

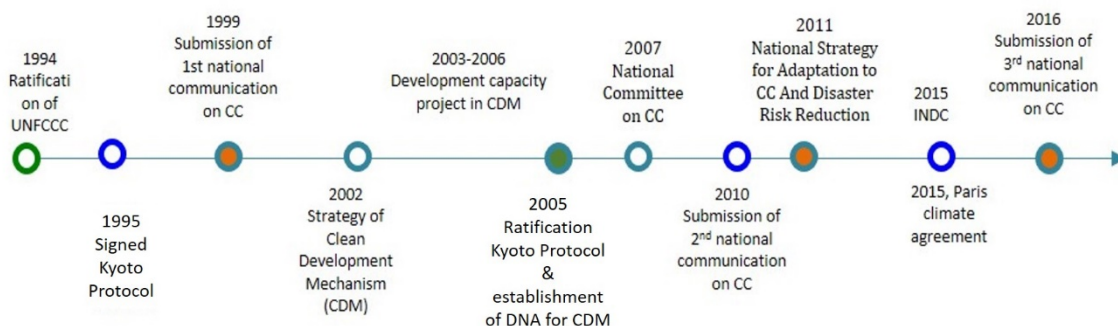
Submission by the Arab Republic of Egypt on 2018 Facilitative Dialogue/ Talanoa Dialogue

● Where are we?

- Guiding principles that govern our approach to climate change

Egypt is among the first Arab countries to join the cooperative global efforts to confront climate change threats according to the principles of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities (CBDR) and respective capabilities. The establishment of the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA) in 1982 followed by the creation of the Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs in 1997 signified Egypt's commitment towards environmental protection. In order to improve the governance of climate change in Egypt, the prime Minister established the National Council on Climate Change in 2015. Since the Rio de Janeiro Earth Summit in 1992, Egypt ratified the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 1994, the Kyoto Protocol in 2005 and Paris Agreement in 2016.

Egypt submitted its initial, second and third national communications to the UNFCCC in 1999, 2010 and 2016 respectively. Also, National Environmental, Economic and Development Study (NEEDS) for Climate Change was developed in 2010 and Egypt's first Biennial Update Report (BUR) is underway and expected to be submitted to the UNFCCC by the end of 2018. The reports presented several adaptation and mitigation measures to play an effective role in achieving the main target of the UNFCCC. Since then, the country adopted a range of policy actions to respond to climate change challenges as visualized below.



- Climate Change Vulnerability and Adaptation in Egypt

Egypt is highly vulnerable to climate change impacts. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), Egypt's Nile Delta¹ is one of the world three "extreme" vulnerability hot spots, and future projections indicate that Egypt will suffer from the following climate change impacts: sea level rise; water scarcity and deficit, and an increase in the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events such as heat waves, flash floods, heavy rains, sand and dust storms. This will lead to major

impacts on infrastructure, beaches and fertile land in the Nile Delta as they are subject to erosion, salt water intrusion and inundation. Consequently, food security, human health, economy and ecosystems in Egypt are at risk. Sectors which are projected to be particularly affected include water resources, agriculture and fisheries, health, housing and settlements, biodiversity, telecommunications, energy, tourism, as well as coastal zones and coral reefs. For example, in the agriculture sector, crops will consume more water as the evaporation rate increases, leading to a decrease in productivity of staple food (wheat, maize, rice, tomatoes), and also sugar cane and milk. Reduction in the growth rates of cattle and poultry are also anticipated. Sea level rise is projected to lead to the loss of a sizeable proportion of the northern part of the Nile Delta due to a combination of inundation and erosion, with consequential loss of agricultural and urban areas.

Consequently, Egypt has developed a strong policy framework underpinned by the 2011 National Adaptation Strategy (NAS 2011) and high-level political institutions which have the mandate to implement it. The strategy aims at increasing the flexibility of Egypt to tackle the risks and negative impacts of climate change on various sectors. The strategy is regularly updated to integrate new scientific information and findings from studies.

