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Issues relating to agriculture

Workshop on the identification of adaptation measures, taking into account the diversity of the agricultural systems, indigenous knowledge systems and the differences in scale as well as possible co-benefits and sharing experiences in research and development and on-the-ground activities, including socioeconomic, environmental and gender aspects

Report by the secretariat

Summary

The in-session workshop on the identification of adaptation measures, taking into account the diversity of the agricultural systems, indigenous knowledge systems and the differences in scale as well as possible co-benefits and sharing experiences in research and development and on-the-ground activities, including socioeconomic, environmental and gender aspects, was held in Bonn, Germany, on 20 May 2016 in conjunction with the forty-fourth session of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice.

In the presentations and discussions that took place at the workshop, Parties emphasized that the agriculture sector is highly affected by the adverse effects of climate change and highlighted the important role of identifying effective and context-specific adaptation measures in agriculture. Parties noted that successful adaptation in agricultural systems requires the identification of suitable adaptation measures at the regional, national and local scales, while taking into account the diversity and specific contexts of those systems, indigenous knowledge and possible co-benefits.

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I. Introduction

A. Mandate

1. The Conference of the Parties, by decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 75, requested the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) to consider issues relating to agriculture.

2. SBSTA 40 invited Parties and admitted observer organizations[1] to submit their views[2] on the following:

(a) Identification of adaptation measures, taking into account the diversity of the agricultural systems, indigenous knowledge systems and the differences in scale as well as possible co-benefits and sharing experiences in research and development and on-the-ground activities, including socioeconomic, environmental and gender aspects;

(b) Identification and assessment of agricultural practices and technologies to enhance productivity in a sustainable manner, food security and resilience, considering the differences in agroecological zones and farming systems, such as different grassland and cropland practices and systems.

3. The above-mentioned submissions from Parties were compiled by the secretariat into document FCCC/SBSTA/2016/MISC.1 and Add.1.

4. In addition, SBSTA 40 requested the secretariat to organize, subject to the availability of supplementary resources, an in-session workshop that was to be held in conjunction with SBSTA 44 on the issues referred to in paragraph 2(a) above.[3] It also requested the secretariat to prepare a report on the workshop for consideration at SBSTA 45.[4]

B. Scope of the note

5. This report provides an overview of the proceedings of the workshop referred to in paragraph 4 above, held in Bonn, Germany, on 20 May 2016 (hereinafter referred to as the workshop) (chapter II), a summary of the introductory presentation and panel discussion (chapter III) and a summary of the plenary discussion that took place at the conclusion of the workshop (chapter IV).

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

6. SBSTA 45 may wish to consider the information contained in this report as part of its consideration of issues relating to agriculture, in accordance with the conclusions of SBSTA 40.[5]

[1] Submissions from admitted observer organizations are available at <http://unfccc.int/7482>.
[2] FCCC/SBSTA/2014/2, paragraph 87.
[3] FCCC/SBSTA/2014/2, paragraph 88.
[4] FCCC/SBSTA/2014/2, paragraph 89.
[5] As footnote 4 above.

II. Proceedings

7. The workshop was organized by the secretariat and open to all Parties and observer organizations attending SBSTA 44.

8. Mr. Tibor Schaffhauser, the Vice-Chair of the SBSTA, delivered opening remarks and introduced the mandate and objectives of the workshop. He requested Mr. Emmanuel Dlamini (Swaziland) and Mr. Heikki Granholm (Finland) to co-facilitate the workshop.

9. On behalf of the two co-facilitators, Mr. Dlamini gave an introduction to the workshop and posed the following questions in order to guide the panellists and facilitate discussions:

(a) What experience does your country have with the identification of adaptation measures in the context of agriculture?

(b) How do various processes under the Convention facilitate the identification of adaptation measures in your country in the context of agriculture?

(c) What potential areas for synergy are there among various processes under the Convention to facilitate the identification of adaptation measures in your country in the context of agriculture?

10. The workshop was organized into two parts. Part I featured a framing presentation delivered by an expert from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), followed by a panel discussion with representatives of five Parties. In part II of the workshop, Parties engaged in a plenary discussion, which provided an opportunity for interactive discussion among all participants. At the end of the plenary discussion, representatives of two civil-society organizations delivered short statements or interventions on their relevant activities (see paras. 41 and 42 below).

