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Matters relating to the least developed countries

The 32nd meeting of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group

Report by the secretariat*

Summary

The 32nd meeting of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group was held in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, from 7 to 10 August 2017. At the meeting, the group discussed the implementation of its rolling work programme for 2017–2018. The meeting also included interaction with: officials from the Government of Haiti on their work on adaptation; the secretariat of the Green Climate Fund on how best to support developing countries in accessing funding from the fund for the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans; the Global Environment Facility and its agencies on their continued provision of support for the implementation of the least developed countries work programme, which includes the preparation and implementation of national adaptation programmes of action; and other relevant organizations on collaboration in supporting the least developed countries.

* This document was submitted after the due date because of the need to synchronize content with the report of the Adaptation Committee.

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I. Mandate

1. The Conference of the Parties (COP), at its twenty-first session, extended the mandate of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG) under its current terms of reference¹ to cover the period 2016–2020, and mandated the LEG to undertake a number of additional activities,² including to support the implementation of the Paris Agreement.³

2. Accordingly, the LEG is mandated to develop a two-year rolling work programme for consideration by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) at its first sessional meeting of each year and to report on its work to the SBI at each of its sessions.⁴

II. Summary of the 32nd meeting of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group

A. Proceedings

3. The 32nd meeting of the LEG was held in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, from 7 to 10 August 2017. The meeting was opened by the Minister for Environment of the Government of Haiti, Mr. Pierre S. George.

4. The LEG extended invitations to the secretariats of the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and the Global Environment Facility (GEF), as well as to GEF agencies and other relevant organizations, to participate in the meeting in order to discuss the provision of support to the least developed countries (LDCs). The following took part in the meeting: the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the GCF secretariat, the GEF secretariat, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and the Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLLS), the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) and the International Institute for Sustainable Development serving as the secretariat of the National Adaptation Plan Global Network (NAP Global Network).

5. The meeting also included special interaction with the Government of Haiti to discuss the progress made by Haiti in the process to formulate and implement its national adaptation plan (NAP), including discussion of challenges, gaps and needs.

B. Status of the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans

1. Progress made by developing countries in the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans

6. The LEG noted that, as at 7 September 2017, eight developing countries had completed and submitted their NAPs on NAP Central:⁵ Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chile, Kenya, Sri Lanka, State of Palestine and Sudan. The LEG also noted that none of those countries had applied for funding from the GCF for the implementation of the prioritized policies, projects or programmes in their NAPs.

¹ Decisions 29/CP.7, 7/CP.9, 4/CP.11, 8/CP.13, 6/CP.16, 5/CP.17, 12/CP.18 and 3/CP.20.

² Decision 19/CP.21, paragraphs 1–3.

³ Decision 1/CP.21, paragraphs 41 and 45.

⁴ Decision 6/CP.16, paragraph 3.

⁵ <http://www4.unfccc.int/nap/Pages/national-adaptation-plans.aspx>.

2. Progress made in relation to support provided

7. The LEG took note of the information provided by various organizations on support provided for the process to formulate and implement NAPs between April and August 2017.⁶

8. The GCF reported that, as at 10 August 2017, it had approved one project proposal (of Pakistan) under the support modality for NAPs under its readiness and preparatory support programme, which provides up to USD 3 million per country.⁷ Funding for two proposals that had been approved in November 2016 had been disbursed. The GCF also reported that 28 more project proposals⁸ were undergoing review, 10 of which are from the LDCs. The GCF further reported that the amount of funding requested in each proposal ranged from USD 2.26 to 2.76 million. One country made its submission through a national delivery partner, while the rest made their submissions through multilateral implementing entities.

9. Regarding technical guidance and support for NAPs, the LEG has conducted two more regional training workshops on NAPs: one for the Asian region, in Manila, the Philippines, from 13 to 16 June 2017; and one for the Pacific region, in Nadi, Fiji, from 10 to 13 July 2017. The former was attended by 63 participants (36 male and 27 female) and the latter by 33 participants (19 male and 14 female). Furthermore, the LEG updated the NAP case studies (Open NAPs) from Bhutan and Tuvalu and used them at the two workshops. In addition, the LEG conducted its first regional NAP Expo, in Kampala, Uganda, on 28 June 2017, in conjunction with the 11th International Conference on Community-Based Adaptation (CBA 11). Further details on the technical guidance and support for NAPs provided by the LEG are included in chapter III.A below.

10. UNDP provided an update on its ongoing provision of support to countries through its various programmes, including on: the development of funding proposals to access funding for the implementation of national adaptation programmes of action (NAPAs) under the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) and of adaptation projects and programmes under the GCF; climate budgeting and financing frameworks; private sector engagement; and economics of climate change adaptation.

11. Since March 2017, the National Adaptation Plan Global Support Programme (NAP-GSP) for the LDCs, jointly administered by UNDP and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), has provided technical support to four countries⁹ for them to prepare project proposals for accessing funding from the GCF for the formulation of their NAPs. This is in addition to five more countries¹⁰ whose proposals were submitted to the GCF between February and July 2017 and were undergoing review.

