

DRAFT TEXT

on

APA 1.7 agenda item 4

Further guidance in relation to the adaptation communications, including, inter alia, as a component of nationally determined contributions, referred to in Article 7, paragraphs 10 and 11, of the Paris Agreement

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First iteration

I. Decision¹

{Preamble}

[Recalling relevant provisions of the Convention, including the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities].

Also recalling the relevant provisions of the Paris Agreement, in particular its Article 7.

Recognizing the importance of flexibility provided to Parties by Article 7, paragraphs 10 and 11, for the submission and updating of the adaptation communication.

Recalling the guidance for existing communications or documents, in particular the guidance contained in decisions 4/CP.5, 17/CP.8, and 5/CP.17.

Recognizing the links between adaptation and sustainable development, including the Sustainable Development Goals and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction,

Further recognizing the intrinsic relationship between adaptation and equitable access to sustainable development and eradication of poverty,

Recalling that continuous and enhanced international support shall be provided to developing country Parties for the implementation of Article 7, paragraphs 7, 9, 10 and 11, of the Paris Agreement, in accordance with Articles 9, 10 and 11.

{Purpose}

1. The purpose of this guidance is to assist Parties in preparing, submitting, updating[, and implementing] the adaptation communication referred to in Article 7, paragraphs 10 and 11, of the Paris Agreement;

2. The purpose of an adaptation communication is[, inter alia] to:

(a) Communicate national adaptation priorities, implementation and support needs, plans and actions, including adaptation actions and/or economic diversification plans and/or national development plans that result in mitigation co-benefits as a component of or in conjunction with the NDCs;

(b) Raise visibility and profile of adaptation [in parity with mitigation];

(c) Strengthen adaptation action and enhance and catalyze support for developing countries;

(d) Provide input to the global stocktake in accordance with Article 7, paragraph 14 [(a)][(b)], of the Paris Agreement;

¹ The structure of this document is without prejudice to the form of the final outcome of the work of the APA, with regards to a single or multiple decisions.

(e) Enhance learning and understanding of adaptation needs and actions, by sharing experiences, lessons learned, evidence and good practices.

{Adoption of the guidance}²

3. *Adopts* the guidance in relation to the adaptation communication, which shall be, as appropriate, submitted and updated periodically, as a component of or in conjunction with other communications or documents, including a national adaptation plan, a nationally determined contribution as referred to in Article 4, paragraph 2, and/or national communication.

{Principles}

4. [*Decides* that in preparing, submitting, implementing and updating adaptation communications Parties should be guided by, inter alia, the following principles:

(a) Equity and common but different responsibilities and respective capabilities in light of different national circumstances;

(b) The adaptation communication is:

(i) Country-driven and flexible, including in the choice of communication vehicle, as provided by Article 7, paragraphs 10 and 11;

(ii) Not mandatory, poses no additional burden on developing country Parties, is not a basis for comparisons between Parties, nor subject to a review;

(c) The specific needs and special circumstances of developing country Parties, especially those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, should be given full consideration, as provided for in the Convention;

(d) The recognition of adaptation actions and/or economic diversification plans and/or national development plans that result in mitigation co-benefits.]

{Modalities for communicating, submitting and updating the adaptation communication}

5. *Decides* that Parties may, as appropriate, also submit and update their adaptation communication as a component of or in conjunction with the reports on impacts and adaptation as stipulated in Article 13, paragraph 8, of the Paris Agreement (*reference to relevant sections of the modalities, procedures and guidelines for the transparency framework*), and could include information on, inter alia, implementation of adaptation efforts for recognition, lessons learned, information to facilitate understanding of progress made and sharing of lessons learned, and/or information on adaptation actions and/or economic diversification plans and/or national development plans that result in mitigation co-benefits.

6. *Acknowledges* that Parties may, when submitting an adaptation communication, provide supplementary information specific to the vehicle, as well as any other information that could be useful for clarifying the adaptation communication, as appropriate.

7. *Decides* that the guidance contained in annex/decision shall be applicable immediately upon its adoption.

8. *Invites* Parties to submit their first adaptation communication by 2020, and subsequent adaptation communications, as appropriate, every 5 years, subject to flexibilities related to frequency and vehicle.

9. *Recalls* that the adaptation communications shall be recorded in a public registry maintained by the secretariat in accordance with the modalities and procedures being developed by the SBI.

10. *Encourages* Parties that choose to submit adaptation communication as a component of or in conjunction with the NDC to apply the modalities presented in the annex/decision.

² The content of this section will depend on the legal process of the adoption of the outcome of the APA.

11. *Decides* that Parties can opt for information communicated as a component of or in conjunction with a NDC on adaptation actions and/or economic diversification plans and/or national development plans that result in mitigation co-benefits to be subject to review under Article 13, paragraph 7 (b), of the Paris Agreement.

12. *Encourages* Parties to submit their adaptation communication, using the guidance contained in annex/decision, and considering, as appropriate, the existing guidance for the vehicle used for submission.

