided by NWP partners.<sup>23</sup>

37. Participants discussed economic diversification at the regional and national levels, livelihood diversification at the household and community levels, as well as options to strengthen linkages between both, including processes and tools that can effectively integrate efforts, in particular in the NAP process.

38. The report on the meeting will be made available for consideration by AC 9. In addition, the AC will also issue a user-friendly information product to disseminate the findings from the meeting in 2016.

#### *Monitoring and evaluation*

39. The AC began working on the monitoring and evaluation of adaptation in 2013 with the organization of a workshop. The resulting recommendations from the AC to Parties, operating entities of the Financial Mechanism and relevant entities working on adaptation were adopted at COP 20.<sup>24</sup>

40. As a follow-up to that work in 2015, the AC liaised with other relevant entities. This included consideration at AC 7 of information from the LEG on its tool to monitor and evaluate progress, effectiveness and gaps in the NAP process. As a result, the AC agreed to further elaborate the possible collaboration with the LEG on the monitoring and evaluation of adaptation, within the respective mandates of the two bodies.

41. At the same meeting, the AC also received information on related work carried out by the GEF Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel in collaboration with the Global Programme of Research on Climate Change Vulnerability, Impacts and Adaptation. The AC incorporated issues identified during the discussion into its next workplan, for example, developing an inventory of ongoing monitoring and evaluation work and undertaking additional work on monitoring and evaluation systems and impact evaluations.

#### *Good practices and lessons learned in relation to adaptation planning processes*

42. SBSTA 40 requested the secretariat to develop, under the guidance of the Chair of the SBSTA and in collaboration with the AC and the LEG and with contributions from relevant NWP partner organizations, case studies that highlight good practices and lessons learned in relation to adaptation planning processes for ecosystems, human settlements, water resources and health, for consideration at SBSTA 43.<sup>25</sup> The invitation to partner organizations of the NWP resulted in the receipt of 170 case studies, which were synthesized in document FCCC/SBSTA/2015/4.

43. Members of the AC further participated in a review group of the above-mentioned case studies, the results of which fed into the organization of the NWP Focal Point Forum scheduled to take place on the margins of SBSTA 43. The forum seeks to identify and disseminate good practices from the case studies to help to scale up adaptation actions at different levels.

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<sup>21</sup> FCCC/SBSTA/2014/5, paragraph 16(a).

<sup>22</sup> See <unfccc.int/9030>.

<sup>23</sup> See <unfccc.int/9189>.

<sup>24</sup> Decision 4/CP.20, annex.

<sup>25</sup> FCCC/SBSTA/2014/2, paragraphs 20 and 24.

*Modalities for the provision of technical support to developing countries*

44. One aspect of the Committee's work on the provision of technical support to developing countries is to communicate the type of technical support already available and the provider of such support.

45. In this regard, the AC compiled a list of regional centres and networks working on adaptation with a view to strengthening their role in supporting country-driven adaptation actions. The initial list, including information on the activities and capacities of those regional centres and networks, was made available on a dedicated web page on the UNFCCC website in 2014.<sup>26</sup> The AC requested the secretariat to carry out regular updates; a first update was released during the first half of 2015, including additional information on international organizations working regionally, and regional centres and networks active in Europe. A standing invitation to interested regional organizations to be included in the list can also be found on that dedicated web page.

46. In order to further its work carried out in 2013 and 2014 based on the collection, synthesis and analysis of submissions from regional institutions and United Nations agencies working on adaptation,<sup>27</sup> including those on the list referred to above, the AC, at its 5<sup>th</sup> meeting, established an ad hoc working group on technical support.

47. Following consideration at its 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> meetings, the AC adopted two types of modalities, which are reflected in activities of its next workplan:

(a) Modalities for obtaining information on technical support provided and identifying existing gaps, for example, organizing a side event at the forty-fourth sessions of the subsidiary bodies and undertaking targeted outreach;

(b) Modalities for facilitating the closure of the gaps identified, for example, launching a partnership platform.