12. The NAP-GSP for non-LDCs, also jointly administered by UNDP and UNEP, conducted a regional training workshop in Amman, Jordan, for the Middle East and North African region from 3 to 5 April 2017. The workshop focused on building an understanding of the process to formulate and implement NAPs and how it can help countries to achieve climate-resilient development by strengthening their capacity for the formulation and implementation of NAPs. The NAP-GSP for non-LDCs also conducted a regional training workshop in Georgetown, Guyana, for the Caribbean region from 31 May to 2 June 2017.

13. Furthermore, UNDP and UNEP reported that 144 LDC negotiators have been trained under the LDC negotiators capacity-building programme since 2013.

⁶ This chapter covers information made available to the LEG by the time of its 32nd meeting by the respective bodies and organizations.

⁷ See GCF Board decision B.13/09, paragraph (e).

⁸ Of Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Bangladesh, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Colombia, Costa Rica, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Gabon, Honduras, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mongolia, Niger, Serbia, South Sudan, Sudan, Swaziland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan and Zimbabwe.

⁹ Benin, Bhutan, Burundi and Haiti.

¹⁰ Bangladesh, Benin, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Madagascar, Niger and United Republic of Tanzania.

14. FAO and UNDP continued to assist 11 countries¹¹ under the Integrating Agriculture in National Adaptation Plans Programme¹² in undertaking activities towards integrating agriculture-related climate change risks and opportunities into NAPs as a way to safeguard livelihoods, raise agricultural production and boost food security.

15. The NAP Global Network conducted a targeted topics forum in Mexico City, Mexico, in July 2017 on financing the process to formulate and implement NAPs. Also, it facilitated peer-to-peer exchanges between Albania, Jamaica, Peru and Saint Lucia on communications and sectoral budgeting topics.

C. Status of implementation of national adaptation programmes of action

16. According to information received from the GEF,¹³ one proposal from South Sudan for the implementation of its NAPA was approved by the GEF Council for funding from the LDCF in May 2017. This brought to a total of 249 the number of projects approved by the GEF Council for funding from the LDCF since its establishment in 2001. In addition, as at 30 June 2017, 20 NAPA implementation project proposals submitted by the LDCs, accounting for a total of USD 126.3 million, had been technically cleared by the GEF secretariat and were awaiting the availability of resources from the LDCF.

17. As at 9 August 2017, the total cumulative donor pledges to the LDCF amounted to USD 1.23 billion and the total paid contributions amounted to USD 1.19 billion.¹⁴ The funding ceiling for each LDC is currently at USD 40 million, in accordance with the principle of equitable access.

18. At least five LDCs¹⁵ have revised and/or updated their NAPAs. The LEG took note that the LDCs continue to rely on technical guidance and advice in revising and updating their NAPAs and that it stands ready to provide support upon request.

III. Progress in the implementation of the rolling work programme for 2016–2017

A. Technical guidance and support for the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans and the work of the national adaptation plan technical working group

1. Training on national adaptation plans

19. The LEG noted with satisfaction that the regional training workshops on NAPs were progressing well and that a wide range of partners are actively taking part in them. Recent workshops took place in Manila, the Philippines, from 13 to 16 June 2017 for the Asian region, and in Nadi, Fiji, from 10 to 13 July 2017 for the Pacific region. The remaining two workshops were scheduled to take place in San José, Costa Rica, from 4 to 7 September 2017 for the Latin American and Caribbean region, and in Rabat, Morocco, from 25 to 27 September 2017 for francophone African countries.

20. The LEG took note of the key highlights from the workshops, which include the following:

(a) The workshops provided opportunities for countries to share detailed information on progress, experience, challenges and needs in the process to formulate and implement NAPs;

¹¹ Colombia, Gambia, Guatemala, Kenya, Nepal, Philippines, Thailand, Uganda, Uruguay, Viet Nam and Zambia.

¹² See <http://www.fao.org/in-action/naps/en>.

¹³ In GEF document GEF/LDCF.SCCF.20/03 and updates provided to the secretariat.

¹⁴ See <https://www.thegef.org/topics/least-developed-countries-fund-ldcf>.

¹⁵ Bangladesh, Bhutan, Haiti, Malawi and Senegal.

(b) Participants appreciated the multiple ways of exploring and ensuring linkages between achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and adaptation using the integrative framework for NAPs and the SDGs (NAP-SDG iFrame);

(c) Examples given of common adaptation solutions in different sectors and/or systems emphasized the need for a holistic approach to adaptation planning and implementation, in alignment with the SDGs;

(d) Countries are showing keen interest in making progress in accessing funding from the GCF to formulate NAPs, in order to build on the momentum and readiness created through the support provided by the LEG and by the NAP support programmes, which have so far helped the countries to initiate the process and to define their road maps;

(e) Modules on assessing climate risks helped the participants to easily relate recent climate hazards to the adaptation context, and inspired them to think about existing and potential future solutions, in alignment with the Paris Agreement goals, the SDGs and their own national development goals;

(f) The consideration of sustainable development benefits of adaptation provided an opportunity to see how adaptation efforts have in turn resulted in sustainable development beyond what may have been planned as adaptation outcomes;

(g) There was interest in monitoring and evaluating the NAP process using the tool for monitoring and evaluating progress, effectiveness and gaps in the process to formulate and implement NAPs (PEG M&E tool) developed by the LEG, and other similar tools, to ensure high-quality and effective processes as well as to promote good practices.