13. *Requests* Parties to clearly identify their adaptation communication, from the beginning to the end, regardless of the vehicle used, and to number their adaptation communications sequentially.

14. *Agrees* that, in order to assess overall progress made in achieving the global goal on adaptation, pursuant to Article 7, paragraph 14 of the Paris Agreement, it is necessary to have clear and consistent information that can be synthesised and will enable understanding of collective effort and progress towards the global goal for adaptation.

15. *Requests* SBSTA to develop guidelines for use by Parties in the communication of information under the elements contained in the annex/decision, with a view to adopting such guidelines at the session of the CMA to be held in 2020. As input to the development of guidelines, further *invites* the IPCC to provide a technical paper on available methodologies for producing information referred in paragraph 14 above, with guidance from the SBSTA.

{Modalities to update/revise/review the guidance}

16. *Decides* to take stock of, and if necessary revise, at its session to be held in 2025:

(a) The guidance contained in the annex/decision, taking into account the submissions and the synthesis report referred to in paragraph 17 below;

(b) [The NDC-specific guidance contained in the annex/decision, in concurrence with the update/revision/review of the guidance for NDCs (*APA item 3*).]

17. *Invites* Parties to submit to the secretariat, by 28 February 2025, information on their experiences with the application of the guidance contained in the annex/decision, and *requests* the secretariat to prepare a synthesis report of those submissions for consideration by the SBI at its 62nd session, with a view to preparing recommendations to the CMA to inform the stocktake stipulated in paragraph 16 above.

{Modalities of support for the preparation, updating and implementation of the adaptation communication}

18. [[*Urges* developed country Parties to channel new and additional public climate funds to support adaptation activities in developing countries, recognizing the importance of adaptation communications as a key step toward achieving the global goal on adaptation of enhancing adaptive capacity, strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerability to climate change.

19. *Requests* the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism of the Convention, in particular, Global Environment Facility (GEF) and Green Climate Fund (GCF) to provide support to developing country Parties in preparing and submitting their adaptation communications [and NDC].³

20. *Further requests* GCF, GEF and Adaptation Fund, to support developing country Parties in the implementation of their adaptation priorities and support needs, plans and actions as outlined in their adaptation communication.

21. *Requests* the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN) and Paris Committee on Capacity Building (PCCB), within their respective mandates, to support developing countries in the implementation of their adaptation priorities and support needs, plans and actions as outlined in their adaptation communication.

22. *Takes note* of the recommendations adopted by the CMA on taking the necessary steps to facilitate the mobilization of support for adaptation in developing countries in the context

³ It was suggested that references to sources of finance should be generic.

of the limit to global average temperature increase referred to in Article 2 of the Paris Agreement.]

23. [Recognition of the availability of support for the preparation of adaptation communications through existing financial institutions under the Convention.]]

{Linkages}

24. [To operationalize the link between the adaptation communications and the global stocktake:

(a) *Requests* the secretariat to prepare a regular synthesis report of the adaptation communications contained in the registry and make it available no later than three months ahead of each global stocktake;

(b) *Encourages* Parties to synchronize the timing of their adaptation communications with the global stocktake;

(c) *Further requests* [X] to develop further modalities required for operationalizing the link between the adaptation communications and the global stocktake, including for further processing of the adaptation communication after it has been recorded, for consideration and adoption by the CMA at its [X] session.

25. *Takes note of:*

(a) The recommendations adopted by the CMA on matters referred to in paragraphs 41, 42 and 45 of decision 1/CP.21.

(b) The modalities and procedures adopted by the CMA on the operation and use of a public registry referred to in Article 7, paragraph 12, of the Paris Agreement.]

II. Annex

{Introduction}

1. *Recognising* the [non-mandatory] nature of adaptation communications, Parties may provide information at their discretion on any of the elements within their adaptation communication as a component of or in conjunction with other communications or documents, including a national adaptation plan, a nationally determined contribution as referred to in Article 4, paragraph 2, and/or a national communication.
2. *Further recognising* that Parties have discretion to submit ex-ante and ex-post information through a single or separate reporting channels, as a Party so chooses.
3. For the purposes of this guidance, the following definitions shall apply:
 - (a) [...]
4. When submitting their adaptation communication, Parties are encouraged to use the structure below for their adaptation communication, consider the discretion relevant to existing vehicles, and to use and identify relevant methodologies and existing guidance.

