

Submission by the Adaptation Committee

Views on the 2013 Long-Term Finance Work Programme

March 15, 2013

1. As the overall advisory body to the Conference of the Parties on adaptation to the adverse effects of climate change, the Adaptation Committee has the task of promoting the implementation of enhanced action on adaptation in a coherent manner under the Convention. Thus, the Adaptation Committee welcomes the invitation to present its views on the Long Term Finance (LTF) work programme in 2013.
2. The adverse effects of climate change are already being felt. They are substantial and on-going, making adaptation absolutely critical. The costs of adaptation are significant, and while estimates vary, it is clear that there is a need for long-term finance for adaptation to adverse effects of climate change. The Adaptation Committee underscores that the international community cannot think about long-term finance for adaptation without recognizing the linkages and synergies of adaptation with sustainable development.
3. The Adaptation Committee urges the LTF work programme to take into consideration all the relevant provisions of the Convention and subsequent decisions related to adaptation and finance, and to give adaptation the same level of attention as to mitigation in carrying out its mandate for 2013.
4. The Adaptation Committee would like to underscore the following key issues for consideration by the LTF work programme in 2013:
 - a. The first issue is the importance of facilitating greater coherence on adaptation finance. This includes ensuring that adaptation is a core focus in the work of the Standing Committee and the climate finance forum, if it is established as recommended by the co-chairs' of the LTF work programme. Promoting coherence also includes assessing what delivery methods for adaptation finance are currently being used, and how those methods can be improved, especially in the context of the Green Climate Fund, through which a significant share of new multilateral funding for adaptation is expected to flow. This also includes exploring how the Cancun Adaptation Framework can be used to galvanize increased financial resources for adaptation, including from public and private sources.
 - b. The second issue is the importance of exploring pathways to mobilizing long-term finance for adaptation, specifically. This includes exploring ways in which to further enable the mobilization of long-term public sector finance, ways in which to address the possible gap in the availability of adaptation finance for the Adaptation Fund, and the factors that may hinder or enable private sector engagement in adaptation finance.
5. The Adaptation Committee would welcome the opportunity to engage with the LTF work programme this year on these issues. We have the technical expertise and capacity to provide information about adaptation, including on priority sectors and issues, lessons learned, and good practices as countries adapt to the adverse effects of climate change. The outputs of the Adaptation Committee's work will be available to the LTF work programme, including for inclusion in co-chairs' summary report, as appropriate.