21. The LEG took note of the emerging challenges and needs expressed by the participants, which included four broad categories: having best available data and tools for assessments; making swift tangible progress in accessing funding from the GCF for NAPs; building long-term capacity for adaptation planning and implementation; and having training materials that countries can use/apply at the national level.

22. The LEG agreed to document the outputs of the workshops on NAP Central, and the content from the sessions on accessing the GCF, to serve as resources for future training. The LEG also agreed to update the key highlights, emerging challenges and needs once all the workshops have been conducted, as a way to identify future needs for support for the LDCs.

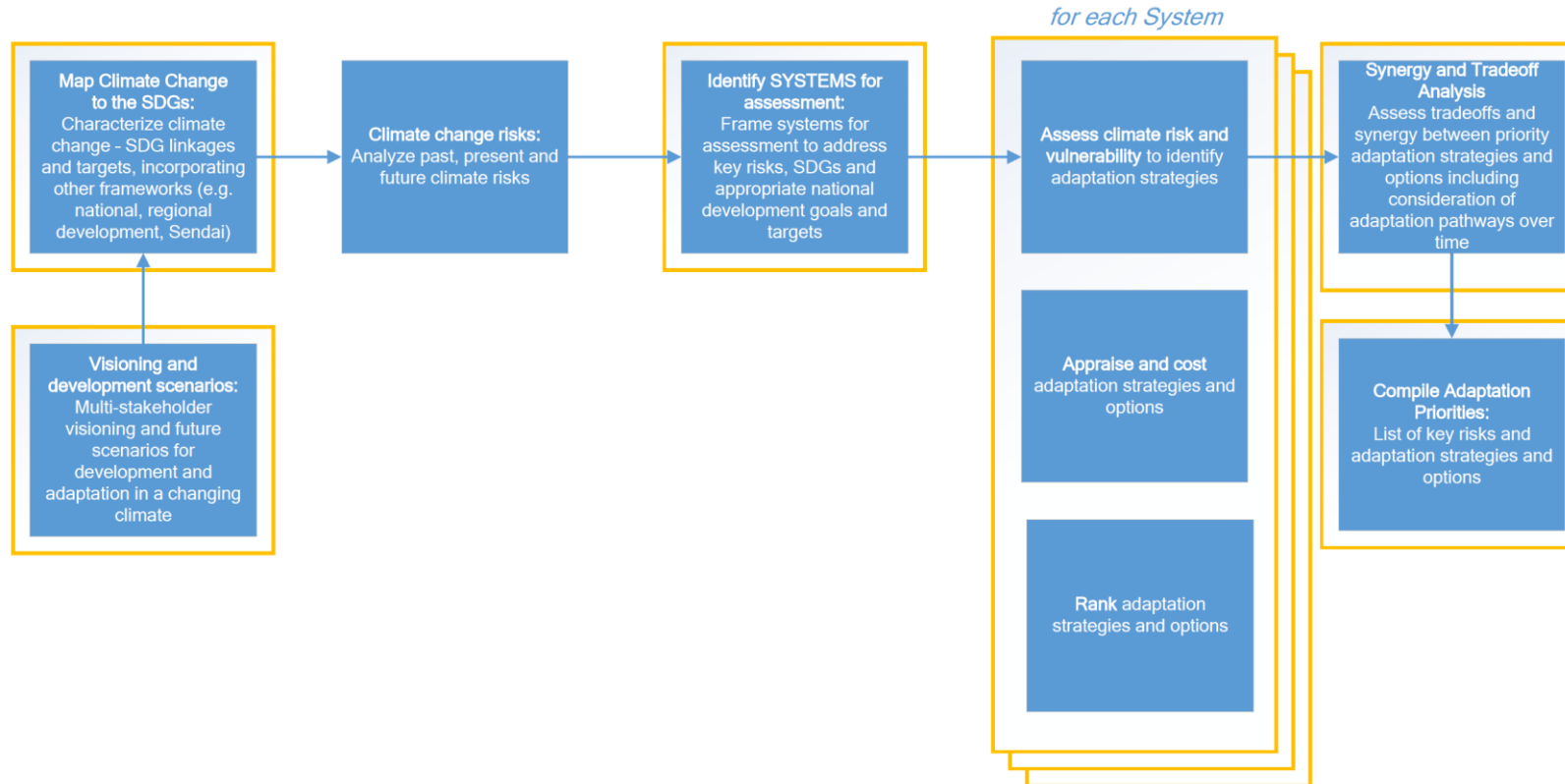
23. The LEG further agreed to explore ways to coordinate training efforts undertaken by different actors so as to ensure a continuum between LEG materials and those of other agencies.