11. Further information on the workshop, including the agenda, an information note, the presentations made by experts and statements made by the panellists, is available on the UNFCCC website. Upon the request of Parties and civil-society organizations, the presentations and written statements submitted by them have also been made available online.[6]

III. Summary of the introductory presentation and panel discussion

12. The introductory presentation made by the representative of the IPCC informed the workshop participants of the importance of data, information, knowledge and wisdom, as well as honesty, openness, competency and consistency, in making complex, long-term strategic decisions on effective adaptation options in agricultural systems. Adaptation should include traditional, gender-specific and cross-scale knowledge to allow people different choices. The importance of transferring knowledge from place to place to make adaptation more effective was highlighted, including the enhancement of adaptive capacity to provide wise advice in highly contextual and diverse circumstances, as well as the importance of information to accelerate learning, in terms of both policy and practice, in order to scale up effective adaptation.

[6] <http://unfccc.int/9457>.

13. The representative recognized the importance of gaining experience in implementing various adaptation options and monitoring and evaluating the impact of such options on emissions and related mitigation opportunities. He noted the importance of the adaptation of value chains and on-farm systems that promote social and environmental co-benefits. He concluded that any decisions implemented now should allow for more good decisions to be made in the future.

14. The introductory presentation was followed by a panel discussion, in which five Parties responded to the questions referred to in paragraph 9 above. Japan and Viet Nam responded to the first question, Australia and South Africa to the second question and the European Union (EU) to the third question.

Experience in the identification of adaptation measures in agriculture

15. Responding to the question referred to in paragraph 9(a) above, Viet Nam informed the workshop participants that it has adopted a National Action Plan on Climate Change for the period 2012–2020. In combination with subnational climate change response action plans, it provides a policy framework for the implementation of a number of adaptation measures, with a focus on water resource management, crop production, forest management, coastal zone management, agricultural waste management, aquaculture and fisheries.

16. Regarding the broader international context, Viet Nam provided an overview of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) member States' priorities for scaling up adaptation measures within the region. They include: the creation of an evidence base through pilot implementation of climate-resilient agricultural practices; scaling up successful models for predicting impacts of climate change and promoting climate resilience; the development of effective approaches to providing climate information services for smallholder farmers; the integration of research on the marketability and competitiveness of stress-tolerant crop varieties into adaptation strategies; and funding, capacity-building and technical assistance for the ASEAN Climate Resilience Network member countries. Viet Nam emphasized the importance of regional knowledge exchange and noted that the Convention can play an important role in facilitating the implementation and scaling up of proven practices and technologies in agriculture for ASEAN countries and countries in other regions of the world facing similar issues. Activities in facilitating implementation may include supporting cooperation and knowledge-sharing among Parties and relevant observer organizations on planning, finance, governance, policy frameworks, achieving scale through innovative approaches, enhancing gender equity and social inclusion, and research and knowledge systems.

17. In its response to the same question, Japan elaborated on the Climate Change Adaptation Plan of its Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, which was formulated to address factors that could threaten agricultural production, including yield loss and lower quality of crops due to higher temperatures and damage caused by high temperature, heavy rain and heavy snow. The plan provides for specific adaptation actions in crop management where climate impacts have already been observed. Japan provided examples of adaptation measures for paddy rice, including the development of resistant crop varieties, improved nutrition and water management practices, and timely pest and disease control based on the outputs of early warning systems. Japan also presented a few adaptation measures undertaken in orchards, such as peel puffing in citrus unshu, prevention of sunburn of fruit, development of new varieties and shifting orchard lands to higher altitude areas.

18. Preliminary results of the implementation of the adaptation plan highlight the importance of taking into account local contexts, the precise projection of climate change impacts and the co-benefits of adaptation measures. More specifically, taking into account

local contexts was deemed important by Japan because of its high geographical diversity, with climate zones ranging from subarctic in the north to subtropical in the south. Precise projections were also deemed important as they help to reduce uncertainty and the risk of maladaptation. Furthermore, Japan explained that there are co-benefits of adaptation measures in terms of productivity, income to farmers' households and climate mitigation that can help to build support for the implementation of adaptation measures by farmers.

