

## AC Thematic dialogues

### Draft options paper

#### Recommended action by the Adaptation Committee

The Adaptation Committee (AC), at its 27<sup>th</sup> meeting, will be invited to consider the information and next steps contained in this note and provide further guidance, as appropriate.

## 1. Background

1. In the context of its joint mandate with the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG) to continue identifying and addressing priority gaps and needs of developing countries related to the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans<sup>1</sup> and its overall mandate to promote the implementation of enhanced action on adaptation in a coherent manner under the Convention, the AC conducted in 2023 and 2024 a virtual thematic dialogue on addressing developing countries' capacity gaps in accessing adaptation funding, in collaboration with the NAP task force.<sup>2</sup>
2. Taking into account the success of the dialogue and the considerable interest that it provoked, the AC, at its 26<sup>th</sup> meeting, decided to conduct new thematic dialogues in conjunction with existing adaptation-related meetings as part of its 2025–2027 workplan and in collaboration with constituted bodies and United Nations agencies, as appropriate.

## 2. Considerations for future thematic dialogues

3. The following may be taken into account when planning for future thematic dialogues:

### 2.1. Objective

4. **What shall be the overall objective of the thematic dialogues, considering the functions, mandates and other regular activities of the AC?**
5. The following guiding questions may be considered:
  - i) Which of the AC's functions have so far been less addressed and could be further advanced through the thematic dialogues?
  - ii) How could the regular (annual) activities of the AC systematically build on each other in order to enhance coherence and maybe deep dive into a specific theme or themes? Which could be the role of the thematic dialogues in this context?
6. Figure 1 showcases one option of how the AC's regular (annual) activities could systematically build on each other. The thematic dialogues would in this case support the AC's functions of enhancing coherence and engagement with national, regional and international organizations, centres and networks. The two mandated activities shown at the bottom would help to identify the focus theme(s) (see also

<sup>1</sup> Decision 9/CP.27, paras 7–8.

<sup>2</sup> More information on the first part of the dialogue is available at <https://unfccc.int/event/ac-dialogue-capacity-gaps-access-adap-fund-part1> and on the second part of the dialogue at <https://unfccc.int/event/ac-dialogue-gaps-accessing-adaptation-funding-part2>.

section 2.2 below) and produce relevant outputs, including through the described activities. Other regular AC activities, such as the periodic advice to the NWP partner organizations and the contributions to the annual NAP Expo, could also be used to advance the selected theme(s), present respective outputs and enable feedback loops between AC knowledge products and country needs.

7. In terms of timing it may be considered to organize the activities according to a two-year thematic cycle to align with the periodicity of the synthesis reports on recognizing adaptation efforts of developing country Parties and the Adaptation Forum and to allow for an in-depth consideration of the selected theme(s).

## 2.2. Themes

8. **Which themes shall be selected for the annual thematic dialogues in order to effectively advance the work of the AC and adaptation activities of Parties?**

9. The following may be considered for the selection of themes:

- i) The UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience has been established to guide the achievement of the global goal on adaptation and the review of overall progress in achieving it;<sup>3</sup>
- ii) Parties have been acknowledging the linkages between the targets of the UAE Framework and other adaptation processes such as the formulation and implementation of NAPs (e.g. decision 2/CMA.5, para 10 (a)-(c), para 16 and para 47), adaptation reporting (decision 2/CMA.5, para 16 and para 45), and the assessment of progress towards the global goal on adaptation (decision 2/CMA.5, para 38 (b) and decision 3/CMA.6, para 22), among others;
- iii) Work of the AC in supporting these processes, e.g. as mandated through decision 9/CP.27, paras 7-8 and decision 2/CMA.5, paras 44 and 45 and other work, such as that on the State of Adaptation Action by Parties and on reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support, in collaboration with the LEG and the SCF, needs to also acknowledge these linkages;
- iv) Hence, it is recommended that the themes selected for the thematic dialogues effectively advance work under several of these interlinked workstreams and support Parties in making progress towards the UAE Framework's targets.

