

## **Input by the Adaptation Committee on the work related to pre-2020 ambition and implementation**

### **I. Background**

1. The Conference of the Parties (COP), by its decision 1/CP.23, decided to convene a stocktake on pre-2020 implementation and ambition at COP 24. As part of this decision, the COP emphasized that enhanced pre-2020 ambition can lay a solid foundation for enhanced post-2020 ambition and recognized the importance of bringing visibility to and creating a more coherent understanding of the pre-2020 work of the UNFCCC bodies. To that effect, the COP decided to consider, inter alia, the inputs of the constituted bodies under the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol.

### **II. Input by the Adaptation Committee**

2. The Adaptation Committee (AC) is pleased to provide this input to the 2018 stocktake on pre-2020 implementation and ambition. As part of enhanced pre-2020 action, the COP, by its decision 1/CP.21, resolved to ensure the highest possible mitigation efforts in the pre-2020 period and recognized the social, economic and environmental value of voluntary mitigation actions and their co-benefits for adaptation, health and sustainable development.

3. In this context, the AC is of the view that the increasing awareness of impacts of climate change and adaptation costs in the context of insufficient mitigation action vis-à-vis the temperature goal established in the Paris Agreement can contribute significantly to mobilizing Parties to consider higher ambition.

4. Particularly relevant in this sense is Article 7.4 in which “Parties recognize that the current need for adaptation is significant and that greater levels of mitigation can reduce the need for additional adaptation efforts, and that greater adaptation needs can involve greater adaptation costs”. In fact, a key finding that emerges from the AC’s work, including the Technical Examination Process on Adaptation, is that the level of mitigation action will significantly influence the level of climate change impacts throughout the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

5. Scientific and technical knowledge of the linkages between mitigation and adaptation may provide useful context for this stocktake. The IPCC, for example, has indicated that “adaptation and mitigation are complementary strategies for reducing and managing the risks of climate change. Substantial emission reductions over the next few decades can reduce climate risks in the 21<sup>st</sup> century and beyond, increase prospects for effective adaptation, reduce the costs and challenges of mitigation in the longer term and contribute to climate-resilient pathways for sustainable development” (AR5 SPM, p.17). The relation between adaptation and mitigation can also produce significant synergies at a concrete level in several sectors. This approach can lead to innovative solutions that are cost-effective and context-specific.

#### **1. Technical Examination Process on Adaptation (TEP-A)**

6. As part of enhanced pre-2020 action, the COP, by its decision 1/CP.21 established the technical examination process on adaptation (TEP-A) to be organized by the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation and conducted by the AC with a

view to identifying concrete opportunities for strengthening resilience, reducing vulnerabilities and increasing the understanding and implementation of adaptation action.

7. The TEP-A includes the organization of annual technical expert meetings (TEMs) on specific policies, strategies and actions on adaptation to promote enhanced action prior to 2020; the preparation of annual technical papers on opportunities to enhance adaptation action and options to support their implementation; and the preparation of annual summary for policy makers to serve as input to high-level events organized in conjunction with each session of the COP during the period 2016–2020.

8. The AC established a working group to advise on the planning and implementation of the TEP-A, including the TEMs and the annual technical papers. The working group is composed of the AC and representatives of the LEG, the Standing Committee on Finance and the Technology Executive Committee, as well as representatives from business, industrial, research and environmental non-governmental organizations.

9. The 2016-2018 TEMs, including most recently the 2018 regional TEMs, were successful in contributing to the objectives of the TEP-A, mainly:

- Facilitating the sharing of good practices, experiences and lessons learned;
- Identifying actions that could significantly enhance the implementation of adaptation actions, including actions that could enhance economic diversification and have mitigation co-benefits;
- Promoting cooperative action on adaptation;
- Identifying opportunities to strengthen enabling environments and enhance the provision of support for adaptation in the context of specific policies, practices and actions.

10. The outputs<sup>1</sup> of the 2016-2018 TEMs are included in the following technical papers:

- 2016: [Opportunities and options for enhancing adaptation actions and supporting their implementation: reducing vulnerability and mainstreaming adaptation](#). It contributes to the understanding of how good practices and lessons learned can lay the foundation for the enhanced implementation of pre-2020 adaptation actions and beyond;
- 2017: [Opportunities and options for integrating climate change adaptation with the Sustainable Development Goals and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030](#). The paper highlights how effective climate action in the near term is essential for both sustainable development and disaster risk reduction;
- 2018: Opportunities and options for adaptation planning for vulnerable groups, communities and ecosystems (forthcoming).

## **2. Additional activities and outputs of the Adaptation Committee in support of the objectives of the TEP-A and enhanced action pre-2020**

11. Many of the AC's activities contribute to the above objectives, including:

- An overview report on [enhancing coherent action on adaptation](#) (2012-2015);
- A [fact sheet on livelihoods and economic diversification \(LED\)](#). In this factsheet, livelihood and economic diversification are considered as complementary and valuable tools that can effectively support the mid to long-term transformation of economies at risk. The combination

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<sup>1</sup> All outputs of the 2016-2018 TEP-As, including presentations, recordings and outreach products, are available at <http://tep-a.org/>.

of LED tools reflects an innovative approach for the AC to address the overall objective of strengthening resilience and decreasing vulnerability over time;

- A [report on the workshop on the monitoring and evaluation of adaptation](#);
- An [expert meeting on national adaptation goals/indicators](#) and their relationship with the Sustainable Development Goals and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction; and
- A [workshop on fostering the engagement of the agri-food sector in resilience to climate change](#).
- An overview report on [navigating the landscape of support for the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans](#); and
- A report on the [workshop on accessing the Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme of the Green Climate Fund for adaptation](#).

12. All outputs of the Adaptation Committee can be accessed through our [website](#).

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