## **2. Technical support and guidance on means of implementation**

48. One of the functions of the AC concerns the provision of information and recommendations, drawing on adaptation good practices, for consideration by the COP when providing guidance, including to the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism of the Convention, as appropriate, on means to incentivize the implementation of adaptation actions, including finance, technology and capacity-building and other ways to enable climate-resilient development and reduce vulnerability.<sup>28</sup>

49. In this context, the AC agreed to convene in 2015 a workshop on the means of implementation for enhanced adaptation action. At its 6<sup>th</sup> meeting, the AC narrowed the scope of the workshop to the overarching topic of understanding adaptation finance: how has adaptation finance resulted – or not resulted – in effective and concrete action. The workshop explored the following five topics: access to finance; national-level institutional arrangements and mobilization of finance in developing countries; the importance of integrating adaptation into development; the role of the private sector; and the NAP process.

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<sup>26</sup> See <unfccc.int/8199>.

<sup>27</sup> See documents FCCC/SB/2013/2 and FCCC/SB/2014/2.

<sup>28</sup> Decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 93(d).

50. Planning of the workshop was informed by a synthesis paper, based on submissions and other relevant information on adaptation finance, which was provided as background in advance of the workshop. The synthesis paper, the report on the workshop and other background information are available on the UNFCCC website.<sup>29</sup>

51. The AC also prepared an input document with information and recommendations for further actions, drawing on the results of the workshop and the synthesis paper referred to in paragraph 50 above, other relevant work completed between 2013 and 2015, adaptation good practices, information communicated by Parties on their monitoring and review of adaptation actions, support provided and received, possible needs and gaps and other relevant information, including information communicated under the Convention, for consideration by the COP when providing guidance on means to incentivize the implementation of adaptation actions, including finance, technology and capacity-building and other ways to enable climate-resilient development and reduce vulnerability.

52. The input document contains direct inputs received from entities invited by the AC, including the Adaptation Fund, the CGE, the CTCN, the GCF, the GEF, the LEG, the NAP-GSP, the TEC and the SCF. The document<sup>30</sup> was welcomed by, and considered at, AC 8. It was the basis for extensive discussions, whose results are reflected in the Committee's future workplan and in the recommendations to COP 21 contained in chapter IV below.

*Enhancing coherence in the provision of support*

53. Besides facilitating technical support and guidance to the Parties, the AC also aims at enhancing the provision of financial support to developing countries in a coherent manner, in particular as relates to the formulation and implementation of NAPs. In this regard the AC has been collaborating with the GCF and the SCF, as described below.

54. The COP, by decision 3/CP.20, requested the AC and the LEG, in collaboration with the GCF, as an operating entity of the Financial Mechanism, to consider how to best support developing country Parties in accessing funding from the GCF for the process to formulate and implement NAPs, and to report thereon to SBI 42.

55. Following this request, one of the Co-Chairs of the AC provided an oral update during the opening plenary of SBI 42.<sup>31</sup>

56. The AC informed the SBI that collaboration has started between the AC, the LEG and the GCF in addressing the mandate. Firstly, the AC invited the GCF and the LEG to its 7<sup>th</sup> meeting, during which one of the Co-Chairs of the GCF Board presented the state of play of the GCF. The ensuing discussion identified immediate areas of potential collaboration among the AC, the LEG and the GCF, including with regard to the GCF readiness programme.

57. Secondly, a representative from the GCF secretariat participated in the AC workshop on means of implementation to share information and respond to any questions regarding the GCF.

58. Thirdly, the AC, in coordination with the Chair of the LEG, held a meeting with the Co-Chairs of the GCF Board on 29 May 2015, to further explore areas for collaboration in addressing the mandate.

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<sup>29</sup> See <unfccc.int/8860>.

<sup>30</sup> AC/2015/14 available at <unfccc.int/9029.php>.

<sup>31</sup> Available under agenda item 7, "National adaptation plans", at <unfccc.int/8854>.

