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Annual technical progress report of the Paris Committee on Capacity-building

Summary

This report covers the work of the Paris Committee on Capacity-building (PCCB) between September 2017 and August 2018. It includes information on the 2nd meeting of the PCCB and on PCCB membership, and covers progress made by the PCCB in the implementation of its 2017–2019 rolling workplan. Information on activities related to the 2017 and 2018 focus area or theme of the PCCB is also included, as are recommendations of the PCCB for the Subsidiary Body for Implementation to consider and forward to the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate.

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I. Introduction

A. Mandate

1. In decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 71, the Conference of the Parties (COP) decided to establish the Paris Committee on Capacity-building (PCCB), whose aim would be to address gaps and needs, both current and emerging, in implementing capacity-building in developing country Parties and further enhancing capacity-building efforts, including with regard to coherence and coordination in capacity-building activities under the Convention.

2. The PCCB, as per its terms of reference, is to prepare annual technical progress reports on its work for submission to the COP through the Subsidiary Body of Implementation (SBI) and to make these reports available at the sessions of the SBI coinciding with the sessions of the COP.¹

B. Scope of the report

3. This report contains information on the work undertaken by the PCCB between September 2017 and August 2018. The report is divided into four chapters. Following this introductory chapter, chapter II contains recommendations of the PCCB to be forwarded by the SBI for consideration at COP 24. Chapter III provides information on the proceedings and outcomes of the 2nd meeting of the PCCB, held in May 2018, and chapter IV presents information on other work of the PCCB in the reporting period.

4. Contained in the annexes are a list of the members of the PCCB as at 21 September 2018 (annex I), and a concept note on a pilot exercise initiated by the PCCB at the national level on capacity gaps and needs related to the implementation of nationally determined contributions (NDCs) (annex II).

C. Possible action by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation

5. The SBI is invited to consider the information contained in this report. In particular, it may wish to consider the recommendations contained in chapter II below and forward them to the COP for consideration and adoption, as appropriate.

II. Recommendations to the Conference of the Parties

6. In its first annual technical progress report published in August 2017,² the PCCB, inter alia, recommended that the COP may wish to take note of a number of conclusions of the PCCB regarding the implementation of its rolling workplan for 2017–2019. Of relevance to this report is that the PCCB noted its aim to further explore and follow-up on the manifold **suggestions raised by participants at the one-day dedicated event on its 2017 focus area** or theme of capacity-building activities for the implementation of NDCs in the context of the Paris Agreement, held in May 2017. These suggestions included:

(a) The provision of references on the capacity-building portal to any useful capacity training modules or relevant materials;

(b) The creation of an inventory of other existing portals and platforms, including exploring how they could be usefully linked to the capacity-building portal;

(c) The need for establishing national focal points for capacity-building;

(d) The need for providing guidelines for reporting on capacity-building needs in national reports under the Convention, including national communications and biennial update reports;

¹ Decision 2/CP.22, annex, paragraph 17.

² FCCC/SBI/2017/11.

(e) The need for integrating gender considerations into capacity-building for climate action;

(f) The need for better coordination among different international and national stakeholders, and for partnering with entities at the subnational level, including cities, counties and provinces, to implement NDCs;

(g) The organization of capacity-building workshops and events, especially at the regional level.

7. The PCCB explored the suggestions in detail and is addressing those contained in paragraph 6(a), (b) and (e) above in its ongoing activities related to enhancing the capacity-building portal and to cross-cutting issues, which are outlined in chapter IV below. The suggestions contained in paragraph 6(c), (d), (f) and (g) above are addressed in paragraphs 9 and 10 below, which present the recommendations of the PCCB to COP 24.

8. At its 2nd meeting, the PCCB agreed on the following recommendations for the SBI to consider and forward to the COP. The COP may wish:

(a) To take note that the 2019 focus area or theme will be the same as for 2018 (capacity-building activities for the implementation of NDCs in the context of the Paris Agreement), as agreed by the PCCB;

(b) To note that representatives of the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism and the constituted bodies established under the Convention will be invited to participate in the 3rd meeting of the PCCB;

(c) To request the SBI to continue to ensure the thematic alignment of the Durban Forum on capacity-building with the focus area or theme of the PCCB;

(d) To invite Parties, representatives of the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism and the constituted bodies, United Nations organizations, observers and other stakeholders to collaborate with the PCCB in implementing its rolling workplan for 2017–2019;

(e) To invite Parties, representatives of the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism and the constituted bodies, United Nations organizations, observers and other stakeholders to support developing countries in the assessment of their capacity-building gaps and needs related to the implementation of their NDCs and potential ways to address those;

(f) To consider the need for additional resources to support the work of the PCCB in the light of its aim, established by decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 71, taking into account the invitation to Parties and relevant institutions in decision 16/CP.23, paragraph 6.

