

Informal note
on
SBI 60 agenda item 10(c)
Matters relating to adaptation
National adaptation plans

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Informal note by the co-facilitators

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling decisions 1/CP.16, 3/CP.17, 5/CP.17, 12/CP.18, 18/CP.19, 3/CP.20, 1/CP.21, 4/CP.21, 6/CP.22, 8/CP.24, 7/CP.25, 3/CP.26, 9/CP.27, 1/CMA.5 and 2/CMA.5

Recognizing the special circumstances of the least developed countries and small island developing States,

(1) Overarching paras

1. *Acknowledges* that developing country Parties have made limited progress in the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans since the 2018 assessment of such progress¹ and are at different stages in that process;

2. *Notes with concern* that developing country Parties continue to face financial and technical challenges and have gaps and needs in relation to formulating and implementing national adaptation plans;

3. *Recognizes* the urgent need for climate finance, technology transfer and capacity-building for developing country Parties to advance from formulation to implementation of national adaptation plans;

3alt Recognizes the urgent need for developing country Parties to transition from formulation to implementation of national adaptation plans, and that in order to do so additional financial support is urgently needed and should be provided by developed countries in line with their legal obligations under the Convention and the Paris Agreement;

4. *Recalls* decision 1/CMA.5 on the outcome of the first global stocktake, in particular paragraph 59 calling on Parties that have not yet done so to have in place their national adaptation plans, policies and planning processes by 2025 and to have progressed in implementing them by 2030, and paragraph 64 regarding the targets of the framework for the global goal on adaptation in relation to the dimensions of the iterative adaptation cycle;

4alt Recalls decision 2/CMA.5, paragraph 10(b), and *calls on* Parties that have not yet done so to have in place country-driven, gender responsive, participatory and fully transparent national adaptation plans, covering, as appropriate, ecosystems, sectors, people and vulnerable communities, and to have mainstreamed adaptation in all relevant strategies and plans;

4bis Recalls decision 12/CP.18, paragraph 3, urging developed country Parties to mobilize financial support for the national adaptation plan process for interested developing country Parties that are not least developed country Parties through bilateral and multilateral channels, including through the Special Climate Change Fund, in accordance with decision 1/CP.16, as it urged developed country Parties to mobilize financial support for the national adaptation plan process for least developed country Parties in decision 5/CP.17, paragraph 21;

4ter Notes that the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans should contribute towards the implementation of the United Arab Emirates Framework for Global Climate Resilience, as referred to in decision 2/CMA.5;

(2) Progress made in the process to formulate and implement NAPs

¹ See document FCCC/SBI/2018/INF.1 and decision 8/CP.24.

a. Formulation of national adaptation plans

5. *Welcomes* the submission, between 1 January 2023 and 6 June 2024, of national adaptation plans by Argentina, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burundi, Ecuador, Haiti, the Marshall Islands, Morocco, Mozambique, the Niger, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, and Zambia,² bringing the number of national adaptation plans submitted by developing country Parties to 56, and of sectoral adaptation plans and other outputs related to the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans by developing country Parties;³

6. *Welcomes* the submissions from developed country Parties, namely Canada's national adaptation strategy and New Zealand's national adaptation plan;⁴

6bis *Notes* that, as at xx November 2024, xx of the 45 least developed countries had prepared and submitted national adaptation plans, xx were preparing their national adaptation plans and were expected to submit them in 2024–2025, xx had not yet started formulating national adaptation plans, and information on the formulation of national adaptation plans for xx least developed countries was pending;

7. *Notes with concern* that many developing country Parties are yet to submit their national adaptation plans;

7alt *Notes with concern* that many developing country Parties are yet to submit their national adaptation plans owing to limited resources and capacity constraints;

8. *Invites* Parties to submit their national adaptation plans to the secretariat;

8bis *Welcomes* the Green Climate Fund Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme, which has contributed to the increase in the formulation of national adaptation plans since its inception;

8ter *Recognizes* the importance of learning through the iterative adaptation cycle in strengthening global efforts on adaptation;

b. Implementation of national adaptation plans

9pre *Notes with concern* the limited progress of developing countries in implementing their national adaptation plans owing to limited resources and capacity constraints;