2. Integrative framework for national adaptation plans and the Sustainable Development Goals

24. The LEG took note of the application of the NAP-SDG iFrame to guide the regional training workshops on NAPs taking place in 2016–2017. The NAP-SDG iFrame is aimed at helping to integrate different assessment approaches into NAPs and enabling the consideration of how to contribute to addressing relevant SDGs in conjunction with NAPs. The framework takes an integrated approach towards country-driven and country-specific descriptions of systems that should be managed to achieve adaptation and to contribute towards achieving SDG targets.

25. The LEG agreed to prepare supplementary guidelines describing the NAP-SDG iFrame and supporting tools with the support of the NAP technical working group. The figure below shows the major steps in the NAP-SDG iFrame.

Major steps in the integrative framework for national adaptation plans and the Sustainable Development Goals, overlaid on element B (preparatory elements) of the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans



Key milestones and outputs:

- Evidence of linking work on NAPs to the SDGs
- Analysis of climate risks and scenarios, communicated to all stakeholders (published/posted)
- Climate risk/vulnerability **assessment results/report**
- Steps and processes to **engage multiple stakeholders** and meet other guiding principles in the assessment and ranking of adaptation priorities
- Detailed analysis reports for important systems including results of tradeoff analyses
- Transparent listings of **adaptation options** (as well as methods used other interim results) for multiple stakeholder inputs and comments (peer-review)

Abbreviations: NAPs = national adaptation plans, SDGs = Sustainable Development Goals, Sendai = Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030.

3. Case studies on national adaptation plans

26. The LEG noted that the NAP case studies at the national level (Open NAPs) for Malawi and for Bhutan and Tuvalu were successfully presented at the regional training workshops on NAPs for African anglophone countries and for Asia-Pacific, respectively. The Open NAP case studies helped to provide a quick practical overview of how the process to formulate and implement NAPs can be rolled out at the national level. The LEG agreed to continue to present the Open NAP case studies at the two remaining workshops.¹⁶

4. Supporting the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans through NAP Central

27. The LEG noted that countries are continuing to share their NAPs on NAP Central and that there are now NAPs from eight countries on the platform.¹⁷ The LEG took note of the event pages for the regional training workshops on NAPs and the regional NAP Expos developed as part of NAP Central.

28. The LEG also took note of the progress made in developing the tool for tracking progress made by each country in the process to formulate and implement NAPs (NAP tracking tool), capturing key milestones, outputs and planned activities.

29. The LEG identified the following activities to be undertaken in continuing to develop NAP Central to service information needs for NAPs:

- (a) Fully implement the NAP tracking tool;
- (b) Set up a portal for housing data in supporting the assessment by the SBI of the progress made in the process to formulate and implement NAPs;
- (c) Manage adaptation planning documents from all countries to serve as resources for others in their process to formulate and implement NAPs;
- (d) Capture country case studies, experience, good practices and other relevant information from the regional training workshops on NAPs to serve as resources for others in their process to formulate and implement NAPs.

5. Workplan of the national adaptation plan technical working group

30. The LEG noted the progress made by the NAP technical working group in continuing to support the work of the LEG relating to: developing the NAP-SDG iFrame for assessments; conducting the regional training workshops on NAPs; reviewing the needs related to adaptation arising from the Paris Agreement and the decisions adopted at COP 21; and the Open NAPs.

31. The LEG agreed to continue to strengthen the work of the NAP technical working group through continued engagement in the development of technical methodologies for NAPs and strategic collaboration with relevant organizations, regional centres and networks.

32. The LEG also agreed that the priorities for the NAP technical working group for the rest of 2017 and for 2018 should include supporting the assessment by the SBI of the progress made in the process to formulate and implement NAPs, the NAP Expo, and joint efforts in supporting training on NAPs.

B. Matters relating to access to the Green Climate Fund

33. The LEG held discussions with the GCF secretariat in relation to the mandates¹⁸ from the COP on enhancing developing countries' access to GCF funding for NAPs.

¹⁶ A detailed description of the design of the Open NAP case studies is available in document FCCC/SBI/2017/6, paragraphs 36 and 37.

¹⁷ <http://www4.unfccc.int/nap/Pages/national-adaptation-plans.aspx>.

¹⁸ Decision 19/CP.21, paragraphs 2 and 10, and decision 6/CP.22, paragraph 7.

34. The GCF secretariat introduced the following issues that require further attention in relation to countries' efforts in accessing funding for NAPs, building on similar issues presented at the 31st meeting of the LEG:

(a) Demonstration of how the envisioned activities will address vulnerability and anticipated impacts of climate change over time;

(b) Demonstration of how proposed activities will complement and integrate with past and ongoing adaptation activities of subnational, national and regional initiatives;

(c) Explanation of how the work will follow inclusive gender-responsive stakeholder engagement mechanisms and inter-institutional arrangements;

(d) Articulation of how the proposed activities will contribute towards the achievement of the objectives of the process to formulate and implement NAPs of reducing vulnerability to the impacts of climate change and of integrating climate change adaptation, in a coherent manner, into relevant new and existing policies, programmes and activities.