- Climate Change Mitigation efforts in Egypt

Although the very low contribution of Egypt to the global Greenhouse gases emissions, according to the third national communication report of Egypt published in 2016 Egypt's emissions was 247.9 Million Tons CO₂e in 2005 which represents around 0.6% of the global emission. Egypt has taken many actions to mitigate greenhouse gases emissions:

- After ratification of Kyoto Protocol in 2005, Egypt has actively engaged in the clean development mechanism and has successfully registered 26 projects and program of activities in the renewable energy, energy efficiency, industry & waste management, where these projects contribute to the global mitigation efforts, most of them is currently facing many challenges due to the low prices of certified emission reduction because of the lack of demand due to the modest level of ambition by developed countries under Kyoto Protocol.
- The country embarked on ambitious targets where The Sustainable Energy Strategy to 2035 approved in October 2016 targeting to reach 37% of electricity generation from renewable builds on previous strategies emphasizing the importance of renewable power and confirms the target (established in 2008) for renewable sources to provide 20% of electricity generation by 2022.
- Reducing energy subsidies depending on the consumption level leading to

rationalization energy consumption and then reduce emissions.

- Applying Feed-in-Tariff system to promote extensive use and dissemination of photovoltaic and wind as well as those of waste to energy.
- It has prepared the National Energy Efficiency Action Plan (NEEAP) of Electricity Sector (2012 - 2015) that has been renewed for 2018 – 2020 in the context of Sustainable Energy Strategy to 2035, reinforcing energy efficiency standards, expanding energy efficiency labeling for household appliances, application of energy efficiency code for buildings and disseminating efficient lighting.
- Transport sector improvements using natural gas in commercial vehicles; extending the electrified underground transportation to new areas in Greater Cairo; intensifying the use of environmentally sound river transport; facilitating the replacement of old taxis; and vehicles utilizing fuel cells are to grow as their economics improve.
- Started to enhance the institutional structure for identifying nationally appropriate mitigation actions NAMAs in various sectors the context of national development.

Accordingly, Egypt has developed its Sustainable Development Strategy 2030 to ensure transformation to a low GHG emissions, resilient and adaptive development pathway. SDS 2030 strategic objective number 4 under the environment pillar is concerned with fulfilment of Egypt's obligations with environmental agreements, and ensuring their compatibility with national policies and plans. The projects and programmes for economic and environmental development until 2030 in the SDS that are related to climate change include: legislative reforms to improve climate investment; climate change mitigation and protection of coastal establishments; developing the infrastructure required to reduce air pollution and face climate change; and adopt policies to reduce air pollution, adjust to climate change and protect the environment. Achieving this very ambitious objective is beyond the domestic financial capabilities. Therefore, support from developed countries and international funding agencies is necessary to cover the financial gap.

In light of what has been submitted above, Egypt would like to take this opportunity to share the following recommendations:

- The principles of equity and CBDR should be implemented across the Paris Agreement Work Program.
- We also believe that the entire process should be cognizant of the priority accorded by developing countries to achieving sustainable economic growth and eradication of poverty.
- It is important to maintain a simple approach to the discussion of Talanoa Dialogue

in order to ensure inclusivity to all, where the key task of preparatory phase is to process and synthesize the inputs, where inputs from Parties, official national reports, and reports from intergovernmental organizations should be prioritized, it is also important to benefit from experiences shared by non-Party stakeholders.

- The key messages from the inputs from all contributors should be reflected precisely and in a balance manner in the outcomes of the process.
- While arranging the agenda of the dialogue every effort must be made to avoid conflicts with other negotiating tracks in order to ensure maximum participation in this important endeavor. Furthermore, we wish to recall that the objective of the dialogue is essentially facilitative and hence should not result in any excessive burden on parties.
- The outcome of the Talanoa Dialogue should reflect the discussions in a balanced manner, with a focus on feasible, practical and realistic solutions to address climate change challenges.
- The summary of the political phase should capture the key messages from the roundtables, with a view to promoting more ambitious actions with regard to both sustainable development and combating climate change.
- It is imperative to establish a clear process for monitoring progress and reporting of financial support and identifying ways to further scale up funds with balance between adaptation and mitigation, taking into account country-driven strategies, and the priorities and needs of developing country Parties.
- The need to focus on technology development and transfer as a primary means for addressing climate change and removing all barriers that may hinder it.
- Assess and enhance pre-2020 commitments and actions.