



Marrakech
Partnership



Dear High-level champions,

aeléc is the Spanish association of electric power companies, focusing on promoting electrification as a key factor for the decarbonization of the economy, and specially on the essential role that the electricity distribution grids will have to play to enable it.

Our associated companies, EDP, Endesa, Iberdrola, Naturgy and Viesgo, are fully committed with the Paris Agreement and see themselves as a key agent for a successful implementation and achievement of its objectives. They all have clear commitments collective and/or individually and implement actions aiming at this success. Operating in Spain, one of the most vulnerable countries in terms of climate change impacts in the European region, they are also aware of the importance of dealing with climate change adaptation.

We are very pleased and thank you for the opportunity you give us to send our opinions on the important Marrakech Partnership, here enclosed

Best regards

Paloma Sevilla
General Director

aeléc



ANNEX III - QUESTIONS FOR STRUCTURING INPUTS TO THE MARRAKECH PARTNERSHIP FOR GLOBAL CLIMATE ACTION

PRIORITIES AND FOCUS AREAS

1. Priorities

As described in the indicative work programme for 2019 of the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action, the priorities for this year are:

- a) Strengthening **interaction between Parties and non-Party stakeholders** and promoting integration of action, among all levels of government and sectors, with a view to catalysing concrete action on high-impact issues, in particular related to cross-cutting areas, and leveraging, inter alia, the collaborative experience of the Talanoa Dialogue process;
- b) **Broadening the participation** of non-Party stakeholders in the Marrakech Partnership in regions and sectors in order to ensure a more balanced representation and to realize greater potential for action, in particular in developing countries;
- c) Providing **follow-up, continuity and coherence** with and between major milestones. Engagement activities and milestones should not be viewed in isolation but build on one another;
- d) **Communicating with impact** the work of the Marrakech Partnership and developing coherent messages that are tailored and delivered to different audiences.

Q1. Do the above priorities adequately reflect what needs to be done to accelerate pre-2020 action and support enhanced ambition, adaptation, resilience and support? If not, how could they be refined? In the context of the priorities, could specific actions be taken to achieve the desired outcomes?

In general, the priorities established in the document reflect the general needs of the process regarding the participation of civil society, and more specifically of business and industry. Nevertheless, we believe that given that 2020 is almost already there, a longer-term focus should guide the priorities. Also, a way to link more closely the Marrakech partnership with the formal negotiation process could be designed. A priority could be to develop and implement a robust governance framework for the partnership and the global climate action agenda.

Also, the roles that different constituencies can play in the process are different according to their nature. A more streamlined organization of non-party stakeholders could be very useful.



- Q2. How could interaction and communication between Parties and non-Party stakeholders be enhanced? How could the high-level champions contribute to that enhancement?*

The partnership needs to develop and implement a robust and comprehensive governance framework that could establish the appropriate channels to communicate between Parties and non-Parties and also to communicate to the public in general the actions undertaken by non-parties stakeholders. Some kind of global recognition for forerunners could also be very useful to maximize business engagement, as well as best practices exchange and showcase.

- Q3. What obstacles and barriers do you face in taking enhanced action and engaging stakeholders?*

In general, regarding the participation of business and industry, there is an increasing need to explain the positive role we can play in this process. This role is not always understood, as we have seen during the conferences. Clear and transparent definitions of the different types of participation by different non-state actors could be very useful to build trust and confidence and to realize the full potential of climate action and civil society engagement. The acceptance of the positive role that business and industry can and has to play in this process is a priority and a must to be able to increase climate action.

- Q4. What could the high-level champions and the Marrakech Partnership do to increase Parties' access to relevant experts and resources?*

Several existing initiatives could serve as examples to facilitate Parties' access to experts and resources, like the Partnership for Market readiness from the World Bank or existing rosters of experts. A database with experts in the different fields can be very useful for Parties. These initiatives could be part of the governance framework for the Marrakech Partnership.