35. The LEG noted that the above-mentioned issues will need to be addressed with the relevant delivery partners, namely those that prepare the country proposals for accessing funding from the GCF. The LEG decided to include the issues in its interaction with the relevant delivery partners, with a view to exploring how best to address them.

36. The LEG highlighted the questions from countries that recurred at the regional training workshops on NAPs, which are broadly centred around, inter alia: timelines for submission and review of proposals, disbursement of funds and duration of NAP formulation projects; the need for and the role of delivery partners in accessing funding for the formulation of NAPs; access to approved funding proposals; the possibility of submitting regional proposals (i.e. involving two or more countries); and how to develop and submit proposals for implementation.

37. The LEG and the GCF secretariat agreed to jointly develop a frequently asked questions publication addressing the emerging needs and challenges faced by countries in accessing funding from the GCF. The LEG and the GCF secretariat also agreed to develop indicative sets of activities, reflecting different national circumstances and stages involved, for inclusion in proposals for accessing funding from the GCF for the formulation of NAPs.

38. The LEG and the GCF secretariat further agreed to consider how the GCF secretariat can contribute to the following activities of the LEG, in the context of the existing mandates from the COP on collaboration between the LEG and the GCF secretariat: supporting the assessment by the SBI of progress made in the process to formulate and implement NAPs;¹⁹ providing technical guidance and advice on needs related to adaptation that may arise from the Paris Agreement and COP 21 decisions;²⁰ and updating the least developed countries work programme.²¹

C. NAP Expo

39. The LEG noted that the first regional NAP Expo was successfully conducted in Kampala, Uganda, on 28 June 2017 in conjunction with CBA 11. It also noted that the regional NAP Expo provided an opportunity for the LEG to communicate to the CBA 11 participants about NAPs, and for the CBA 11 participants to share their experience relating to vulnerable communities, groups and ecosystems. The LEG further noted that the information gathered at the event will contribute towards its work on providing technical guidance and advice on considerations regarding vulnerable communities, groups and ecosystems (see chapter III.D below for more details on this topic).

40. The LEG took note of the preparations for the second regional NAP Expo in 2017 scheduled to be held in Seoul, the Republic of Korea, on 11 and 12 September 2017, with participants coming from the Asian region. The expo includes exchanges on guidance for

¹⁹ Decision 4/CP.21, paragraphs 11 and 12.

²⁰ Decision 19/CP.21, paragraph 2(d).

²¹ Decision 19/CP.21, paragraph 3.

and the key building blocks of the process to formulate and implement NAPs, accessing funding from the GCF for NAPs, the state of climate change and adaptation in Asia, and common adaptation solutions in selected sectors and/or systems in the region.

41. The LEG agreed to continue to explore opportunities for convening further regional NAP Expos around potential events organized across the different regions.

42. The LEG discussed the design of the 2018 NAP Expo. The event is scheduled to take place at the end of March or in early April 2018. The LEG encourages all interested agencies and organizations to contact the LEG Chair to discuss areas for collaboration.

43. The LEG will launch an advisory group for the NAP Expo through the NAP technical working group to support the organization of the event. The group will contribute towards the mobilization of all relevant stakeholders, the mobilization of funding for participants from developing countries, the design of the programme for the event, the identification of speakers and the provision of other inputs required for the success of the event.

D. Technical guidance and advice on considerations regarding vulnerable communities, groups and ecosystems in adaptation planning and implementation

44. The LEG reviewed a draft paper on considerations regarding vulnerable communities, groups and ecosystems in adaptation planning and implementation. To help further develop the paper, it discussed the different factors of vulnerability, such as geography, social standing, historical status, gender and poverty. It agreed to continue to work on the paper with the partner organizations of the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change (NWP), with a view to finalizing it by the end of 2017. The paper will be used as part of the supplementary guidelines for the formulation and implementation of NAPs.

E. Regional approaches to adaptation planning and implementation

45. The LEG continued consideration of its mandate from the COP to provide technical guidance and advice to the LDCs with regard to regional approaches to adaptation planning,²² whereby it decided to develop supplementary guidelines on such regional approaches following a number of steps.²³

46. The LEG discussed that the work on regional approaches will involve the consideration of adaptation planning and implementation at the transboundary level, for such areas as water management, hydroenergy production and supply, trade and ecosystem management, as well as technical assessment and data issues that can be addressed jointly among neighbouring countries. It noted that there are specific roles to be played by countries, such as in: identifying issues that would benefit most from being handled at the regional level; identifying, strengthening and/or establishing regional coordination and governance mechanisms; and putting in place appropriate policy and regulatory frameworks to enable regional approaches. It also noted that there are specific roles to be played by entities providing support, such as: integrating regional approaches into support policies and strategies; and clearly communicating to countries the types of regional policy, project and programme that could be supported.

