

## Informal note by the co-facilitators

*At the first informal consultation on this matter held on 4 June, Parties asked the co-facilitators to develop possible elements based on Parties' views. Parties asked the co-facilitators to prepare this revised version on the basis of feedback received at the fourth informal consultations, held on 15 June 2021.*

*These possible elements have been prepared by the co-facilitators on this matter under their own responsibility. These elements are not exhaustive, have no formal status, and should not be considered as final in any way. They are offered to assist Parties in advancing the discussions on this matter and do not prejudice further work or prevent Parties from expressing their views at any time.*

### Possible elements

- Welcome the report on the fourth Koronivia road map workshop on topic 2(d) (Improved nutrient use and manure management towards sustainable and resilient agricultural systems), which was held in conjunction with SB 51;
- Having considered the workshop report on topic 2(d), recognize that:
  - **Improved nutrient use** is important for both areas with high and areas with low use of external nutrient inputs, while nutrient circularity is key to reducing nutrient loss and waste. In areas with high external nutrient use and intensity, improving nutrient use would reduce emissions, pollution and costs. In areas with low use of external nutrient inputs, ensuring optimal use and availability of nutrients and resources would improve productivity and resilience. There is no one-size-fits-all solution when it comes to dealing with nutrient surpluses or shortages;
  - **Sustainable and resilient agricultural systems** are based on optimal nutrient and manure supply tailored to the plants and crops used, and ensuring that nutrients are used optimally and efficiently is a key element of sustainable food production, which benefits agricultural production, climate change adaptation and mitigation actions, and pollution reduction efforts. Such agricultural systems are designed to optimize carbon and nutrient cycles and are diversified. Furthermore, it will be possible to combine energy generation with nutrient-rich organic fertilizer for use in cropland, grassland and planted forests;
  - **Systemic change** is required – this must be country-driven and follow a systemic and holistic approach based on science, drawing on local science-based innovation and traditional knowledge to facilitate implementation of local solutions. Parties need to consider relevant policies, actions and measures, including in the context of developing national plans and strategies;
  - There are **many valuable options that can be promoted**, such as agroecological practices, using leguminous species, integrating crops and livestock and using manure as organic fertilizer. Parties also acknowledge the importance of integrating traditional and indigenous knowledge with scientific practices and locally adapted, participatory projects with farmers at the centre, and of ensuring that all actors in the value chain are on board;
  - It is important to invest in nutrient **data** collection, analysis and sharing, development of decision-making tools and improvements to impact measurement;
  - Mobilizing support for developing country Parties can enhance domestic action in relation to improving nutrient use and manure management, through integrated approaches and effective partnerships in order to meet the increasing demand for climate action in the agriculture sector;
  - Providing **means of implementation** to developing country Parties is key to enhancing domestic action in relation to improving nutrient use and manure management, while recognizing that funding will need to be increased, and its effectiveness enhanced,

through integrated approaches and effective partnerships in order to meet the increasing demand for climate action in the agriculture sector, which is particularly vulnerable to climate change, and ensure food security;

- The work of the constituted bodies under the Convention and the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism to date has been beneficial in addressing issues related to agriculture, but there is still more to do to increase adaptation to climate change on the ground and ensure food security, adaptation co-benefits and improved soil health;

- Support for improving use of nutrients and manure, and for agricultural matters in general, to be provided by the **constituted bodies under the Convention and the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism** falls far short of that required by the agriculture sector to increase adaptation to climate change on the ground and ensure food security, adaptation co-benefits and improved soil health;

- Work under the KJWA can help to **raise ambition** in relation to mobilizing financial and technological resources and creating capacities to address the vulnerability of agriculture and food security to climate change;

- **Public incentives** could be redirected to support climate-smart agriculture and science-based, sustainable and regenerative agricultural practices that are appropriate to the local conditions for all types of farming or agricultural operations, with farmers recognized as providers of critical ecosystem services;

- There is a need to establish an **information exchange platform** covering shared technologies, best practices and assessment tools for improved nutrient use and manure management;

- Strengthening the role of local communities in improving nutrient use is key, in particular given that smallholder farmers are the main producers of food worldwide and that more than 800 million people, most of them in the global South, are affected by hunger;

- Overuse of chemical fertilizers has disrupted the nitrogen cycle and consequently affected surface water as well as groundwater pollution. Recognizing the role of the soil microbiome, which governs the biogeochemical cycle of nutrients that are vital for plant growth and animal life, is key to making better use of nutrients. Another relevant opportunity is to enhance the use of biological nitrogen fixation, a natural means of providing nitrogen to plants that reduces the need for fossil fuel-derived chemical fertilizers.

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