Convention processes that could facilitate the identification of adaptation measures in agriculture

19. Addressing the question referred to in paragraph 9(b) above, South Africa explained that its national circumstances are characterized by low resilience to extreme weather events, with a large proportion of its population significantly affected by rainfall variability. As a result, climate change exacerbates existing socioeconomic challenges, inequalities and vulnerabilities, thus affecting food security and local livelihoods. Its National Climate Change Response Policy guides the country's response to climate change. South Africa's experience suggests that adaptation in agriculture requires taking the following steps: identifying innovative technologies to reduce risks and vulnerabilities; making financial resources available, especially to small-scale farmers; and involving the whole community and other relevant stakeholders.

20. South Africa identified a number of linkages with various processes under the Convention as well as potential areas for synergy among those processes to facilitate the identification of adaptation measures. The representative mentioned the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change, national adaptation plans (NAPs), national communications and the Lima–Paris Action Agenda. The importance of finance, technology development, capacity-building and research for the identification of adaptation measures in agriculture was emphasized, including the role of the Financial and Technology Mechanisms. Mainstreaming gender-responsive policies will assist in addressing gender gaps in the context of agriculture and providing societal benefits.

21. Australia addressed the same question and noted that the best approaches to adaptation are usually context specific and addressed at the appropriate scale. Indigenous peoples and farmers in Australia have built up experience in adapting to extreme weather events, including severe drought and floods. Australia has domestic processes in place in order to identify adaptation opportunities, including an adaptation framework and a national climate resilience adaptation strategy. Australia provides international outreach for climate change adaptation, particularly to projects with a focus on the Pacific.

22. Two specific examples were presented by Australia that are related to resilience in agriculture. Australia has created a fund that pays landholders to undertake projects to reduce greenhouse gas emissions or to sequester carbon. It has also developed a savannah fire management methodology combining traditional indigenous knowledge and science and provides financial incentives to land managers to implement the methodology. Such initiatives aim to achieve multiple benefits, including economic and environmental and those related to climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Potential areas for synergy among various processes under the Convention to facilitate the identification of adaptation measures in agriculture

23. Addressing the question referred to in paragraph 9(c) above, a representative of the EU and its 28 member States informed the workshop participants that, while the EU has common policy principles enshrined in its Adaptation Strategy and Common Agricultural Policy, the large diversity of adaptation measures implemented by the EU member States and their co-benefits reflect the diversity of agricultural practices and geographical conditions in the EU. The EU sees opportunities for synergy between a number of

processes under the Convention, including the Nairobi work programme, the Technology Mechanism, NAPs, the Adaptation Committee, the Least Developed Countries Expert Group, the technical expert meetings on adaptation and the Lima–Paris Action Agenda. At a later stage, synergies may also be found with the Green Climate Fund (GCF), the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the Adaptation Fund.

24. The EU expressed the view that synergies between all processes for the effective implementation of countries' intended nationally determined contributions (INDCs) should be explored, addressing the needs that Parties have expressed in relation to adaptation, mitigation and related capacity-building, etc. The SBSTA agenda item on issues relating to agriculture could serve as the connective hub to ensure that those needs are properly addressed, taking into account linkages with food security, synergies between adaptation and mitigation, and socioeconomic co-benefits. In addition, the EU highlighted the need for a participatory approach to the determination of the financial and technical feasibility of the basket of options when identifying priorities.

IV. Summary of the plenary discussion

25. In part II of the workshop, Parties engaged in a general discussion, adding to and elaborating on the elements presented in the presentation, statements and panel discussion that took place in part I. When presenting their views, many Parties highlighted the importance of taking into account the diversity of the agricultural systems, indigenous knowledge systems and the differences in scale as well as possible co-benefits, including socioeconomic, environmental and gender aspects, and sharing experience of research and development and on-the-ground activities.

A. Climate change impacts and adaptation measures in agriculture

26. All Parties emphasized that the agriculture sector is highly affected by the adverse effects of climate change, weather variability and extreme weather events, particularly in developing country Parties. They highlighted that adverse impacts of climate change on agriculture pose a global problem that affects everyone at every scale, including farmers and consumers in all countries. While emphasizing the urgent need to increase the adaptive capacity of agriculture to deal with the adverse effects of climate change, Parties noted that, despite the diversity of their national circumstances, they all face significant impacts of a changing climate that adversely affect food production and endanger food security, particularly in developing country Parties.

27. Developing country Parties highlighted the increasing frequency and intensity of adverse climatic events, seriously threatening the future development of agricultural production systems, depending on the conditions within each country or local area. In their view, these climatic events have an impact on the reliability and productivity of agriculture, thus exacerbating the already extreme levels of poverty and reinforcing persistent inequity and chronic undernutrition in developing countries. Further difficulties arise from the lack of scientific knowledge on climate change impacts on agriculture owing to limited data or conceptual shortcomings preventing sophisticated assessment or modelling.