²² Decision 19/CP.21, paragraph 2(b).

²³ See document FCCC/SBI/2016/7, annex I.

F. Needs related to adaptation arising from the Paris Agreement and the decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its twenty-first session

47. The LEG continued its consideration of a paper on the needs related to adaptation for the LDCs that would arise from the implementation of the Paris Agreement and other outcomes of COP 21, on the basis of the compilation²⁴ developed at its 30th meeting.

48. It identified that the needs fall under the following broad categories:

(a) Climate scenarios, science and their translation to local contexts, including how to localize and apply the under 2 °C global temperature limit;

(b) Risk and vulnerability assessments, and risk management;

(c) The continuum between adaptation and development, including the SDGs, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, other international and regional frameworks and national development planning processes;

(d) Monitoring and evaluation of various processes and their outcomes;

(e) Accessing support, namely finance, technology and capacity-building;

(f) Cross-cutting issues, which include guiding principles and stakeholder engagement issues.

49. It decided to finalize the paper by the end of 2017.

G. Supporting the assessment by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation of progress made in the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans

50. The LEG continued consideration of its work in supporting the assessment by the SBI of progress made in the process to formulate and implement NAPs,²⁵ including a concept note to guide the work following the relevant discussions at its 31st meeting.²⁶

51. The LEG noted that its work will significantly benefit from the engagement of other actors and players to support the collection of data and information and the subsequent analysis to assess how the two objectives and the guiding principles of the process to formulate and implement NAPs are being addressed by countries. The LEG welcomed the offer made by the NAP Global Network of contributing to the assessment by reviewing progress in the integration of gender considerations into the process to formulate and implement NAPs, and the offer made by UNDP of contributing to the assessment by reviewing progress in the integration of climate change adaptation into development planning.

52. The LEG decided to house the data and information to underpin the assessment on NAP Central to facilitate sharing with all relevant actors and players and to ensure that the analysis and the subsequent assessment are based on a common pool of evidence.

53. The LEG noted that the structure of the analysis could be based on the groups of metrics identified in the PEG M&E tool, following the process, inputs, outputs, outcomes and impacts. Specific metrics would be developed jointly with relevant stakeholders. It also noted that there is value in providing a clear distinction between the progress in the process to formulate and implement NAPs and the progress on other activities that may contribute to the process to formulate and implement NAPs. In that context, it noted that countries' progress in the process to formulate and implement NAPs could be captured on the basis of their pronouncement that they have initiated and/or are undertaking the process, or another appropriate reference to what should be included as part of the process.

²⁴ See document FCCC/SBI/2016/18, paragraphs 20 and 21.

²⁵ Decision 4/CP.21, paragraphs 11–13.

²⁶ See document FCCC/SBI/2017/6, paragraphs 57–61.

54. The LEG discussed possible arrangements for the meeting,²⁷ to be organized in collaboration with the Adaptation Committee, to consider the synthesis report²⁸ on progress made in the process to formulate and implement NAPs.

55. The LEG also discussed the potential value of having an independent panel of experts assess progress by reviewing the evidence on progress to be presented by the analytical teams, using the PEG M&E tool and special metrics that will be designed to provide a balanced assessment to the SBI.

56. The LEG decided to update the online questionnaire²⁹ on NAP Central to enhance the capturing of information on, among others, developing country outputs, progress in addressing the guiding principles, information from developed country Parties on the support provided through multilateral and bilateral channels, and developed country Parties' own work on adaptation planning and implementation.

57. The LEG took note of the progress made in developing the NAP tracking tool on NAP Central. The NAP tracking tool will provide information on key milestones and outputs of countries in the formulation and implementation of their NAPs.

H. Recommendations to the Subsidiary Body for Implementation on updating the least developed countries work programme

58. The LEG initiated consideration of its mandate from the COP to consider the need to update the least developed countries work programme and to make recommendations for consideration at SBI 48 (April–May 2018) with a view to those recommendations being forwarded to COP 24 (December 2018), as appropriate.³⁰

I. Addressing the mandates contained in decision 1/CP.21, paragraphs 41 and 45

59. The LEG took note of the progress made since its last meeting in addressing the mandates given to it and the Adaptation Committee by the COP in decision 1/CP.21, paragraphs 41 and 45.

60. The LEG noted that the joint working group was in the process of drafting the recommendations to be presented to the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement at its first session, in November 2017. The recommendations will be submitted as an addendum to this report (as well as to the report of the Adaptation Committee).

IV. Discussion with the Government of Haiti

61. The LEG held discussions with the adaptation team of the Government of Haiti on the progress made as well as gaps and challenges faced by Haiti in addressing adaptation.

62. The Government of Haiti provided background information and updates on past and ongoing adaptation activities, including: the NAPA;³¹ the national Pilot Program for Climate Resilience implemented by the Interministerial Committee for Territorial Development;³² the Haiti Global Climate Change Alliance programme on integrating adaptation into national development planning; and the ecosystem-based adaptation programme focusing on rehabilitation of terrestrial and coastal ecosystems, environment conservation and capacity-building. In its latest NAPA implementation project, Haiti is

²⁷ Decision 4/CP.21, paragraph 12(d).