9. *Acknowledges* the progress of developing country Parties, since the 2018 assessment of progress in the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans, in addressing the objective of that process of integrating adaptation into development planning;

9bis *Acknowledges* the crucial role of public finance in advancing the implementation of national adaptation plans and *recalls* paragraph 35 of decision 1/CMA.4 that urges developed country Parties to urgently and significantly scale up their provision of climate finance, technology transfer and capacity-building for adaptation so as to respond to the needs of developing country Parties as part of a global effort, including for the formulation and implementation of national adaptation plans and adaptation communications;

10. *Also acknowledges* that there is not yet enough information available to enable assessment of progress in addressing the objective of the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans, which is to reduce vulnerability to climate change, strengthen resilience and build adaptive capacity, given that many national adaptation plans are in the early stages of implementation and the limited progress in developing methodologies and monitoring, evaluation and learning systems for assessing adaptation outcomes and impacts of projects due to the lack of means of implementation provided by developed countries to developing countries;

11. *Requests* the Least Developed Countries Expert Group, in collaboration with the Adaptation Committee and other relevant bodies under the Convention, to develop methods, before the next assessment of progress in the process to formulate and implement national

² Available at <https://napcentral.org/submitted-NAPs>.

³ Available at <https://napcentral.org/sectoral-naps>.

⁴ Available at <https://napcentral.org/developedcountriesnaps>.

adaptation plans, for identifying the extent to which implemented policies, projects and programmes based on national adaptation plans are helping to reduce vulnerability to climate change, strengthen resilience and build adaptive capacity;

12. *Takes note* of relevant efforts under the Adaptation Pipeline Accelerator⁵ and national adaptation plan implementation pipeline development initiatives, which are aimed at supporting the translation of adaptation priorities into project ideas for implementation;

c. Addressing guiding principles

13. *Acknowledges* the progress of developing countries, since the 2018 assessment of progress in the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans, in addressing the guiding principles⁶ of that process;

14. *Notes* the importance of formulating and implementing national adaptation plans on the basis of the best available science and, as appropriate, traditional, Indigenous and local knowledge;⁷

15. *Welcomes* the progress by developing country Parties in integrating gender considerations into adaptation action and the opportunities for building on that progress through inclusion of gender-responsive considerations in decision-making processes and implementation of adaptation action;

15bis Urges all Parties to adopt a gender-responsive approach when formulating and implementing national adaptation plans, in every stage of the process;

16. *Recognizes* the progress made by developing country Parties in engaging a broad range of stakeholders and vulnerable groups, including Indigenous Peoples and local communities, in the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans, noting the importance of including all relevant stakeholders and vulnerable groups in that process;

d. Support provided and received

17. *Notes* that funding to developing countries for formulating and implementing national adaptation plans is provided through various channels, including the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism, bilateral programmes, the private sector, and global and regional programmes and networks;

17bis Notes that financial support for adaptation has increased over the years towards meeting the call to double the provision of adaptation finance by 2025;

18. *Welcomes* the allocation by the Green Climate Fund of an additional USD 3 million per country in national adaptation plan readiness funding, available to countries that have exhausted their first allocation of funding under the Fund, to support countries in addressing gaps in order to initiate implementation of national adaptation plans;

19. *Notes with concern* that many developing country Parties continue to face challenges in accessing funding under the Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme, and that clarity is required from the Green Climate Fund on the availability of expedited support for implementing policies, projects and programmes identified in national adaptation plans in line with paragraph 46 of decision 1/CP.21;

20. *Welcomes* the approval by the Global Environment Facility, as at 31 March 2024, of nine proposals from the least developed countries for funding for formulating their national adaptation plans, amounting to USD xx million;

20bis Welcomes the approval by the Green Climate Fund, as at 31 March 2024, of 111 national adaptation plan and other adaptation planning grants to 100 countries, amounting to USD 248 million;

⁵ https://www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/press_release_new_apa_partnerships.pdf.

⁶ Decision 5/CP.17, para. 3.

⁷ Decision 5/CP.17, para. 3.