59. Upon receipt of this update the SBI expressed its appreciation to the LEG and the AC for their engagement with the GCF and invited them to continue this collaboration, including in relation to the readiness programme of the GCF, and to provide information in their reports on how they have responded to this invitation.<sup>32</sup>

60. Further collaborative efforts include the GCF providing inputs to documents prepared by the AC, such as the overview publication on available support for NAPs.

61. Regarding collaboration with the SCF, the AC welcomed the creation of a dedicated working group by the SCF on the draft guidance to the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism. Upon the invitation of the SCF, the AC, based on the annual reports of the GEF and the GCF, provided inputs, which will be considered by the SCF when developing draft guidance. These inputs are included in chapter IV below in the form of recommendations.

### C. Awareness-raising, outreach and sharing of information

62. The workplan of the AC contains a range of activities to facilitate awareness-raising, outreach and sharing of information. The section below provides details of the relevant work carried out by the AC during 2015.

#### *2015 overview report*

63. In line with its workplan, the AC agreed to periodically prepare thematic and overview reports. Following thematic reports focused on adaptation under the UNFCCC (2013) and institutional arrangements for national adaptation planning and implementation (2014), the AC noted that its comprehensive overview report would coincide with the finalization of its first three-year workplan. The AC therefore agreed to focus the report on a summary of the Committee's work over its first three years and showcase the way in which it has fulfilled its mandate of promoting the implementation of enhanced action on adaptation in a coherent manner under the Convention. The overview report will be launched electronically<sup>33</sup> and in hard copy in November/December 2015, and will be introduced during an in-session side event at COP 21.<sup>34</sup>

#### *Planning of an in-session side event at COP 21*

64. In addition to introducing its 2015 overview report and, through that, receiving feedback on its performance, the AC agreed to put a special emphasis during the event on presenting its recent work on means of implementation. This includes technical challenges and best practices in the experience of developing countries in accessing means to incentivize the implementation of adaptation actions, including finance, technology and capacity-building and other ways to enable climate-resilient development and reduce vulnerability.

#### *Documentary "Adapting to a Changing Climate"*

65. The AC agreed to produce a video documentary<sup>35</sup> as an outcome of the 2013 Adaptation Forum. The documentary was released on the margins of COP 20, and during 2015 it was widely distributed through a strategically planned effort to ensure that it has the greatest possible impact. The documentary has received broad attention and was awarded a

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<sup>32</sup> FCCC/SBI/2015/10, paragraph 72.

<sup>33</sup> <unfccc.int/6997.php#AC>.

<sup>34</sup> The side event is currently scheduled to take place on Tuesday, 1 December 2015, from 1.15 p.m. to 2.45 p.m. The list of side events is available at <[https://seors.unfccc.int/seors/reports/events\\_list.html?session\\_id=COP21](https://seors.unfccc.int/seors/reports/events_list.html?session_id=COP21)>.

<sup>35</sup> Available at <unfccc.int/8889>.

golden 2015 Deauville Green Award.<sup>36</sup>

66. The documentary is available in English, with subtitled versions available in the six official United Nations languages as well as Portuguese, Bengali and Hindi, in order to enable a broad impact on the ground. The AC is planning to facilitate a viewing of the documentary for Parties and observers on the margins of COP 21.<sup>37</sup>

#### *2015 Adaptation Forum*

67. The COP, by decision 1/CP.18, requested the AC to consider the establishment of an annual adaptation forum, to be held in conjunction with COP sessions, to maintain a high profile for adaptation under the Convention, to raise awareness and ambition with regard to adaptation actions and to facilitate enhanced coherence of adaptation actions.

68. At its 5<sup>th</sup> meeting, building on lessons learned from the first forum, the AC considered a different format for the second forum, with a more regional focus. At its 6<sup>th</sup> meeting it then decided to hold its 2015 Adaptation Forum in conjunction with the first Global Adaptation Network forum.<sup>38</sup>

69. Given the linkage with the Global Adaptation Network, the AC agreed that the objectives of its 2015 Adaptation Forum would be building and sharing partnerships and prioritizing areas for cooperation to support improved regional institutional arrangements for adaptation, as well as encouraging the engagement of regional networks and institutions with the AC.