## 2.3. Setting

10. **Which setting would be most appropriate to conduct the dialogues?**

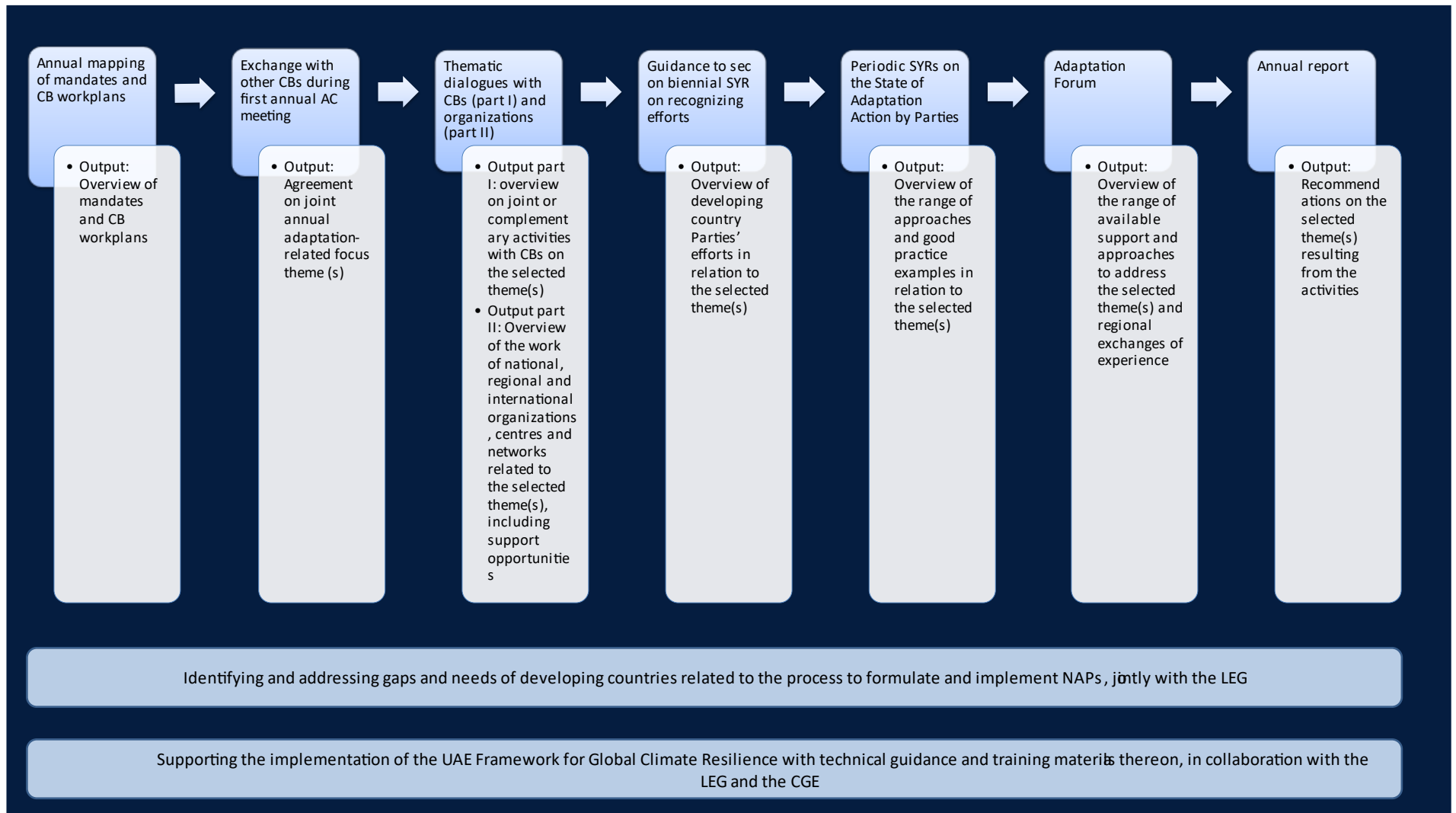
11. The following may be considered:

- i) The setting for the thematic dialogues could either be in-person, virtual or hybrid, subject to the concrete theme and objective of the respective dialogue and relevant adaptation-related meetings that it would be linked to, if desired (see section 3 below);
- ii) Resource availability.

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<sup>3</sup> Decision 2/CMA.5, para 7.