²⁸ Decision 4/CP.21, paragraph 12(c).

²⁹ Decision 4/CP.21, paragraph 12(b).

³⁰ Decision 19/CP.21, paragraph 3.

³¹ <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/napa/hti01f.pdf>.

³² See <http://ciat.gouv.ht/projets/programme-pilote-pour-la-r%C3%A9silience-climatique-pprc>.

exploring ways to address multiple issues in relation to water, agriculture, land-use management and ecosystems through a programmatic approach.

63. The Government of Haiti also provided information on its work in the process to formulate and implement its NAP, building on the activities referred to in paragraph 62 above. The Government is working with UNDP to access funding from the GCF to advance its work. Initial milestones include GCF readiness and preparatory activities for building the enabling environment for the formulation and implementation of the country's NAP, for which a GCF readiness proposal amounting to USD 430 million was approved in May 2017. Activities are expected to commence in September 2017. The Government is also working with UNDP to prepare a project proposal for accessing funding from the GCF to formulate the NAP. The Government is developing its NAP road map with the support of the LEG, according to which a NAP is expected to be completed in approximately two years from the receipt of funds from the GCF. Furthermore, the Government of Haiti is working with UNDP to develop a USD 40 million adaptation programme on water resources management, agriculture and food security for funding from the GCF.

64. The Government of Haiti took the LEG and all other participants attending the meeting on a study tour through the city of Port-au-Prince to witness the contextual vulnerabilities faced. The field trip passed through an ecofarm to demonstrate how a 'whole-of-ecosystems' approach is being applied to address both upstream and downstream challenges brought about by climate change through biodiversity conservation.

65. The Government of Haiti informed the LEG about its challenges, which include limited capacity to address the pressing challenges posed by climate change in addition to its developmental challenges. The Government of Haiti requested the LEG to support it in overcoming these challenges and in continuing to explore how best to help Haiti to connect with the different providers of support.

66. The LEG agreed with the Government of Haiti to use Haiti as the Open NAP case study for the regional training workshop for the Latin American and Caribbean region referred to in paragraph 20 above. Also, Haiti was invited to take part in the regional training workshop on NAPs for francophone African countries referred to in paragraph 20 above.

V. Collaboration with other bodies and programmes under the Convention

67. The LEG took note of the following collaborative activities with relevant bodies and programmes under the Convention that have taken place since its 31st meeting.

68. The LEG participated in the technical expert meeting on adaptation organized by the Adaptation Committee that took place during the forty-sixth sessions of the subsidiary bodies.³³ The theme for the expert meeting was integrating climate change adaptation with the SDGs and the Sendai Framework. The LEG made a presentation on how to find coherence between the SDGs and adaptation to climate change on the basis of the NAP-SDG iFrame.

69. The LEG engaged at the NWP side event on ecosystems at the forty-sixth sessions of the subsidiary bodies and provided highlights on, among others: the ongoing work with NWP partner organizations on strengthening considerations regarding vulnerable communities, groups and ecosystems; the activities of the LEG to support the assessment by the SBI of the progress made in the process to formulate and implement NAPs; and the NAP-SDG iFrame and how it can assist in integrating different approaches into adaptation. The LEG noted that NWP partner organizations will continue to provide inputs to its work on training on NAPs, NAP Expos and Open NAPs.

70. The LEG continued to support the work of the Technology Executive Committee (TEC) on developing a paper on aligning technology needs assessments and NAPs. The paper is part of the response to the mandate from the COP requesting the TEC, in

³³ See <http://tep-a.org>.

collaboration with the Climate Technology Centre and Network, the Adaptation Committee and the LEG, to consider how it can help Parties to align their technology needs assessments with the process to formulate and implement NAPs.

71. The LEG also engaged in the 1st meeting of the Task Force on Displacement of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts.

72. The LEG further engaged in the 1st meeting of the Paris Committee on Capacity-Building (PCCB), to discuss how to enhance collaboration and cooperation between the PCCB and other constituted bodies and institutions on capacity-building. The LEG provided an overview of the gaps in and needs of LDCs in relation to adaptation. The LEG took note of the nomination of Mr. Matti Nummelin (Finland) to serve as a liaison person of the PCCB with the LEG. Mr. Nummelin previously served in the LEG.

VI. Discussions with relevant organizations

73. The LEG held discussions with the representatives of FAO, the GCF secretariat, the GEF secretariat, UNDP, UN-OHRLS, IICA and the NAP Global Network on further collaboration in supporting the LDCs in relation to adaptation. Specific activities relating to providing support to the LDCs for their NAPAs and NAPs are contained in chapter II.B and C above.

