

B. Elements to be included in the Work Programme of the Cancun

Adaptation Framework

1. Introduction

What is being proposed hereunder is based on land-locked Ethiopia's Draft Programme of Adaptation to Climate Change with some ideas on coastal areas added. It is aimed at fulfilling Paragraph 28 of Decision 1/CP.16 of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC taken in Cancun, Mexico, in December 2010, which invites Parties to submit by 21 February 2011, their views on what elements should be included in the work programme on adaptation.

Ethiopia's interest is in the substance of the ideas written hereunder and, if it so wishes, the UNFCCC secretariat can express them in different words and in any format it finds appropriate.

2. The manifestations of climate change and the adaptive actions that they require

2.1 The manifestations of climate change and the risks that they pose usually vary from country to country, and may even vary within a given country. By combining the observed trends within a country with the predictions of weather events that are implied by the climate change predictions of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), and by rendering the combined information more specific through country-wide or even sub-country level modelling, each country Party should specify the risks posed to its various parts and to the various situations within its territory. The outcome should be shown in maps and distributed in the country Party to all decision makers and to the public.

2.2 Each country Party should develop a system of detailed weather forecasting and information dissemination so that the authorities and the public in the areas that are likely to be hit by extreme weather events are warned as far ahead of time as possible.

2.3 Awareness on climate change must be mainstreamed into development and service planning and implementation of all levels of governance so as to provide the requisite institutional capacity at all administrative levels.

- 2.4 The educational curricula at all levels should integrate adaptation to climate change into all relevant disciplines.
- 2.5 Research and development (R&D) for an effective programme of adaptation to climate change should be enhanced. Some of the sectors that will require focus in R&D, depending on the environmental specificities of the country Party, include:
- Plant and animal breeding for continuing good agricultural performance both in the changed climate and under the impacts of likely extreme weather events e.g. mean temperature rise and fluctuations thereof, marshland and soil salnization, droughts, floods;
 - Crop protection;
 - Monitoring crop pollinators so as to solve pollination problems that may arise;
 - Preventing land degradation and soil fertility loss from extreme weather event;
 - Preventing the spread of human, animal and crop diseases, disease vectors and pests;
 - Strengthening human and animal health care so as to act quickly and effectively when diseases are reported;
- 2.6 Both the *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation of crop genetic resources should be strengthened;
- 2.7 Protected areas in various environmental settings interconnected by corridors should be effectively managed and monitored to save biodiversity;
- 2.8 Organic wastes should be kept separate to avoid pollution and should be taken back from urban to rural areas for maintaining soil fertility;
- 2.9 Standards for infrastructure should be developed and enforced to withstand extreme weather events;
- 2.10 Enough food and feed should be stored for surviving the impacts of droughts and floods;
- 2.11 Settlements in areas prone to flooding or landslides should be relocated to safer settings;
- 2.12 The major cities by the sea should have dykes built to protect them from inundation;
- 2.13 All local communities should be helped to create their own respective local organizational structures that will enable them to act quickly and effectively in times of extreme weather events;

- 2.14 Whenever and wherever possible, renewable energy potential should be harnessed and the use of fossil fuels minimized;
- 2.15 Insurance schemes should be developed to write off damage from extreme weather events especially at the local community level;
- 2.16 Gender equality and care for the physically and mentally handicapped should be mainstreamed into all these activities.

3. Organizational structure

- 3.1 At the central government level, sectoral ministries and other sectoral agencies should be made specifically responsible for each of these specified activities. They should interact all the way down to the district level to ensure that their respective responsibilities are implemented at both rural and urban local community levels. Each administrative level, starting from the local community, should provide to the next higher level, annual reports of their accomplishments and problems of implementation.
- 3.2 At the level of each district, all these activities should be integrated so that the state agents interact with each local community in each city, town or village as the case may be, as a coordinated body speaking with one voice to convince the members of each local community of the need for and efficacy of the adaptation measures that it should take.
- 3.3 This information flow should be made through completely participatory discussion and persuasion and never through coercion.
- 3.4 This is because top-down decision taking is too slow in implementation in times of crises. Equally importantly, bottom-up decision taking is more likely to be well informed about local weaknesses, strengths and possibilities and is thus more likely to be quick and effective enough in times of hazard.