9. Based on its intersessional work in the reporting period, the PCCB also agreed on the following recommendations for the SBI to consider and forward to the COP. The COP may wish to encourage Parties:

(a) To assess capacity-building needs for implementing NDCs and identify ways to address them, communicating relevant information to the PCCB via submissions;

(b) To mainstream into the national development agenda the serious concern of addressing capacity-building gaps and needs related to the implementation of NDCs;

(c) To continue to promote country-driven approaches for capacity-building and the integration of international capacity-building support into existing national systems and resources for capacity-building;

(d) To continue to strengthen capacity-building institutions at the national level with a view to enhancing country ownership and to building and maintaining capacity over time and space;

(e) To promote capacity-building initiatives that are embedded in longer-term locally owned plans, pursue medium-term impacts rather than short-term outputs, facilitate peer-to-peer learning and experience-sharing, and involve support to beneficiary countries for institutional strengthening;

(f) To enhance capacity-building for communities and local government officials, given their role as central actors in responding to climate change related challenges;

- (g) To enhance collaborative initiatives for capacity-building at the local, national and regional level, including initiatives for sharing experience, good practices and lessons learned;
- (h) To foster networks and enhance collaboration with academia, research institutions and the private sector with a view to promoting individual, institutional and systemic capacity-building through education, training and public awareness;
- (i) To further enhance communication and consultation processes to ensure access to information by and the engagement of all stakeholders, including women, youth, local communities and indigenous peoples, as well as social actors such as workers' and employers' organizations, throughout the NDC planning and implementation process;
- (j) To enhance policymakers' capacity to address cross-cutting issues in climate action, such as gender responsiveness, human rights and just transition, indigenous peoples' knowledge, the role of cities, youth and Action for Climate Empowerment;
- (k) To further enhance capacities for tracking and reporting on NDC implementation in accordance with countries' needs and priorities;
- (l) To consider establishing national focal points for capacity-building;
- (m) To strengthen national institutions serving as national focal points of various climate change initiatives under the Convention and to establish a national mechanism for greater coordination among these focal points;
- (n) To promote the capacity-building portal as a climate capacity-building knowledge and information hub that provides quick access to local and national digital resources.

10. With regard to concrete activities in the rolling workplan for 2017–2019, the PCCB further agreed on the following recommendations for the SBI to consider and forward to the COP. The COP may wish:

- (a) To encourage the PCCB to continue the pilot exercise it initiated to provide information on capacity-building gaps and needs related to the implementation of NDCs at the national level and the preparation of the next round of NDCs, and to invite Parties and relevant institutions to provide support and resources to the PCCB for undertaking this activity;
- (b) To invite the PCCB to identify, with the support of the secretariat, opportunities to promote regional dialogues on capacity-building for NDC implementation and future NDC preparation, taking advantage of existing platforms and events;
- (c) To encourage the PCCB to promote ways for enhancing the coordination of capacity-building efforts at the national level, including through organizing workshops or meetings at the global and regional level in 2019 targeted at relevant national focal points under the Convention from selected countries, including focal points for climate change, technology needs assessments, national adaptation plans and NDCs, as well as at Green Climate Fund (GCF) National Designated Authorities and Global Environment Facility (GEF) Operational Focal Points, and to invite Parties and relevant institutions to provide support and resources to the PCCB for undertaking this activity;
- (d) To invite the PCCB to explore and recommend ways to enhance the reporting on capacity-building needs in national reports under the Convention, including national communications and biennial update reports;
- (e) To welcome the collaboration of the PCCB with non-Party stakeholders, including training institutions within and outside academia, and to encourage the PCCB to further strengthen its outreach to constituted bodies, Parties and non-Party stakeholders in order to further disseminate existing information and share knowledge;
- (f) To take note of the action steps required for the enhancement of the capacity-building portal prepared by the PCCB, with the support of the secretariat, and to invite Parties and other stakeholders to provide support for undertaking those actions recommended by the PCCB;

(g) To invite the PCCB to continue to provide guidance to the secretariat on the further development of the capacity-building portal, including on linking the portal with other existing worldwide portals to ease user access to information and knowledge-sharing, in accordance with requests from Parties and taking into consideration inputs from non-Party stakeholders;

(h) To invite the constituted bodies, Parties and non-Party stakeholders to share information on their work related to capacity-building under the Convention, the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement with the secretariat³ with a view to this information being included in the capacity-building portal;

(i) To invite the constituted bodies, Parties and non-Party stakeholders to continue to provide the following inputs to the PCCB in response to its open call for submissions:⁴

(i) Information or suggestions of relevance to proposed or existing areas of work of the PCCB, in line with its mandates;

(ii) Information on capacity-building activities for the implementation of NDCs and the preparation of future NDCs in the context of the Paris Agreement;

(iii) Information and suggestions regarding the enhancement of the capacity-building portal.