20ter Welcomes the enhanced efforts of the Green Climate Fund through the revised strategy for 2024–2027 of its Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme to strengthen direct access modalities;

20quater Welcomes the support provided by United Nations organizations, specialized agencies and other relevant organizations, as well as bilateral and multilateral agencies, for the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans;

21. *Also welcomes* the training for developing country Parties on addressing gaps and needs identified in the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans, which was conducted by the Least Developed Countries Expert Group and the Adaptation Committee at the NAP Expo held in Dhaka from 22 to 25 April 2024;

22. *Notes* that regional and international support programmes play a role in enhancing access to expertise on climate change impacts and adaptation, which can accelerate the formulation and implementation of national adaptation plans;

(3) Challenges, obstacles, gaps and needs

22bis Notes the challenges regarding the implementation of adaptation priorities identified in national adaptation plans, including a lack of dedicated funding from developed countries in the form of grants for implementation and a lack of capacity-building for methodologies to assess outcomes and impacts of adaptation actions;

22ter Notes with concern that, despite the progress observed in integrating adaptation into different sectoral policies, programmes and activities, its integration into planning and implementation at different levels of government is progressing at a slower pace than expected and requires further attention;

23. *Notes with concern* that it can take up to five years for funding for formulating a national adaptation plan to be approved under the Green Climate Fund Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme and an additional three to four years on average to submit that plan after accessing support;

24. *Notes* the gaps and needs referred to in the synthesis report by the secretariat on progress towards the achievement of the objectives of the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans,⁸ including in terms of access to adequate and predictable finance, technology transfer and capacity-building support;

25. *Notes with concern* that extensive existing capacity is often needed to develop proposals, including the required climate data, for accessing funding under the Green Climate Fund Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme;

26. *Recognizes* the role of cities and human settlements in local adaptation planning and its linkages to national adaptation plans;

(4) Best practices and recommendations towards the future

27. *Acknowledges* the importance of national adaptation plans:

(a) As a means of identifying countries' medium- and long-term adaptation priorities and needs with a view to developing and implementing strategies to address those priorities and needs;

(b) As the main instrument at the global level for adaptation planning and implementation, and their potential role as sources of information for enhancing adaptive capacity for developing baselines, targets and indicators for understanding progress towards achieving the global goal on adaptation and for the global stocktake;

(c) As a means of unlocking and mobilizing finance from a wide range of sources;

(d) As a means of providing an opportunity to advance indigenous climate leadership and develop partnerships for climate action between national governments and Indigenous Peoples;

⁸ FCCC/SBI/2024/10, paras. 66–68.

(e) As a key instrument for ensuring the avoidance of maladaptation, defined by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change in its Third Assessment Report as any changes in natural or human systems that inadvertently increase vulnerability to climatic stimuli and an adaptation that does not succeed in reducing vulnerability but increases it instead;

28. *Requests* the Least Developed Countries Expert Group and the Adaptation Committee, in line with their respective mandates, to enhance their work on addressing the gaps and needs referred to in paragraph 22–26 above and to include information thereon in their reports to their governing bodies;

29. *Notes* the importance of integrating adaptation into development planning through a whole-of-government approach, including at the national, subnational, local and cross-sectoral level;

29bis Urges Parties to make further progress on integrating and mainstreaming adaptation action in national, subnational, and local policies;

29ter Underscores that making finance flows consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development is critical for the implementation of national adaptation plans;

29quater Encourages all Parties to have in place country-driven, gender-responsive, participatory and fully transparent national adaptation plans, policy instruments, and planning processes and/or strategies covering, as appropriate, ecosystems, sectors, people and vulnerable communities, and to have mainstreamed adaptation in all relevant strategies and plans as referred to in paragraph 10(b) of decision 2/CMA.5;

29quinquies Notes the value of engaging non-Party stakeholders, including civil society, the private sector, financial institutions, cities and other subnational authorities, and Indigenous Peoples and local communities, as appropriate, in the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans;

30. *Invites* relevant organizations to provide comprehensive supplementary guidance to the technical guidelines for the national adaptation plan process on integrating human settlements and cities in that process;

31. *Notes* the importance of continuing to develop and strengthen monitoring, evaluation and learning systems for supporting the implementation of national adaptation plans using public funds provided from developed countries to developing countries;

31alt Urges Parties to develop and put in place adequate monitoring, evaluation and learning systems and tools with a view to inform and measure the efficacy of their adaptation actions at the national, subnational and local level, to increase understanding of progress on adaptation and reduction of vulnerability, and to prevent maladaptation;