- Q5. How can non-Party stakeholders best support Parties and vice versa in the implementation of the Paris Agreement?*

Non-Party stakeholders can support Parties in many ways, depending also on the nature of the constituency. In the case of business and industry, it is clear that mitigation and adaptation policies and measures needed to achieve the Paris Agreement commitments will come from private sector in



the form of measures, market instruments, innovation, technology... Therefore, the expertise of organizations, companies and associations is essential for the process. The participation of BINGOs can also significantly contribute not only to achieve real and concrete mitigation and provide adaptation but also to broaden the social acceptance and engagement through the showcase of best practices and the consolidation of strategies and frameworks enabling a common understanding of the challenge and risks both in terms of risk and opportunities. Designing and implementing appropriate regulatory and incentives frameworks to deploy and maximize the potential of business actions is essential. Expert advice on elaboration and implementation of NDCs from the private sector can also be very useful.

2. Thematic and cross-cutting areas

The Marrakech Partnership is structured around seven thematic areas (energy, land use, human settlements, industry, transport, water, and oceans and coastal zones) with specific cross-cutting areas (finance, health, resilience, gender, education and decent work) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) being focus areas for a particular year. As outlined in the indicative work programme, the focus in 2019 will be on finance and resilience, in addition to on four specific SDGs.¹ Efforts will also be made to engage with media and communication specialists and networks and to reach out to the constituted bodies, as appropriate, to facilitate greater collaboration between Parties and non-Party stakeholders, promoting integrated approaches to adaptation and mitigation and highlighting innovative technologies and capacity-building opportunities.

Q6. Considering each of the thematic areas, cross-cutting areas, SDGs and priorities outlined in the indicative work programme, should any specific high-impact topics that address the greatest needs of Parties be discussed?

There are certain cross sectoral topics that could be strengthened due to its high impact, like all the issues around just transition, carbon pricing initiatives, enabling frameworks for an accelerated and increased climate action in every sector of the economy.



OPERATIONAL APPROACH

3. Regional climate weeks

The high-level champions began their engagement in the regional climate weeks in 2018 and the lessons learned from their experience will be taken forward this year. The intention is to catalyse concrete climate action on the ground, in particular in developing countries, and to facilitate regionally relevant discussion and interaction among and between Parties and non-Party stakeholders. Although the list remains open, the following regions have been scheduled so far for climate weeks in 2019:

- a) Africa (to take place in Accra, Ghana, from 18 to 22 March 2019);
- b) Latin America and the Caribbean (to take place in Salvador, Brazil, from 19 to 23 August 2019);
- c) Asia-Pacific (to take place in China or Bangkok, Thailand (TBC), from 2 to 6 September 2019).

Q7. Why do you attend the regional climate weeks and what would incentivize you to participate regularly?

Regional climate weeks are very important to increase awareness and nonparty stakeholders' involvement in certain regions. Increasing global participation needs to be a priority of the process, especially in regions where meetings and events are not so that are normally out of the

Q8. Who would you like to meet at such events?

It is generally very useful to meet in this kind of events negotiators, think tanks, associations and partnerships and international alliances.

4. Technical examination processes on mitigation and adaptation

In accordance with decision 13/CP.23, the high-level champions will continue to support the technical expert meetings by, inter alia, recommending appropriate expert organizations, practitioners and other non-Party stakeholders from the Marrakech Partnership that can highlight case studies and solutions to enhance the technical discussion and exchange, including at the regional level, through the regional climate weeks. The policy options and opportunities identified at the meetings will inform the development of the relevant summaries for policymakers. The most recent summary for policymakers was published in October 2018.²

Q9. Are the messages and recommendations in the summaries for policymakers useful and clear? How could they be enhanced and made more effective?

The TEMS are a very useful initiative to focus the very much needed debates around practical technological solutions for climate change mitigation and adaptation, and their recommendations are also very much



welcomed. Nevertheless, we miss a stronger link between the TEMS and the Technology Mechanism and the CTCN and a more powerful communication and increased visibility.

A more transparent, open and timely process for the selection of participants and speakers in the TEMs would also be very welcomed.

5. Tracking and reporting voluntary action

The second edition of the *Yearbook of Global Climate Action 2018*³ was released before COP 24 in November 2018 and aimed to synthesize the key messages and trends in relation to climate action from that year. To facilitate distribution and accessibility, it was published solely in electronic format on the UNFCCC website. Meanwhile, a revamped version of the NAZCA portal⁴ was launched in September 2018. The NAZCA portal should be further enhanced to provide a continuously evolving picture of the voluntary commitments, action and progress of non-Party stakeholders and initiatives.