III. Second meeting of the Paris Committee on Capacity-building

A. Election of the Co-Chairs

11. Ms. Marzena Chodor (Poland) and Ms. Rita Mishaan (Guatemala) were elected as Co-Chairs of the PCCB for the term of one year, pursuant to decision 2/CP.22, annex, paragraph 8.

B. Proceedings

12. The 2nd meeting of the PCCB was held in Bonn, Germany, from 3 to 5 May 2018, in conjunction with SBI 48.

13. Of the 12 members of the PCCB (see annex I), 11 attended the meeting and 1 was absent with apologies.

14. The following representatives of the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism and the constituted bodies were nominated to participate in the 2nd meeting, in line with the annual focus area or theme of the PCCB:⁵

(a) Ms. Madeleine Diouf, Adaptation Committee;

(b) Mr. Clifford Polycarp, GCF secretariat;

(c) Ms. Milena Gonzalez Vasquez, GEF secretariat;

(d) Ms. Hana Hamadalla Mohamed, Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG);

(e) Mr. Ismo Ulvila, Standing Committee on Finance (SCF);

(f) Mr. Birama Diarra and Ms. Claudia Octaviano Villasana, Technology Executive Committee (TEC).⁶

³ Information should be sent to pccb@unfccc.int.

⁴ See <https://unfccc.int/node/180237>.

⁵ In accordance with decision 2/CP.22, annex, paragraph 3.

⁶ In some cases the official nominees were unable to attend the 2nd meeting of the PCCB, or parts thereof, and the respective body or entity was therefore represented by another member or other representative. The list of participants of the 2nd meeting of the PCCB is available at https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/LoP_PCCB_2.pdf.

15. In addition, observers representing Parties, non-governmental organizations, intergovernmental organizations, think tanks and multilateral development banks, as well as representatives of the secretariat of the Adaptation Fund Board, the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (CGE), the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts and the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN), attended the meeting and actively took part in the deliberations of the PCCB.

16. The meeting was broadcast live via Skype, except where otherwise decided by the PCCB, to allow for transparency and inclusiveness to the extent possible. The recordings of the meeting are available on demand on the PCCB web page.⁷ The meeting report and all other meeting documents are also available on the PCCB web page.

17. To promote the active participation of observers in its meeting, the PCCB engaged in a structured dialogue with the representatives of the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism and the constituted bodies on the implementation of its rolling workplan for 2017–2019, and exchanged views with these representatives on the 2018 focus area or theme of the PCCB. Furthermore, the PCCB invited all observers attending the meeting to provide statements or suggestions during the discussions on specific agenda items. Observers were also invited to provide written inputs during and after the meeting in order to contribute to the deliberations and work of the PCCB.⁸

18. Half a day of the meeting was dedicated to a stocktake of the outcomes of the 7th Durban Forum, which was held on 3 May 2018 in conjunction with the 2nd meeting of the PCCB, and at the request of the COP, was thematically aligned with the 2018 focus area or theme of the PCCB.

C. Outcomes

19. With regard to activities that support the implementation of its rolling workplan for 2017–2019, the PCCB agreed:

(a) To develop relevant strategies, including an outreach/communication strategy, a stakeholder engagement strategy, and a resource mobilization strategy in line with decision 16/CP.23, paragraph 6;

(b) To establish a vision and action plan for each working group within a well-defined time frame;

(c) To open its working groups to the participation of technical experts, subject to invitation by the PCCB;

(d) To collaborate with the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action in the context of capacity-building and climate action;

(e) To continue its collaboration with non-Party stakeholders, including in the context of the organization of the Capacity-building Day at COP 24;

(f) To identify options to strengthen the Durban Forum, including through regional dialogues building on the efforts of experts on the ground;

(g) To address the issue of loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change in its rolling workplan for 2017–2019 in the context of activities of the working groups, in line with decision 4/CP.22, paragraph 5;

(h) To continue to provide guidance to the secretariat to enhance the capacity-building portal by implementing the action plan of working group three, subject to the availability of financial resources;

(i) To invite PCCB members, on a voluntary basis, to provide information, where available, on the efforts being undertaken in their respective countries by various stakeholders,

⁷ <https://unfccc.int/node/10006#eq-3>.

⁸ Available at <https://unfccc.int/node/10006#eq-3>.

to identify capacity-building related needs and gaps in relation to the implementation of NDCs and to inform the work of the PCCB on capacity-building needs and gaps.