70. The Global Adaptation Network event took place on 6 and 7 March 2015, in collaboration with the AC and the International Center for Tropical Agriculture. It brought together almost 100 participants, including individuals from various adaptation knowledge networks and institutions, government officials and experts working in the field of climate change adaptation, providing an opportunity for dialogue and learning between adaptation actors and networks interregionally and globally.

71. At its 8<sup>th</sup> meeting, the AC welcomed an offer made by the Government of the Netherlands to host the next Adaptation Forum in conjunction with the Adaptation Futures 2016 conference, taking place in Rotterdam, Netherlands, on 10–13 May 2016.<sup>39</sup>

#### *NAP Central*

72. Another means to share information has been NAP Central,<sup>40</sup> which is being developed by the LEG. NAP Central is designed to provide a universally accessible, web-based central repository and hub for information pertinent to the NAP process. The AC has collaborated with the LEG over the last three years on the operationalization of NAP Central and the progress made in its development has been reviewed regularly.

## **D. Future workplan of the Adaptation Committee**

73. Pursuant to decision 2/CP.17, the AC agreed on its three-year workplan, containing activities for the period 2013–2015, after its initial meeting in September 2012. The workplan was approved by decision 11/CP.18.

<sup>36</sup> See “Category awards; 1. Climate change & society; section: corporate films; gold winner” at <[http://www.deauvillegreenawards.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=1415&Itemid=654&lang=en](http://www.deauvillegreenawards.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1415&Itemid=654&lang=en)>.

<sup>37</sup> Currently planned for lunchtime on Wednesday, 2 December 2015.

<sup>38</sup> See <<http://ganadapt.org/forums/gan-forum-2015>>.

<sup>39</sup> <[www.adaptationfutures2016.org](http://www.adaptationfutures2016.org)>.

<sup>40</sup> <[unfccc.int/nap/sitepages/Home.aspx](http://unfccc.int/nap/sitepages/Home.aspx)>.

74. At its 6<sup>th</sup> meeting, the AC initiated a discussion on its future workplan. It agreed that a gap between the end of the first workplan (end of 2015) and the review of the progress and performance of the AC at COP 22 (end of 2016) is to be avoided. It recognized the need for time and space to develop its workplan during 2015 and established a working group to work electronically during the intersessional period on first steps towards a future workplan. To be able to better attune its future work to the expectations of the Parties, while building on the experience to date, the AC dedicated one day of its 7<sup>th</sup> meeting to an exchange with invited experts to provide additional input to this discussion. The AC then requested its working group, in collaboration with the Co-Chairs and with the support of the secretariat, to elaborate a draft workplan for intersessional discussion and approval at AC 8.

75. At its 8<sup>th</sup> meeting, the AC agreed that one of the key priorities for its next workplan is the NAP process. It further agreed that the workplan should be informed by:

- (a) The mandate and functions of the AC as decided by the COP and any subsequent requests from the COP and the subsidiary bodies;
- (b) The vision of the AC;
- (c) Results and ongoing initiatives of the Committee's work during its initial three years;
- (d) Additional views and needs expressed by Parties and relevant stakeholders.

76. The AC agreed to remain flexible to take on new and emerging tasks, including those resulting from future agreements and decisions under the Convention, including COP 21, as well as the 2016 review of the progress and performance of the AC.

77. It therefore agreed to allocate concrete activities mainly to the first year. This will allow for flexibility with regard to the timing of activities, and revisions of the workplan as needed.

78. The AC also agreed to structure its workplan around a limited number of objectives, with relevant activities leading in a step-wise approach to a set of strategic outcomes.

