

## **LMDC SUBMISSION ON THE MODALITIES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE OPERATION AND USE OF THE PUBLIC REGISTRY ON NATIONALLY DETERMINED CONTRIBUTIONS IN THE CONTEXT OF SBI AGENDA ITEM ON THE ADAPTATION REGISTRY**

In accordance with the conclusion of the 46<sup>th</sup> Session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation, the Like-Minded Developing Countries (LMDC) Group in the UNFCCC would like to submit the following views on the development of modalities and procedures for the operation and use of the public registry on NDCs in the context of SBI Agenda Item on the adaptation registry:

### **1. Function of the NDCs Public Registry**

- (1) In accordance with the Articles 4.12 and 7.12 of the Paris Agreement, NDCs communicated by Parties, including the adaptation component, should be recorded in the public registry that is maintained by the secretariat. The function and purpose of the registry is to register Parties' NDCs and make them available to the public, with a view to enabling Parties and other stakeholders to download and read these NDC documents.
- (2) The NDCs registry should respect the integrity of the NDC documents, in line with the "nationally determined" nature of Parties' contributions. The NDCs public registry should not become a tool to highlight some specific information of the NDCs nor design a common template for the NDCs.

### **2. Experience and Lessons Learned in Using the Interim Registry for the NDCs relevant to Developing the Public Registry**

- (3) In accordance with paragraph 30 of decision 1/CP.21, the UNFCCC Secretariat has prepared the interim registry for NDCs and published a user guidebook to develop the modalities and procedures for the operation and use of the interim registry, which have fulfilled the requirements on the registry for NDCs (including the adaptation component) as set out in Articles 4.12 and 7.12 of the of the Paris Agreement.
- (4) Therefore, the negotiations on this issue should be concluded by a simple and pragmatic solution that the modalities and procedures for the operation and use of the interim registry should be formally recognized and adopted by the CMA-1 in 2018 as the final and formal arrangements for the NDCs registry, with only very limited technical improvements to the user guidebook.

### **3. The Structure and Design Elements of the Public Registry**

- (5) In accordance with the interim registry, the procedure for operation and use of the NDCs registry should include three steps:
  - (a) The focal point under the Convention of each Party will upload its NDCs document through a unique account;
  - (b) After receiving the uploaded document, the Secretariat will check if there is any technical problem and reply to the Party to confirm that its document has been well received and made available on the registry;

- (c) Other Parties and stakeholders can download all the NDCs documents registered. For the purpose of smooth access to the NDCs documents in the registry, Parties are recommended to upload their NDCs document in PDF format.
- (6) In accordance with the modality of the interim registry, the interface of the registry should be in an easy, feasible and pragmatic format, and meanwhile, should preserve the integrity of the NDCs documents. The registry should include four columns:
    - (a) Formal names of the Party;
    - (b) Communicated NDCs document;
    - (c) Time for uploading; and
    - (d) Language used in the NDCs document.
  - (7) It is inappropriate to take the contents, types and specific items of information of NDCs as the embedded columns in the registry. That will bring difficulties to the operation and use of the registry and undermine the integrity of Parties' NDCs documents, which is deviating from the "nationally determined" nature of the NDCs.
  - (8) Furthermore, Parties are encouraged to keep the previous versions of their NDCs documents on the public registry.
- 4. Possible Ways to Enhance the Security, Accessibility and User-friendliness of, and Support in, Using the Public Registry**
- (9) The UNFCCC Secretariat can be requested to maintain the registry for its smooth operation and use, including by protecting the security of Parties' accounts, ensuring the access to downloading the NDCs documents and enhancing the user friendliness. The budgetary implications of this work should be taken into consideration.
  - (10) The discussion on the registry should focus on those purely technical issues related to the modalities and procedures, without duplicating the work related to the guidance for NDCs under APA Item 3. It will prolong the negotiation process if the sensitive and complicated issues related to information and accounting of NDCs are brought into the technical discussion on the registry.
- 5. Linkage with SBI Item on NDCs Registry**
- (11) All of the components of NDCs, mitigation, adaptation and means of implementation, should be included in the NDCs document as appropriate and registered in the NDCs registry. The adaptation communication could be communicated through three channels, i.e., NDCs documents, NAPs and National Communications. There have been appropriate platforms for these three channels on the UNFCCC website. Therefore, there is little added value to establish a new and additional registry for adaptation communication, which will cause a waste of the public resources in terms of the budget, management and internet space.
  - (12) The item on adaptation registry is closely related to the SBI Agenda Item on NDCs registry. The LMDCs propose to consider these two issues under one item or convene a joint consultation about the two items.