20. Concerning its focus area or theme for 2018, the PCCB agreed:

(a) In order to better collect and analyse information, and diffuse lessons learned and experiences, to enhance its collaboration with the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism, the constituted bodies of the Convention, and other organizations and initiatives promoting capacity-building support for the implementation of NDCs;

(b) To recognize and continue to address capacity-building gaps related to cross-cutting issues, such as human rights and just transition, gender responsiveness and indigenous peoples' knowledge, in the context of the implementation of NDCs;

(c) To pursue the organization of activities (e.g. a side event at COP 24 or an intersessional workshop) on the issue of human rights and climate change, in order to better understand capacity gaps and to identify actions to fill those gaps;

(d) To create an area in the capacity-building portal dedicated to the integration of cross-cutting issues into climate change plans, such as Action for Climate Empowerment, gender responsiveness, indigenous peoples' knowledge and human rights, subject to the availability of resources.

21. With regard to its focus area or theme for 2019, the PCCB agreed:

(a) To continue the 2018 focus area or theme in 2019;

(b) In line with this agreement, to issue an invitation to the following bodies to be represented in the 3rd meeting of the PCCB: the Adaptation Committee, the GCF, the GEF, the LEG, the SCF and the TEC;

(c) To invite representatives of other bodies established under the Convention and the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism to identify representatives to collaborate, as appropriate, on specific activities related to the work of the PCCB, and particularly to encourage a representative of the CTCN to participate in the 3rd meeting of the PCCB.

IV. Intersessional work of the Paris Committee on Capacity-building in the reporting period

A. Background on the workplan

22. At COP 21, Parties decided that the PCCB would manage and oversee the capacity-building workplan which COP 21 launched for the period 2016–2020.⁹

23. As part of the third comprehensive review of the implementation of the framework for capacity-building in developing countries under the Convention, COP 22 invited the PCCB, in managing the capacity-building workplan for the period 2016–2020, to take into consideration a number of additional areas, including cross-cutting issues, linkages and synergies with other actors under and outside the Convention and the Paris Agreement, work on capacity-building indicators and reporting on capacity-building activities.¹⁰

24. The COP decided¹¹ that the PCCB would annually focus on an area or theme related to enhanced technical exchange on capacity-building, with the purpose of maintaining up-to-date knowledge on the successes and challenges in building capacity effectively in a particular area. SBI 45 agreed that in 2017 the first focus area or theme for the PCCB would be capacity-building activities for the implementation of NDCs in the context of the Paris

⁹ Decision 1/CP.21, paragraphs 72 and 73.

¹⁰ Decision 16/CP.22, paragraph 4.

¹¹ Decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 74.

Agreement.¹² The PCCB subsequently agreed at its 1st and 2nd meetings to keep the same focus area or theme for the years 2018 and 2019, respectively.

25. On the basis of the 2016–2020 capacity-building workplan and the issues arising from the third comprehensive review of the implementation of the framework for capacity-building in developing countries under the Convention, and in the light of the review of the PCCB scheduled to take place at COP 25,¹³ the PCCB developed a rolling workplan for the period 2017–2019, which it adopted at its 1st meeting. It also agreed to implement its rolling workplan, to the extent possible, through the lens of its annual focus area or theme.¹⁴

26. To enhance the implementation of its rolling workplan, the PCCB, in 2017, established four theme-based working groups concerned with the following issues:

- (a) Strengthening linkages with existing bodies established under the Convention;
- (b) Addressing cross-cutting issues such as gender responsiveness, human rights and indigenous peoples' knowledge;
- (c) Enhancing the capacity-building portal;
- (d) Identifying capacity gaps and needs.¹⁵

27. In June 2017, the PCCB issued a call for submissions from constituted bodies, Parties and other interested stakeholders of information relevant to the work of the PCCB, including its annual focus area or theme and the capacity-building portal. In response to this call, 4 inputs were received from the constituted bodies and 16 inputs from Parties and other interested stakeholders.¹⁶ The information in the submissions on the focus area or theme will guide the work of the PCCB in the remainder of 2018 as well as in 2019 with the same focus area or theme. Suggestions in the submissions on enhancing the capacity-building portal fed directly into the development of the action steps for enhancing the portal prepared by the PCCB.

B. Progress in the implementation of the rolling workplan for 2017–2019

1. Work on strengthening linkages with the constituted bodies and other actors and processes under and outside the Convention

28. The PCCB organized a side event during COP 23, on 6 November 2017, to inform Parties and observers of its activities in 2017, the year in which it held its 1st meeting and became operational. More specifically, the side event served to present the results of the one-day technical exchange of the PCCB on its 2017 focus area or theme, which was held on 12 May, during the 1st meeting of the PCCB, and to further discuss this topic. The side event also served as a platform for the PCCB to discuss with stakeholders the value and role of the capacity-building portal and ways to further enhance it.