79. During the consideration of its future activities the AC took into account the invitation contained in the workplan of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts to the AC, the LEG and other relevant constituted bodies under the Convention to consider making efforts to reduce and avert losses and damages among particularly vulnerable developing countries, vulnerable populations and the ecosystems that they depend on, as these bodies undertake their work, and to share the outcomes with the Executive Committee.<sup>41</sup>

80. During the discussion of its future workplan the AC concluded that its vision as agreed at its 1<sup>st</sup> meeting remains valid. However, the AC agreed to revisit its vision at its 9<sup>th</sup> meeting in the light of relevant outcomes from COP 21.

81. The AC agreed that its future work should be ambitious, strategic, inspiring and results-driven, with the AC striving to become a recognized interface between science, policy and practice. The AC also agreed to further strengthen its ability to enhance access to relevant information and knowledge, to promote synergies and address barriers, and to facilitate linkages between stakeholders to bring about new insights, experiences and lessons learned.

82. The three-year workplan as agreed by the AC is contained in the annex.

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<sup>41</sup> FCCC/SB/2014/4, annex II.

#### IV. Recommendations to the Conference of the Parties

83. Based on its work undertaken in 2015, the AC agreed to forward the following recommendations to the COP for consideration. The COP may wish to:

(a) Invite the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change to enhance outreach activities that would facilitate policymakers' understanding of the impact of different levels of warming on adaptation planning and actions;

(b) Request the TEC, in collaboration with the CTCN, the AC and the LEG, to consider how it can help Parties to align their technology needs assessments with the process to formulate and implement NAPs;

(c) Urge developed country Parties to mobilize financial support for the NAP process through contributions to the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) and the Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF) in addition to bilateral support;

(d) Urge the GEF to continue to explore additional sources of contributions for the LDCF and the SCCF;

(e) Encourage the GEF to continue its efforts to simplify access to the LDCF and the SCCF;

(f) Invite the GCF:

(i) To consider how it can support the development of adaptation proposals, drawing on lessons learned from the GEF Project Preparation Grant approach;

(ii) To consider supporting the advancement of the implementation of national adaptation programmes of action, and to clearly communicate how it will do so;

(iii) To consider in its programmatic priorities the Cancun Adaptation Framework, in particular the principles referred to in paragraph 12 and the activities listed in paragraph 14 of decision 1/CP.16;

(g) Invite Parties to take into account climate risk screening of national development strategies and policies aimed at enhancing livelihoods and economic diversification to enhance climate resilience;

(h) Reiterate its encouragement to Parties to make available sufficient resources for the successful and timely implementation of the work of the AC.

### Workplan of the Adaptation Committee for the period 2016–2018

Objectives	Activities				Outcomes	
	2016: First half	2016: Second half	2017	2018		
<i>Overarching coherence</i>						
<i>Strategic outcome: Adaptation initiatives are delivered effectively and efficiently</i>						
O1	To promote the implementation of adaptation action under the Convention in a coherent manner, in line with the Cancun Adaptation Framework (decision 1/CP.16), including paragraph 12	Update map of mandates, workplans and/or decisions with adaptation relevance under the Convention, and compare and analyse to consider what actions may need to be undertaken by the AC  Invite representatives of the LEG, the NWP, the SCF, the GCF, the TEC, the CTCN, the CGE, the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism and the Durban Forum on capacity-building to discuss a clear division of work on common issues and present a report on these consultations at AC 9  Members to represent the AC externally, where relevant, and to provide the AC with reports as appropriate	Annual report to the COP, through the subsidiary bodies  Include results in the AC annual report	Update map of mandates  Annual report to the COP, through the subsidiary bodies	Update map of mandates  Annual report to the COP, through the subsidiary bodies	Duplication of activities is reduced, gaps have been addressed and synergies have been strengthened
O2	To strengthen engagement of other relevant institutions, organizations, frameworks, networks and centres outside of the Convention, including those at the	Strategic and ‘upon request’ collaboration, including through submissions, workshops or side events, in cooperation with interested organizations, including, but not limited to, United Nations organizations and		Documentation of joint activities to be included in the annual report		Coherence has been enhanced between adaptation action under the Convention and adaptation action under other