Q10. Is the Yearbook, as currently formatted and presented, a useful tool for Parties? Are the key messages clear and useful? How could it be improved?

The yearbook is a good tool to give visibility to climate action and is useful for Parties and for the rest of constituencies and the public opinion as well. The actual format is friendly and easy to read. Nevertheless, the process or methodology applied to select the actions included in the yearbook would need to be more inclusive, clear and transparent, and more representative of existing actions across all the sectors. Also, the elaboration of the yearbook and its planning and calendar needs to be improved.

Q11. What is your feedback on the revamped NAZCA portal? Is the information useful for Parties? What other types of information and features should be added? What do you need to promote NAZCA and help mobilize non-Party stakeholders and initiatives to register their actions?

The NAZCA portal has improved a lot. Now it is much more user friendly, easy to consult and gives very good information that allows analysis and clear pictures. The graphics and visualization have also improved a lot. There should be a clear link between the NAZCA portal, the yearbook and the TEMS to give robustness and clarity to the whole climate action agenda.

¹ SDG 6: clean water; SDG 7: affordable and clean energy; SDG 14: life below water; and SDG 15: life on land.



6. Marrakech Partnership activities at COPs

Since COP 22 the high-level event on global climate action, complemented by a full programme of action events and round tables, has been convened during sessions of the COP to highlight the progress made throughout the year, showcase transformational action and provide a space for dialogue between Party representatives and non-Party stakeholders. In addition, convening activities to take place during the regional climate weeks may help to distribute those activities and engagement with Parties throughout the year.

Q12. Are the high-level and action events and round tables held at the COPs in their current format useful? How could they be made more impactful and accessible?

They are very useful but there are limitations. The selection of speakers needs to be more transparent and representative. Apart from holding these events during the COPs, they could be organized in other fora like the UN Secretary General event in NY or the Regional meetings. The Partnership has already a volume that could deserve a dedicated event allowing more participation (not depending of having a badge for the COP). Time during COPs is very limited to develop the whole potential of the climate action agenda. Also a more closely collaboration with the organization of TEMs could be very useful.

7. The United Nations Secretary-General's Climate Summit in 2019:⁵

The high-level champions and Marrakech Partnership stakeholders will proactively engage to prepare for the United Nations Secretary-General's Climate Summit in 2019 and demonstrate their contribution to the Summit of a broad set of impactful initiatives, solutions and action.

Q13. How can the high-level champions and the Marrakech Partnership best contribute to the Secretary-General's 2019 Climate Summit?

The Marrakech Partnership should be represented in the Summit, organizing side events or even a separate high-level event in conjunction with the summit. Also, information developed within the partnership could be channeled to the summit. The NAZCA portal, yearbook and recommendations from TEMS could be presented in the summit or have a dedicated space.

² See <http://unfccc.int/resource/climateaction2020/spm/introduction/index.html>.

³ Available at https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/GCA_Yearbook2018.pdf.

⁴ <http://climateaction.unfccc.int/>.



LOOKING AHEAD

8. Post-2020 outlook

Ramping up pre-2020 action remains a top priority and focus. In addition, as the mandate for the high-level champions ends in 2020, this may also be a good time to receive some initial views on the potential role of the high-level champions beyond 2020, reflecting on experience so far.

- Q14. Is there a need to discuss the possibility of a post-2020 role for the high-level champions? How could the current champions facilitate such discussion?*
- Q15. Could the high-level champions be more helpful in the implementation of the Paris Agreement beyond 2020?*
- Q16. What key functions of the high-level champions would be useful to take forward beyond 2020?*

2020 is almost here. There is an absolute need to give continuity to the Global climate agenda to ensure business and industry and other UN constituencies full engagement. A robust governance framework needs to be developed and implemented to channel this participation, that is essential to make possible the accomplishment of commitments. Alliances and public-private partnerships are essential for this process and can fit very well into the Marrakech Partnership or a similar initiative.

⁵ See <http://www.un.org/en/climatechange/>.