29. In the context of its engagement with non-State actors at COP 23, the PCCB participated actively in the Capacity-building Day on 16 November 2017, which was organized by several universities, research institutions and United Nations organizations. The event focused on capacity-building initiatives for enhancing the implementation of NDCs, and brought together researchers, negotiators and policymakers so that they could exchange knowledge and information related to implementing Article 11 of the Paris Agreement. In addition to opening remarks by one of the PCCB Co-Chairs, PCCB members engaged in a session dedicated to exploring how the PCCB can support the implementation of NDCs. To maintain and deepen its collaboration with non-Party stakeholders, the PCCB is actively involved in preparations for the second Capacity-building Day, during COP 24. Both PCCB Co-Chairs are members of the organizing committee.

¹² FCCC/SBI/2016/20, paragraph 91.

¹³ Decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 81.

¹⁴ See PCCB document PCCB/2017/1/4, paragraphs 1 and 2. Available at <https://unfccc.int/index.php/fr/node/10006#eq-1>.

¹⁵ Information on the working groups and their membership is available at <https://unfccc.int/node/66790>.

¹⁶ Available at <https://unfccc.int/node/15942>.

30. The PCCB also initiated targeted collaboration with non-Party stakeholders at COP 23 on plans to raise awareness of climate-related capacity-building activities and opportunities through the use of social media tools. This collaboration was initiated at a workshop hosted by the Climate Knowledge Brokers Group on 11 November 2017, where volunteers agreed to provide support to the PCCB by maintaining and contributing regularly to a PCCB Facebook account.

31. On the sidelines of the forty-eighth sessions of the subsidiary bodies, in response to a request from the TEC, members of the PCCB working group on linkages with constituted bodies met with members of the TEC task force on emerging and cross-cutting issues to exchange views and perspectives on the issue of endogenous capacities and technologies. As a follow-up to this meeting, PCCB members shared an electronic survey on endogenous capacities and technologies prepared by the TEC with their own networks to help increase the number of responses. The survey results will be presented at the 17th meeting of the TEC, to be held in September 2018.

32. PCCB Co-Chair Ms. Mishaan met with representatives of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism to discuss collaboration opportunities between the two bodies. It was agreed that the PCCB would work on the issue of loss and damage in the context of its rolling workplan for 2017–2019 and its ongoing work on capacity gaps and needs.

33. The PCCB made progress in engaging with constituted bodies on how to better link existing knowledge and information resources under the Convention. Activities undertaken in linking various knowledge portals are described in chapter IV.B.3 below.

34. Back to back with its 2nd meeting, the PCCB held an informal meeting with representatives of the NDC Partnership to discuss areas for collaboration. The areas identified are (1) sharing of knowledge and dissemination of information on capacity-building related to NDC implementation through, for example, linking the NDC Partnership knowledge portal with the capacity-building portal, and a social media project to be launched by the PCCB prior to COP 24; (2) exchange of information and knowledge on capacity gaps and needs related to NDC implementation at the national level; and (3) potential engagement of PCCB members in future NDC Partnership workshops or forums, particularly at the regional level. Collaborative activities have started and are expected to continue throughout 2018.

35. During the forty-eighth sessions of the subsidiary bodies, the PCCB Co-Chairs met with the high-level champions of global climate action to discuss opportunities for collaboration in the context of the Marrakesh Partnership for Global Climate Action, including, for example, during regional climate weeks. As a result of the meeting, the PCCB actively participated in the Latin American and Caribbean Climate Week, held from 20 to 23 August 2018 in Montevideo. PCCB Co-Chair Ms. Mishaan made presentations on the work of the PCCB and provided other formal inputs at the following events during the week:

- (a) CTCN Regional Forum;
- (b) The high-level segment/ministerial “Integrating all actors in NDC implementation”;
- (c) The workshop “Unlocking opportunities for NDC enhancement and implementation”.

36. On the sidelines of the forty-eighth sessions of the subsidiary bodies, the PCCB Co-Chairs met with a representative of the Capacity-building Initiative on Transparency (CBIT) to explore opportunities for collaboration. The CBIT, *inter alia*, supports assessments of capacity-building gaps and needs related to transparency, and further exchange is planned to identify opportunities to link these efforts with the work of the PCCB on identifying capacity gaps and needs. Other avenues for collaboration discussed include linking the CBIT platform with the capacity-building portal, and extending invitations to PCCB members to participate in regional meetings of the CBIT.