Objectives	Activities				Outcomes
	2016: First half	2016: Second half	2017	2018	
intergovernmental, regional and national levels and, through them, the subnational level, where appropriate, and relevant international agreements, with respect to their distinct mandate, tasks, goals and ways of work, in order to enhance the implementation of adaptation actions and to enhance the provision of support to developing country Parties	Parties  Consult, including through a side event at the forty-fourth sessions of the subsidiary bodies and through targeted outreach, with national, regional and international organizations, centres and networks on collaboration in the area of provision of technical support, building on work completed through the regional assessment performed under the first workplan, and drawing on all workstreams of the work of the AC	Develop terms of reference for a partnership platform with national, regional and international organizations, centres and networks, ensuring regional balance	Launch partnership platform with national, regional and international organizations, centres and networks	Building on the partnership platform, consider ways to strengthen the institutional and technical capacity of national training and research institutions, as well as regional centres and networks, for scaled-up support to countries	entities and processes  Provision of technical support for adaptation to the Parties is increased through strengthened engagement with national, regional and international organizations, centres and networks

*Workstream A. Technical support and guidance to the Parties on adaptation action*

*Strategic outcome: The Parties have support and guidance to undertake adaptation action, including as it relates to the process to formulate and implement NAPs*

A1	To provide guidance to the Parties on adaptation planning and implementation at the national level	Identify follow-up activities on livelihoods and economic diversification <sup>a</sup>  NAP task force to develop a new workplan, based on and contributing to the AC workplan	Finalize the technical paper on long-term adaptation planning	Report on various approaches to adaptation, such as CBA and EBA, taking into account livelihoods and economic diversification	Parties have guidance for adaptation planning and implementation, including on various approaches to adaptation
		Develop an inventory of ongoing M&E work, including by the LEG, the GEF, and GIZ, as well as existing platforms fostering	Based on the analysis of the inventory/synthesis document, agree on	Convene a meeting to exchange views on national adaptation	Parties are in a position to better use M&E as a means to

<i>Objectives</i>	<i>Activities</i>				<i>Outcomes</i>
	<i>2016: First half</i>	<i>2016: Second half</i>	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>	
	knowledge exchange on adaptation M&E, including PROVIA	additional work on M&E systems and impact evaluations, consistent with the outcome of COP 21	goals/indicators and how they relate to indicators/goals for sustainable development and for disaster risk reduction in the context of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030	received for adaptation	monitor, evaluate and learn from actions taken and support provided and received for national adaptation planning and implementation
A2	To enhance the provision of technical support to developing country Parties for adaptation action in a coherent manner	Continue to consider further modalities for supporting developing country Parties in their adaptation actions	Synthesize the elements of the 2016 SCF biennial assessment and overview of climate finance flows		
<i>Workstream B. Technical support and guidance to the Parties on means of implementation</i>					
<i>Strategic outcome: Parties have the financial, technological and capacity-building means to enhance the implementation of adaptation action</i>					
B1	To provide guidance on ways to enhance support, including finance, technology and capacity-building, in particular related to access, institutional	To coordinate with, and provide inputs to, the SCF, the TEC and the CTCN, as well as the financial entities under the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol, when relevant and as requested, including identifying		Overview of approaches and current state of knowledge of climate change risks to supply chains, to inform	Coherence and collaboration across Convention entities regarding means of implementation