Figure 1: Option to systematically organize the AC's regular (annual) activities



### 3. Options for conducting thematic dialogues in 2025/2026

12. The following options could be considered for conducting thematic dialogues in 2025/2026:

	Theme/focus	Setting and timing	Resource requirements
<b>Option 1</b>	<p>A theme could be selected following the process outlined in figure 1 and taking into account discussions and outcomes of relevant items at AC 27. Possible topics include i) impact, vulnerability and risk and adaptive capacity assessments; ii) adaptation effectiveness and progress; iii) adaptation reporting.</p> <p>The two parts of the dialogue, as suggested in figure 1, would help to map out and analyze work by constituted bodies as well as national, regional and international organizations, centres and networks related to the selected theme(s), ensure complementarity and/or initiate collaboration, and provide the basis for subsequent AC activities such as the periodic SoA synthesis reports or the Adaptation Forum, which could continue the consideration of the theme(s).</p>	<p><b><u>Setting:</u></b></p> <p>A virtual setting would be most appropriate for the two parts of the dialogue as proposed in figure 1</p> <p><b><u>Timing:</u></b></p> <p><b>Option 1a)</b></p> <p>Conduct the dialogue in 2025</p> <p><b>Option 1b)</b></p> <p>Conduct the dialogue in 2026, taking into account the upcoming updated technical guidelines for the formulation and implementation of NAPs and the outcomes of the UAE-Belém work programme on indicators for the selection of the theme(s)</p>	<p>Low financial resources;</p> <p>high human resources</p>
<b>Option 2</b>	<p><b>(Regional) experience sharing on developing finance strategies for NAPs</b></p> <p>This type of dialogue would build on the concept developed for the 6<sup>th</sup> Capacity-building Hub and on the capacity-building needs shared by participants of the AC's 2023/2024 thematic dialogue on access to adaptation finance.</p> <p>It would provide the opportunity for sharing experience on the required individual capacity (e.g. costing of adaptation, knowledge on financing sources and instruments); institutional capacity (e.g. institutional coordination and data sharing for the development of a finance and investment plan); and systemic capacity (e.g. requirements that</p>	<p><b><u>Setting:</u></b></p> <p>Preferably in-person setting</p> <p>Virtual or hybrid setting would require parallel thematic or regional breakout groups</p> <p><b><u>Timing:</u></b></p> <p><b>Option 2a)</b></p> <p>Apply for conducting the dialogue as part of the 7<sup>th</sup> Capacity-building Hub at COP 30 (2025) and adjust the concept in order to meet relevant requirements</p> <p><b>Option 2b)</b></p> <p>Propose to conduct the dialogue as part of the SCF Forum on accelerating climate action and resilience through financing for</p>	<p>The preferred in-person setting would likely require the highest financial and human resources, subject to the event that it would be linked to</p>

	Theme/focus	Setting and timing	Resource requirements
	<p>enable the different sorts of finance to flow).</p> <p>The concept for the dialogue could take into account the updated technical guidelines for NAPs, once available.</p>	<p>sustainable food systems and agriculture (8-9 September 2025) and adjust the concept in order to meet relevant requirements</p> <p><b>Option 2c)</b></p> <p>Conduct the dialogue in 2026 as part of the Adaptation Forum or NAP Expo</p>	
<b>Option 3</b>	<p>Conduct the dialogue to further explore any of the cross-cutting mandates as provided to the constituted bodies, including on gender (decisions <a href="#">3/CP.25</a>, para 12, and <a href="#">24/CP.27</a>, para 17), indigenous peoples and local communities (decision <a href="#">16/CP.26</a>, para 2) or ocean-based action (decision <a href="#">1/CP.26</a>, para 60).</p> <p>This form of the thematic dialogues could create new feedback loops between the AC's knowledge products and country needs.</p>	<p><b><u>Setting:</u></b></p> <p>Virtual, in person or hybrid, subject to selected theme and the event that the dialogue could potentially be linked to</p> <p><b><u>Timing:</u></b></p> <p><b>Option 3a)</b> 2025</p> <p><b>Option 3b)</b> 2026</p>	Subject to setting

#### 4. Next steps

13. The AC may wish to agree on one of the proposed options for conducting the thematic dialogues in 2025 or 2026 and provide further guidance to the secretariat on its organization.

#### Documentation information

Version	Date	Description
01.0	23 April 2025	AC27 This concept note including its next steps is for consideration by the AC.

Keywords: National adaptation plans, means of implementation, Adaptation, Resilience.