37. As a follow-up to its 2nd meeting, the PCCB commenced preparations for a side event at COP 24 to present progress made in its work in 2018 and to engage with interested stakeholders. The PCCB will also organize an exhibit at COP 24 to further enhance its engagement with various stakeholders. The exhibit will highlight the 2018 focus area or

theme of the PCCB and will serve as an opportunity to follow up on the outcomes of the 7th Durban Forum, which was thematically aligned with the focus area or theme of the PCCB. Further collaborative activities with stakeholders on topics such as human rights, gender responsiveness, capacity gaps and needs related to NDC implementation and the capacity-building portal are described in the subsequent sections of this chapter.

38. The PCCB will continue to engage with the other constituted bodies through established channels, such as through interactions during its formal meetings and side events and through calls for submissions, but also increasingly through informal exchanges with the nominated PCCB focal points of these bodies. Subject to the availability of financial resources, the PCCB is keen to increase its participation in the formal meetings of other bodies or at events organized intersessionally by them, such as technical workshops, the NAP Expo and SCF forums, in order to enhance synergies and coherence. The same applies to relevant events organized by stakeholders outside the Convention, particularly at the regional level.

39. To continue to benefit from the perspectives and knowledge of stakeholders in implementing its rolling workplan, the PCCB, in April 2018, launched an open call for submissions from interested stakeholders.¹⁷

2. Work on addressing cross-cutting issues

40. Following discussions with relevant stakeholders at its 2nd meeting, the PCCB highlighted that it will initially cover the following cross-cutting issues:

- (a) Gender responsiveness;
- (b) Human rights and just transition;
- (c) Indigenous peoples' knowledge;
- (d) Role of cities;
- (e) Youth and Action for Climate Empowerment elements.

41. To date, significant progress has been made regarding gender responsiveness, human rights and the role of cities.

42. Regarding gender responsiveness, the PCCB and the secretariat are collaborating on two activities to build the capacity of PCCB members and invited members of other constituted bodies for integrating gender considerations into climate action: (1) a webinar to be held in late October 2018 and (2) a technical workshop to be held in conjunction with COP 24. The objective of both activities is to enhance the capacity of the PCCB for integrating gender considerations into its work in support of the goals under the Lima work programme on gender and its action plan. The activities will also contribute to the work of the PCCB on its 2018 and 2019 focus area or theme, as well as other relevant mandates in the rolling workplan, including those related to cross-cutting issues and enhancing synergies and fostering dialogue, coordination, collaboration and coherence among relevant processes and initiatives under the Convention. The activities would also involve collaboration with external stakeholders, including expert organizations.

43. Concerning the cross-cutting issue of human rights, the PCCB, in collaboration with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and the Mary Robinson Foundation – Climate Justice (MRFCJ), has begun preparations for a joint side event at COP 24 on building capacity for the integration of human rights into climate action, including in the context of implementing NDCs. This event will include the sharing of concrete examples and existing good practices. The PCCB, OHCHR and MRFCJ intend to continue their collaboration by co-organizing a participatory workshop that would be held on the sidelines of the fiftieth sessions of the subsidiary bodies (June 2019), subject to the availability of financial resources.

44. On the role of cities, members of the PCCB working group on cross-cutting issues met with representatives of ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability during the forty-eighth sessions of the subsidiary bodies to develop initial ideas for further collaboration. This

¹⁷ See paragraph 10(i) above.

meeting was followed by further exchange on how to enhance the understanding of capacity gaps and needs at the city level and to catalyse the exchange of lessons learned, examples and methodologies in addressing those gaps and needs. The PCCB and ICLEI agreed to exchange information regularly with a view to identifying collaboration opportunities in the near future. ICLEI, as an associate member of the NDC Partnership, has been working in cooperation with the Partnership with a view to enhancing the understanding of capacity gaps and needs at the local and regional level, and the PCCB will continue discussions with ICLEI with a view to utilizing this knowledge in the context of its broader mandate to identify capacity gaps and needs.

3. Work on enhancing the capacity-building portal

45. The PCCB, through its working group on enhancing the capacity-building portal, made significant progress in providing guidance to the secretariat on the maintenance and further development of the portal. In order to do this, it drew on information contained in the submissions of Parties and non-Party stakeholders on the enhancement of the capacity-building portal,¹⁸ a background paper prepared by the secretariat to support the portal-related deliberations at the 2nd meeting of the PCCB¹⁹ and relevant inputs from participants at the first two meetings of the PCCB,²⁰ as well as on information available from web-based initiatives and resources.