B. Identification of adaptation measures for agricultural systems affected by climate change

28. Parties noted that successful adaptation in agricultural systems requires the identification of suitable adaptation measures at appropriate scales, while taking into

account the diversity and specific contexts of the systems. Adaptation measures can include risk management, national and local planning, financing, economic incentives, climate services, research and knowledge systems and the strengthening of extension services.

Importance of the identification of adaptation measures in agriculture

29. Parties identified climate change as an important threat, in particular because of its impacts on food security and local livelihoods. Many Parties consider food security to be their top-priority concern, as also expressed in the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Agreement. This applies particularly to countries in which agriculture is highly vulnerable because of unfavourable socioeconomic conditions and an already high-risk natural environment, often characterized by high season-to-season climate variability, extreme weather events and periods of severe water stress.

30. Parties noted that the large diversity of available adaptation measures presents both an opportunity and a challenge with regard to the identification of suitable adaptation measures. Successful adaptation requires putting in place a combination of measures and concrete means of implementation, taking into account the diversity of agricultural systems and local contexts. Adaptation in agriculture will require an integrated approach that addresses multiple stressors and combines the indigenous knowledge and experiences of vulnerable groups with the latest research insights of the scientific community.

31. Some Parties identified institutional arrangements and cross-sectoral cooperation as the main challenges in the identification of adaptation measures in agriculture. Transformational change in many cases would require cooperation among a large number of stakeholders and institutions and at all levels and scales. Creating an enabling environment for change will require effective coordination of different institutions and policymakers.

32. Many participants noted the importance of gender mainstreaming and addressing the needs of smallholder farmers. They highlighted the active engagement of local communities as a key factor for the successful implementation of adaptation measures in agriculture. Some Parties expressed a preference for bottom-up projects that are designed by farmers groups or other local initiatives and employ the traditional know-how and practical wisdom of those stakeholder groups.

33. Some Parties highlighted the importance of considering the broader context, in particular of identifying co-benefits during the cost–benefit analysis in order to better prioritize resource allocation and ensure the sustainability of the adaptation measures. Such co-benefits could provide an independent economic stream, improve environmental outcomes, enhance productivity and increase resilience to environmental shocks.

34. Developing country Parties emphasized that the transformation of agricultural systems in their countries will require the provision of means of implementation. The identification and development of large-scale implementation strategies for necessary adaptation measures will require large financial investments at different levels of policy planning and implementation as well as at local community levels. The implementation phase, in particular, will require investment for taking adaptation measures at the ground level, considering the diversity of agricultural systems, indigenous knowledge systems and the differences in scale. In this context, developing countries noted the importance of capacity-building as well as technical and knowledge support and exchange.

National experiences in the identification of adaptation measures in agriculture

35. Many Parties shared similar national experiences of increasingly irregular weather effects, corresponding difficulties in forecasting and a broad scope of adverse impacts on agriculture. They informed the workshop participants about various climate information services providing practical information for decision-making to smallholder farmers. These

services usually collect data, develop practical guidance for action and deliver such guidance through appropriate extension services to farmers. Parties expressed the view that feedback from the farmers is important in order to enhance the usefulness of such services. Examples of services mentioned by workshop participants include: business risk management tools; seasonal climate forecasting and early warning systems, or cropping calendars (which include recommendations on planting and harvesting times); fertilizer application; and addressing potential threats of pests and diseases. In some countries these activities are supported by international collaboration.

36. Several Parties stressed the importance of the pilot implementation of climate-resilient agricultural practices. On the basis of experience with such pilots, best practice models for adaptation in agriculture can be developed and used for scaling up implementation. Besides the collection of data and evidence in pilot implementation, many Parties highlighted the importance of research and development in the area of adaptation in agriculture. One Party explained that this means conducting and funding research in areas such as crop variety improvement, climate and extreme weather impacts, crop sensitivity and resilience to extreme weather conditions, the impact of climate change on pests and disease, the use of remote sensing and crop modelling to evaluate the impact of climatic variation on crops, and developing tools to support weather- and climate-related decision-making. A Party added that marketability and other value chain aspects need to be integrated into research on the competitiveness of stress-tolerant varieties. Another Party added that this also involves sharing information and experience with industry and provincial agricultural departments.