74. Regarding providing support to the LDCs for accessing funding from the GCF for the formulation and implementation of NAPs, the LEG reminded the organizations of the vision of the LEG in supporting adaptation in the LDCs.³⁴ On the basis of the updates provided by the organizations, it was observed that not all LDCs are actively receiving support to help them to formulate proposals for accessing funding from the GCF. It was agreed that it will be helpful to identify which countries are being supported, and which are not, with a view to creating awareness and mobilizing all partners to ensure that all the LDCs are receiving support for proposal preparation.

75. Regarding technical guidance on NAPs and the work of the NAP technical working group, the LEG provided an update on the development of further materials to assist countries in formulating and implementing NAPs, including the NAP-SDG iFrame. FAO communicated its ongoing work on the development of supplementary materials on addressing fisheries and aquaculture in the process to formulate and implement NAPs. The NAP Global Network announced that it is working on technical resources for designing and conducting conflict-sensitive national adaptation planning processes. Additional topics that may require further technical guidance were explored, including the development and use of climate scenarios, implementation strategies for NAPs, and ways to translate the support received (e.g. training, funding and guidelines) into action. The LEG encouraged the organizations to continue to share their materials with the LEG for inputs, early enough to ensure and maximize coherence in the approaches being developed.

76. Regarding the NAP Expo in 2018, as part of resource mobilization activities for the event, the LEG invited the organizations to make offers on how they may be able to support the event. UNDP and the NAP Global Network communicated that they will explore possibilities for funding participants to attend the event. On leading sessions or topics at the event: UNDP offered to host sessions on experience in accessing funding from the GCF and on alignment of NAPs with the SDGs and other development frameworks; the NAP Global Network will host sessions on adaptation in conflict areas and on gender considerations in NAPs; and UN-ORHLLS offered to host sessions on resilience and other issues on the broader LDC agenda. It was agreed to forward those inputs to the advisory group responsible for the organization of the NAP Expo.

77. Regarding technical guidance and advice on regional approaches to adaptation planning, the organizations offered to share information with the LEG on experience and

³⁴ See document FCCC/SBI/2016/7, paragraph 15.

good practices from their respective regional programmes that could help in the development of the supplementary guidelines on the topic (see chapter III.E above).

78. Similarly, on technical guidance and advice on considerations regarding vulnerable communities, groups and ecosystems, the LEG informed the organizations of the progress made with the NWP in developing a paper on the topic, and that the LEG will continue to solicit input to feed into the paper.

79. Regarding the work of the LEG in supporting the assessment by the SBI of the progress made in the process to formulate and implement NAPs, the NAP Global Network provided further details on its plans to contribute to the assessment by reviewing progress in the integration of gender considerations into the process to formulate and implement NAPs. UNDP offered to contribute to the assessment by reviewing progress in the integration of climate change adaptation into development planning. The LEG invited the organizations that prepared supplementary materials to consider contributing to the assessment by reviewing progress in the areas/topics of their supplements. Initial milestones that could help inform the assessment were discussed, such as the launching of the process, the framework, the mandate, assessment reports, NAP documents, efforts to access support, policies, projects and programmes being implemented, monitoring and evaluation, and formal reporting to the UNFCCC.

VII. Update on the priorities of the rolling work programme of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group for 2017–2018

80. The LEG successfully conducted five regional training workshops in 2017, focusing on elements B (preparatory elements), C (implementation strategies) and D (reporting, monitoring and review) of the process to formulate and implement NAPs. The approach to achieving synergy with the SDGs, the Sendai Framework and national development goals in the formulation, implementation and monitoring of NAPs was thoroughly discussed and applied. Access to the GCF was also an important topic, and participants interacted extensively with the GCF secretariat and international agencies able to act as implementing entities.

81. The LEG also conducted two regional NAP Expos and initiated plans for the next global NAP Expo, to take place at the end of March or in early April in 2018 in Bonn. The LEG is inviting relevant organizations that are holding regional events on adaptation to consider hosting a regional NAP Expo in collaboration with the LEG.

82. In supporting the SBI in assessing progress on NAPs, the LEG is reaching out to relevant organizations to actively participate in the expert meeting to take place in February 2018 as part of the steps for the assessment as mandated in paragraph 12(d) of decision 4/CP.21.

83. The LEG will finalize several technical papers by the end of 2017, in response to mandates from the COP, and they will be made available to Parties via NAP Central.

84. The results of the joint work with the Adaptation Committee on mandates arising from the Paris Agreement are presented in document FCCC/SB/2017/2/Add.1–FCCC/SBI/2017/14/Add.1.

Annex**Members of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group as
at 7 August 2017**

Mr. Abias Huongo	Angola
Mr. Erwin Künzi	Austria
Ms. Sonam Khandu	Bhutan
Mr. Idrissa Semde	Burkina Faso
Ms. Beth Lavender	Canada
Mr. Adrian Fitzgerald	Ireland
Mr. Benon Yassin	Malawi
Mr. Naresh Sharma	Nepal
Mr. Aderito Santana	Sao Tome and Principe
Mr. Adao Barbosa	Timor-Leste
Mr. Mery Yaou	Togo
Mr. Fredrick Manyika	United Republic of Tanzania
Mr. Brian Phillips	Vanuatu