*{Elements}*⁴

Proposals for structuring the elements 1-9 in option 1 below:

Option	Common elements	Opt-in and opt-out elements
(a)	1-4, 5 (a-b, d-e), 6-7	5 (a, c, f), 8-9
(b)	1-4, 5 (a-b, d-f), 6-7	5 (a, c), 8-9
(c)	1-4	5 (b, d-f), 8
(d)	1-5 (b) + others	5 (e), 6 + others
(e)	1-4	5-9
(f)	1-4, 6	5, 7-9
(g)	1-4, 6	5 (d), 8-9
(i)	1-3, 5 (e), 9	To be determined
(j)	NA	1-9

Option 1:⁵

1. National circumstances, including population, levels of development, legal frameworks and institutional arrangements, as appropriate.
2. Expected impacts, risks and vulnerability assessments, and adaptive capacity.
3. Adaptation priorities, policies, plans, actions, strategies, programmes, resilience-building activities, national goals related to adaptation, and expected results, as appropriate.
4. Implementation and adaptation support needs of developing country Parties, including the costs of meeting those adaptation needs.

⁴ It was suggested that the adaptation communication and reporting have a fundamentally different character and purpose. Adaptation communications are a contribution, recorded in its public registry. Transparency of adaptation has the nature of reporting on implementation of actions. A clear division of labour would help remove the duplication between APA items 4 and 5. List of specific elements for consideration under APA items 4 and 5 should be:

- Item 4: national circumstances; impacts, vulnerabilities and risk assessments; adaptation priorities, policies, plans, actions, strategies and/or programmes, as appropriate; adaptation support needs of developing country Parties;
- Work on item 5: information related to loss and damage, progress on implementation of adaptation, monitoring and evaluation of adaptation actions and process; cooperation, good practices, experiences and lessons learned; recognition of adaptation efforts; and reporting formats.

⁵ It was suggested to add, after each element, a concise description of the element, including building from existing guidance such as national communications and national adaptation plans.

5. Implementation of adaptation actions and plans, including:
 - (a) Progress and results achieved;
 - (b) Adaptation efforts of developing countries for recognition;
 - (c) Cooperation to enhance adaptation at national, regional and international levels;
 - (d) Barriers for implementation of adaptation, challenges, and gaps;
 - (e) Good practices, lessons learned and information sharing;
 - (f) Monitoring and evaluation, and approaches used.
6. Indicative projected levels of public financial resources to be provided by developed country Parties to developing country Parties, including finance, technology and capacity building.
7. Information on synergies with other international conventions.
8. Economic diversification plans; information on adaptation actions and/or economic diversification plans and/or national development plans that result in mitigation co-benefits.
9. Traditional knowledge or community-based adaptation climate change and local communities' involvement.

Option 2:

1. National circumstances including where appropriate, subnational context, legal frameworks and institutional arrangements
2. Risk assessments, including information on changing climate hazards, impacts, vulnerabilities, and exposure
3. Adaptation priorities, national goals and milestones, and identified needs related to resilience and reduction of vulnerability
4. Adaptation efforts, policies, plans, actions, strategies, and/or programmes
 - (a) Policy formulation and planning
 - (b) Policy implementation, progress towards goals, and results
 - (c) Monitoring and evaluation of adaptation actions
5. Good practices, lessons learned and information sharing

[[Vehicle-specific guidance for an adaptation communication]

(b) [NDC-specific guidance for an adaptation communication]

1. The guidance contained in paragraph 2 below is intended for parties that choose to use it to submit their adaptation communication as component of or in conjunction with NDCs.
2. Parties that choose to use this guidance may include the following elements in their adaptation communication, without creating any additional burden:
 - (a) National circumstances;
 - (b) Expected impacts, risks and vulnerability and adaptive capacity;
 - (c) Adaptation priorities, policies, plans, actions, strategies and/or programs, resilience-building activities, expected results and national goals, including information on:
 - (i) Adaptation actions and/or economic diversification plans and/or national development plans that result in mitigation co-benefits, if applicable;
 - (ii) Sustainable development efforts, if applicable;
 - (iii) Traditional knowledge or community-based adaptation climate change and local communities' involvement, if applicable;

- (d) Information related to means of implementation, including:
 - (i) Adaptation support needs of developing country Parties including the costs of meeting those adaptation needs;
 - (ii) Indicative projected levels of public financial resources to be provided by developed country Parties to developing country Parties, including finance, technology, and capacity-building;
 - (e) Timeframes.]

(c) [NAP-specific guidance for an adaptation communication

1. Parties could include in their adaptation communications information related to the formulation, preparation and implementation of national adaptation plans. This could include information related to the activities identified in paragraph 2 (a)-(c), paragraph 3 (a)-(e) and paragraph 4 (a)-(e) of the annex to decision 5/CP.17.
2. These activities, including national adaptation plan documents, could be submitted to the UNFCCC secretariat as the information requested by Article 7, paragraph 10, of the Paris Agreement.

(d) NC-specific guidance for an adaptation communication

1. Parties may submit the information requested by Article 7, paragraph 10, of the Paris Agreement as part of their national communication by providing information in line with existing guidelines for the preparation of national communications, as contained in document FCCC/CP/1999/7 and decision 17/CP.8.

(e) Other communications- or documents-specific guidance for an adaptation communication

1. Parties wishing to submit an adaptation communication in a vehicle other than a NC, NAP or NDC may do so, taking into account the guidance available for the before-mentioned vehicles.]]