37. In order to identify and coordinate all adaptation measures at the national and subnational levels, many Parties have initiated the development of national adaptation strategies and plans, including reviews of agricultural development plans. In this regard, participants noted the need to undertake local and regional vulnerability assessments and to initiate knowledge transfer activities, in particular in relation to local adaptation planning. In this context, several Parties highlighted the importance of existing regional networks and initiatives in facilitating regional coordination and exchange of knowledge and experience, in particular the ASEAN Climate Resilience Network and the Africa Adaptation Initiative.

38. Several Parties noted that their adaptation activities in many cases have mitigation co-benefits, sometimes to the extent that it would be difficult to categorize them as an activity focusing on either mitigation or adaptation. One specific example mentioned related to projects to enhance soil carbon, which will simultaneously sequester carbon, reduce erosion and increase the productivity and water retention capacity of the soil.

39. Many developing countries highlighted the importance of means of implementation, noting, in particular, that mobilizing climate finance and the use of current and new technologies and practices, especially targeting small-scale farmers and women, will become important instruments of adaptation and ensuring food security. Other elements to support the identification of adaptation measures were mentioned, including capacity-building and technology transfer and, especially, specific packages of carefully aligned technology components for the adaptation of particular crops in particular conditions.

40. Some Parties expressed the view that facilitating investment would facilitate adaptation, for example by fostering new innovative partnerships and bringing together private, public and civil-society actors, while noting that developing new funding mechanisms and frameworks that provide incentives for investment could be a way to attract the necessary investment for the identification of adaptation measures. Other Parties mentioned the use of agricultural insurance to address losses resulting from extreme weather events and investment in infrastructure development as a means to reduce risk and promote investment from the private sector.

Civil-society interventions

41. Speaking on behalf of environmental non-governmental organizations, a civil-society representative emphasized that adaptation measures must prioritize the needs and contributions of small-scale food producers. Ensuring social and environmental safeguards and promoting the use of traditional knowledge and gender sensitivity in a truly rights-based approach would be the key to adaptation for smallholder producers, noting that access to information, resources and support would reduce vulnerability to climate change.

42. A representative of the farmers constituency highlighted the need to empower farmers by putting them at the centre of discussions. This could be achieved through the provision of a fair and ambitious financing framework and access to affordable credit, particularly for farmers in developing countries, while recognizing the benefit of multiple sources of income for farming families. The critical need for investment in all areas related to adaptation in agriculture was emphasized.

C. Synergies and collaboration

43. All Parties shared the view that there is scope for collaboration among Parties on elements relating to the identification of adaptation measures, ranging from the provision of means of implementation to the sharing of experience and knowledge. The key idea is that, because adaptation is highly contextual and diverse, it is likely that someone has already tried many of the existing adaptation options somewhere else, which could provide practical learning and knowledge-sharing opportunities related to the identification of appropriate adaptation measures for all. This would allow accelerated learning as well as the scaling up and dissemination of adaptation measures that have proven effective.

Potential role of the Convention

44. Many Parties saw a role for the Convention in facilitating the identification, implementation and scaling up of agricultural practices and technologies in the agriculture sector, particularly in supporting cooperation and knowledge-sharing among Parties and relevant stakeholders. Parties identified information as key to enabling better decision-making on climate risk management together with access to finance and support for capacity-building. Many Parties expressed support for the development of a platform for exchanging information, experience, good practices, databases, successful institutional developments, success stories and lessons learned in responding to the impact of climate change on agricultural systems.

45. A group of Parties stated that the secretariat should create a depository of adaptation options in relation to agriculture and food security, which could be used to inform development decisions by developing countries, particularly the least developed countries. It would be essential to find a way to disseminate outputs from such a depository down to the implementation level.

46. Parties identified a number of processes under the Convention that address different aspects related to adaptation measures in agriculture, including the Adaptation Committee, the Adaptation Fund Board, efforts on gender mainstreaming, the Financial Mechanism (including the GCF and the GEF), the Least Developed Countries Expert Group, the Lima–Paris Action Agenda, the Nairobi work programme, the development of NAPs and national adaptation programmes of action, the Paris Committee on Capacity-building, research and systematic observation, the technical expert meetings and the Technology Mechanism (including the Climate Technology Centre and Network and the Technology Executive Committee). Some emphasized the importance of coordination among those processes as

well as with ongoing external work, while also mentioning that the SBSTA could take on the coordinating role.