<i>Objectives</i>	<i>Activities</i>				<i>Outcomes</i>
	<i>2016: First half</i>	<i>2016: Second half</i>	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>	
arrangements and enabling environments, including for the process to formulate and implement NAPs	next steps on technology and capacity-building in the workplan				development and implementation of risk-sharing approaches
	To engage continuously with the GCF to understand its policies and programmatic priorities as they relate to adaptation and as they evolve	Develop an information paper, in collaboration with the LEG, the SCF and the GCF, on experiences of countries in accessing the GCF readiness programme in supporting adaptation, including for the process to formulate and implement NAPs			Access to the GCF for adaptation is enhanced
	Collaborating with the GEF, the GCF, the Adaptation Fund, United Nations agencies, relevant multilateral and bilateral organizations and NGOs supporting the process to formulate and implement NAPs to enhance communication, awareness, coordination and complementarity of donors and funds		Explore remaining barriers and challenges for accessing adaptation resources and preparing recommendations for the different financial instruments of the Convention		The Parties receive broad guidance on accessing funding for adaptation action, complementing guidance provided by specific funds
		Identify and collect lessons learned and good practices from national implementing entities of funds, programmes/entities and initiatives, <sup>b</sup> on the necessary enabling environments, institutional arrangements and	Prepare an information paper, in collaboration with the SCF, on different national institutional frameworks for adaptation finance, and, where available, long-term financial strategies,		Supporting the development of national climate change adaptation financing frameworks

Objectives	Activities				Outcomes	
	2016: First half	2016: Second half	2017	2018		
		governance for adaptation  Organize a workshop for the engagement of relevant stakeholders, experts on NIEs, NDAs, etc., to advance understanding and overcome challenges related to the establishment of NIEs and accessing the GCF readiness programme for adaptation  Identify the authoritative actors from the private sector, including a mapping of their influence, and identify next steps	including identifying good practices and lessons learned, highlighting strengths and limitations and providing examples of application  Convene a meeting to foster greater contribution of the private sector to the process to formulate and implement NAPs, including examples of private sector involvement to date in NAPs		Increased engagement of the private sector, including leverage options in relation to public sector funding	
<i>Workstream C. Awareness-raising, outreach and sharing of information</i>						
<i>Strategic outcome: Parties are aware of the urgency of adaptation, to be able to react in a timely and adequate manner on the threats and changes coming from global climate change</i>						
C1	To raise awareness and policy support for adaptation, particularly the NAP process, by relevant stakeholders at all levels, in particular the national level	Decide on a topic for the 2016 thematic report  Develop an information product on livelihoods and economic diversification	Brochure on the state of adaptation	2017 thematic report	2018 thematic report	Awareness on targeted topic has been raised through shared information
C2	To promote the	Organize the 2016 Adaptation		Adaptation Forum	Adaptation Forum	The Adaptation

<i>Objectives</i>	<i>Activities</i>				<i>Outcomes</i>
	<i>2016: First half</i>	<i>2016: Second half</i>	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>	
exchange of information, particularly as it relates to the most vulnerable people, sectors and regions, and strengthen the interaction between Parties and stakeholders at all levels by utilizing the convening power of the AC to organize focused events	Forum in conjunction with the Adaptation Futures 2016 conference		with representatives from United Nations agencies, relevant multilateral and bilateral organizations and NGOs supporting the NAP process		Forum serves as an action-oriented platform for advancing adaptation

*Abbreviations:* AC = Adaptation Committee, AC 9 = 9<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Adaptation Committee, CBA = community-based adaptation, CGE = Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention, COP = Conference of the Parties, CTCN = Climate Technology Centre and Network, EBA = ecosystem-based adaptation, GCF = Green Climate Fund, GEF = Global Environment Facility, GIZ = Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (German Corporation for International Cooperation), LEG = Least Developed Countries Expert Group, M&E = monitoring and evaluation, NAP = national adaptation plan, NDA = national designated authority, NGO = non-governmental organization, NIE = national implementing entity, NWP = Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change, PROVIA = Global Programme of Research on Climate Change Vulnerability, Impacts and Adaptation, SCF = Standing Committee on Finance, TEC = Technology Executive Committee.

<sup>a</sup> To be decided following consideration by the AC of the expert meeting report at AC 9.

<sup>b</sup> Among others the Adaptation Fund, the GEF direct access pilot, the Pilot Program for Climate Resilience, the GIZ Climate Finance Readiness Programme and the United States Agency for International Development's ADAPT Asia Pacific.