46. The PCCB analysed feedback and lessons learned that are relevant for the further enhancement of the capacity-building portal that were provided at the 2nd meeting of the PCCB by the representatives of the Adaptation Committee, the CGE, the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism and the LEG. In response to this feedback, further enhancements to the capacity-building portal were made, including the posting of training materials of other constituted bodies and the provision of additional links to relevant initiatives, information and knowledge portals of other constituted bodies.

47. The PCCB continued its work on the identification of information gaps in the context of functionalities of the capacity-building portal with a view to addressing those gaps. At the same time, it provided information to the secretariat on relevant initiatives, databases and repositories of knowledge to be linked to the capacity-building portal.

48. In response to requests from Parties and non-Party stakeholders, and subsequent guidance from the PCCB, the secretariat ensured easier access to and greater prominence of the capacity-building portal on the UNFCCC website²¹ in time for the 2nd meeting of the PCCB. The process of enhancing the capacity-building portal, including changes related to cross-cutting issues, has continued since then, in line with the action steps to enhance the capacity-building portal that were prepared by the PCCB in a follow-up to its 2nd meeting.²²

49. The PCCB recognizes the need for transforming the capacity-building portal into a repository of knowledge about global climate change capacity-building and a central access point for information on relevant capacity-building activities and initiatives. However, owing to limited resources, not all the requested functionalities and available information can, at this point, be integrated into the portal. Until additional resources to develop an enhanced version of the portal become available, the secretariat will continue to present, on the capacity-building portal complementary resources web page,²³ information based on the recommendations of Parties and non-Party stakeholders.

50. The PCCB continued its collaboration with Parties and non-Party stakeholders on the use of social media tools, such as Facebook, to support the PCCB in its outreach activities. A pilot project has been initiated and is expected to be launched ahead of COP 24.²⁴ The

¹⁸ Available at <https://unfccc.int/node/15942>.

¹⁹ PCCB document PCCB/2018/2/4. Available at <https://unfccc.int/index.php/fr/node/10006#eq-3>.

²⁰ Reports on the PCCB meetings and related documents are available at <https://unfccc.int/node/10006>.

²¹ See <https://unfccc.int/node/337>.

²² The action steps on enhancing the capacity-building portal can be accessed at <https://unfccc.int/node/67108#eq-1>.

²³ <https://unfccc.int/node/77594>.

²⁴ See PCCB document PCCB/2018/2/4, paragraph 8. Available at <https://unfccc.int/index.php/fr/node/10006#eq-3>.

PCCB is exploring ways and means of encouraging greater involvement of volunteers in ensuring the visibility of the PCCB on social media.

4. Work on identifying capacity gaps and needs

51. The identification of capacity gaps and needs is one of the core areas of work of the PCCB. The PCCB agreed at its 1st meeting to conduct the following work:

(a) Perform an assessment of capacity-building needs as identified in relevant sources, such as NDCs, biennial update reports, national communications and reports of the Durban Forum;

(b) Perform an assessment of the work conducted by other constituted bodies of relevance to this subject matter, with a view to identifying gaps, solutions and synergies.

52. To support the work outlined in paragraph 51 above, the PCCB issued a call for submissions from constituted bodies, Parties and other interested stakeholders, as mentioned in paragraph 39 above. The PCCB subsequently analysed the submissions and relevant work conducted by the constituted bodies and actors outside the Convention. The outcomes of this preliminary analysis fed into an internal working document of the PCCB, which aims to guide its activities on capacity gaps and needs.

53. The PCCB gained important insights from the analysis into capacity gaps and needs related to integrating cross-cutting issues, such as human rights, gender responsiveness, indigenous peoples' knowledge and the role of cities, into NDC implementation, and these insights contributed to the strong focus on addressing this matter in the rolling workplan for 2017–2019 (see chapter IV.B.2 above for progress in this area of work). The analysis also revealed significant capacity gaps and needs in measurement, reporting and verification and in transparency, and, as highlighted in paragraph 36 above, the PCCB has initiated an exchange with the CBIT to explore ways to address these existing gaps and needs.

54. In addition, the PCCB identified the need to gather more in-depth information on the capacity-building challenges related to NDC implementation at the country level in order to be able to develop informed and balanced policy recommendations to the COP. The PCCB, therefore, agreed at its 2nd meeting to launch a pilot exercise at the national level to assess capacity gaps and needs in implementing NDCs. Six PCCB members volunteered to participate in the pilot exercise, which aims to capture gaps and needs in the following areas:

- (a) Institutional capacity for governance and coordination;
- (b) Technical capacity, including sectoral expertise, for modelling and evaluation;
- (c) Relational capacity for building partnerships and investing time in processes;
- (d) Strategic capacity for systemic policy design and implementation.