How the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice could facilitate collaboration

47. Many Parties mentioned that a key objective of the work of the SBSTA on agriculture should be the sharing and development of sound scientific and technical information to help Parties to make informed decisions on approaches and actions in agriculture that could increase food security and promote, within a sustainable development framework, synergies between agricultural productivity, adaptation and mitigation objectives. Furthermore, given its specific mandate under the Convention, the SBSTA should be the key body to facilitate the provision of technological support to Parties. Several Parties added that the SBSTA could also play a role in ensuring that the specificities of the agriculture sector are properly addressed under all Convention processes, including the linkages with food security, socioeconomic benefits and synergies between adaptation and mitigation. Developing countries added that these linkages continue to be the key priority for the SBSTA in its work, in the light of the particular vulnerabilities of the agriculture sector and its relationship with food security, poverty eradication and the livelihoods of millions of farmers.

48. Developing country Parties expressed the view that there is wide scope for collaboration among Parties to identify and implement adaptation measures that take into account local, national and regional circumstances, while adding that there are also many opportunities to draw and share lessons from the experiences of different Parties in this regard. In their view, the SBSTA needs to address a number of issues in order to assist developing countries in the areas covered by this workshop, including: (1) access to information, experience, tools and technology for real-time monitoring and data management related, inter alia, to early warning systems, vulnerability assessment and contingency plans; (2) strengthening national systems for collecting, analysing and disseminating risk and vulnerability data and information; (3) enhancing expertise on climate-related pests and diseases as well as the use of appropriate control and management methods; (4) providing assistance to governments and communities for implementing adaptation measures in response to the effects of extreme weather events; (5) providing support for the establishment of accessible regional climate databases and for research on addressing climate change impacts on agriculture, including assessments of potential economic impacts; and (6) providing means of implementation, including finance, technology transfer and capacity-building, to developing countries for the assessment of the risk and vulnerability of agricultural systems to different climate change scenarios at the regional, national and local levels, in the context of the commitment of developed countries to provide finance, technology transfer and capacity-building support to developing countries for adaptation.

49. A group of Parties noted that the SBSTA agenda item on agriculture could serve as the connecting hub for the different needs related to the implementation of Parties' INDCs, including those related to adaptation, mitigation and capacity-building, depending on Parties' national priorities. The SBSTA could thus support the implementation of Parties' INDCs by helping them to find the right tools to meet the challenges ahead in a non-prescriptive way. The representative of the same group of Parties added that the discussions under that SBSTA agenda item could provide an opportunity to address cross-cutting aspects of agriculture in a participatory manner, including those relating to food security, synergies between adaptation and mitigation, and socioeconomic co-benefits.

Linkages with processes outside the Convention

50. Participants at the workshop identified linkages with a number of processes and programmes outside the Convention, such as the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Consortium of International Agriculture Research Centers, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the IPCC, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Meteorological Organization, identifying them as key actors with the capacity to support actions taken by Parties. Participants noted that partnerships with such networks and organizations should be facilitated so as to realize synergies and avoid duplication of efforts.

The way forward

51. In their statements, several Parties reflected on the potential role of the Convention in facilitating the identification of adaptation measures in agriculture, taking into account the diversity of the agricultural systems, indigenous knowledge systems and differences in scale as well as possible co-benefits of adaptation measures. Parties noted, in particular, the importance of sharing experience in research and development and in the implementation of on-the-ground activities, including their socioeconomic, environmental and gender aspects. In summary, the role of the Convention could include the following:

(a) Exploring the potential for synergies among existing processes both under and outside the Convention, for example the processes related to finance, technology transfer and capacity-building, including technology needs assessments, the Climate Technology Centre and Network and other UNFCCC adaptation-related processes, as well as other key processes and organizations working on the identification and implementation of adaptation measures in agriculture;

(b) Finding practical ways to develop and share sound scientific and technical information to support Parties in making informed decisions on approaches and actions in agriculture that could increase food security and promote, within a sustainable development framework, synergies between agricultural productivity, adaptation and mitigation objectives, as appropriate;

(c) Developing a platform for exchanging, inter alia, experience, good practices, databases, successful institutional developments, success stories and lessons learned in responding to the impacts of climate change on agricultural systems.