55. The PCCB intends to collaborate closely with relevant stakeholders, including the NDC Partnership, to make use of existing knowledge and available information related to capacity-building for NDC implementation and to develop and utilize synergies.

56. The information gathered during the pilot exercise is expected to feed into a synthesis report of the PCCB on capacity gaps and needs related to NDC implementation, potentially including policy recommendations to COP 25. It may also feed into guidance on how to conduct capacity gaps and needs assessments, which the PCCB is aiming to prepare.²⁵

57. The pilot exercise is expected to be concluded by the end of 2018 to allow for the preparation and publication of the synthesis report ahead of the 3rd meeting of the PCCB in conjunction with the fiftieth sessions of the subsidiary bodies. Further information on the pilot exercise is included in annex II.

²⁵ See document FCCC/SBI/2017/11, paragraph 6(b)(iii).

Annex I

Members of the Paris Committee on Capacity-building as at 21 September 2018

Members from the five United Nations regional groups

Ms. Marzena Chodor (Poland)
Ms. Jeniffer Hanna (Dominican Republic)
Mr. Mahawan Karuniasa (Indonesia)
Mr. Kakhaberi Mdivani (Georgia)
Ms. Rita Mishaan (Guatemala)
Mr. Mohamed Nbou (Morocco)
Ms. Renilde Ndayishimiye (Burundi)
Mr. Matti Nummelin (Finland)
Ms. Vedis Vik (Norway)
Ms. Yongxiang Zhang (China)

Member from the least developed countries

Mr. Mfumu Richard Lungu (Zambia)

Member from small island developing States

Mr. Crispin d’Auvergne (Saint Lucia)

Annex II

Concept note on the national-level pilot exercise of the Paris Committee on Capacity-building on capacity gaps and needs related to the implementation of nationally determined contributions

1. Background

1. The aim of the Paris Committee on Capacity-building (PCCB) is to address gaps and needs, both current and emerging, in implementing capacity-building in developing country Parties and further enhancing capacity-building efforts, including with regard to coherence and coordination in capacity-building activities under the Convention.¹

2. At its 2nd meeting, held from 3 to 5 May 2018, the PCCB agreed “to invite PCCB members, on a voluntary basis, to provide information, where available, on the efforts being done in their respective countries by various stakeholders, to identify capacity-building related needs and gaps in relation to the implementation of NDCs, to inform the work of the PCCB on capacity-building needs and gaps”.²

2. Scope of the exercise

3. PCCB members participating in the exercise will reach out to key stakeholders involved in NDC implementation in their respective countries to gather comprehensive information on NDC-related capacity gaps and needs. Information will be collected on gaps and needs in the following areas, where available:

- (a) Institutional capacity for governance and coordination;
- (b) Technical capacity, including sectoral expertise, for modelling and evaluation;
- (c) Relational capacity for building partnerships and investing time in processes;
- (d) Strategic capacity for systemic policy design and implementation.

4. Potential sources of information for the synthesis report that will be prepared as a result of this exercise include national communications and biennial update reports of Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention, any capacity needs assessments conducted in the respective countries, reports and publications of the constituted bodies, publications of bilateral or multilateral capacity-building providers and reports of the Durban Forum on capacity-building, as well as inputs from Parties and other stakeholders received by the PCCB in 2017 following its call for submissions on information related to its annual focus area or theme.

5. As the next step, discussions could be held with key actors in the respective countries to identify factors for success, good practices and lessons learned with regard to closing existing capacity gaps. Stakeholders who could be contacted include the NDC Partnership and national focal points under the Convention, including focal points for climate change, national adaptation plans, nationally appropriate mitigation actions, technology needs assessments, the Adaptation Fund, the Climate Technology Centre and Network, the Global Environment Facility (including the Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency) and the Green Climate Fund. National and international capacity-building providers may also have relevant information to share.

6. The information gathered by the PCCB members undertaking the exercise will feed into a synthesis report of the PCCB on capacity gaps and needs related to NDC implementation, which could include high-level policy recommendations to the COP. The

¹ Decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 71.

² PCCB document PCCB/2018/2/8, paragraph 15(i). Available at <https://unfccc.int/index.php/fr/node/10006#eq-3>.

information could also potentially feed into other documents, such as a toolkit for capacity gaps and needs assessment. A compilation of identified good practices and lessons learned, including from work on capacity-building by other bodies established under the Convention,³ could be included in an annex to the synthesis report.

3. Time frame

7. The pilot exercise is expected to be concluded by the end of 2018 to allow for the preparation and publication of the synthesis report ahead of the 3rd meeting of the PCCB in conjunction with the fiftieth sessions of the subsidiary bodies (June 2019).

³ Decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 73(e).