32. *Also notes* the need for diversified financial investments, combining public, private domestic and international resources, for the implementation of national adaptation plans;

32alt Requests developed country Parties to urgently and significantly scale up their provision of public climate finance, technology transfer and capacity-building for adaptation with enhanced transparency, so as to respond to the needs of developing country Parties related to the formulation and implementation of national adaptation plans;

32bis Expresses serious concern regarding the road map on the obligation and commitment of scaling up the support from developed countries to developing countries by increasing public funds under the Convention;

32ter Calls for the fulfilment of Article 9, paragraph 4, of the Paris Agreement on scaling up financial resources to achieve a balance between adaptation and mitigation, taking into account country-driven strategies and the priorities and needs of developing country Parties, especially those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change and have significant capacity constraints, such as the least developed countries and small island developing States, considering the need for public and grant-based resources for adaptation;

33. *Calls for* enhanced provision of support to developing country Parties to initiate and complete the process of accrediting national direct access entities of the Green Climate Fund and strengthened direct access modalities;

34. *Notes* the importance of mobilizing finance from a wide range of sources for the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans;

34alt Recognizes the obligation of developed country Parties to provide and mobilize climate finance pursuant to Article 9 of the Paris Agreement with respect to adaptation in continuation of their existing obligations under Article 4, paragraphs 3–5, of the Convention;

35. *Also notes* the linkages between the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans and the United Arab Emirates Framework for Global Climate Resilience, the global stocktake and related processes such as communication of nationally determined contributions, adaptation communications and reporting under the enhanced transparency framework;

35bis Encourages Parties, when formulating and implementing national adaptation plans, to take into account the United Arab Emirates Framework for Global Climate Resilience, including the targets in paragraphs 9–10 of decision 2/CMA.5, as well as the cross-cutting considerations in paragraphs 13–14 of that decision;

35ter Notes the relevance of the assessment of progress on the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans in relation to the mandate contained in paragraph 38 of decision 2/CMA.5;

36. *Requests* the Least Developed Countries Expert Group and the Adaptation Committee to continue to include information on progress in implementing national adaptation plans in their reports to their governing bodies;

37. *Also requests* the Standing Committee on Finance to include, in its biennial assessment and overview of climate finance flows and relevant reports, information on financial support provided for formulating and implementing national adaptation plans and for other adaptation activities;

38. *Requests* the Paris Committee on Capacity-building and the Technology Executive Committee to include information on and possible solutions for challenges, gaps and needs in relation to capacity-building and technology for adaptation in their annual reports, particularly as it relates to the least developed countries and small island developing States;

39. *Urges* developed country Parties and invites other Parties that provide resources on a voluntary basis, United Nations organizations, specialized agencies and other relevant organizations as well as bilateral and multilateral agencies to continue to mobilize support for adaptation activities in developing country Parties;

39alt1 Urges developed country Parties to continue mobilizing financial support for the plan to formulate and implement national adaptation plans in all developing countries, particularly the least developed countries and small islands developing States, through bilateral and multilateral channels;

39alt2 Recognizes that ambition and implementation of adaptation action in developing country Parties depends on the successful and ambitious provision of means of implementation and support from developed country Parties, including finance, technology development and transfer and capacity-building, and the inadequate provision of such support is the key cause of gaps in the formulation and implementation of national adaptation plans;

39bis Underscores the importance of continuing to enhance efforts to mobilize finance and engage the private sector in the formulation and implementation of national adaptation plan, in particular by strengthening domestic enabling environments and enhancing collaboration between the public and private sector for enhancing the engagement of the private sector in climate adaptation and resilience;

39ter Recognizes with serious concern the findings of the Climate Policy Initiative that over 90 per cent of private climate finance has gone to mitigation efforts;

39quater Stresses that enabling conditions, including political commitment and follow-through, institutional frameworks, policies and instruments with clear goals and priorities, enhanced knowledge on impacts and solutions, mobilization of and access to resources, monitoring and evaluation, and inclusive governance processes, are key for implementing national adaptation plans;

40. *Invites* United Nations organizations, specialized agencies and other relevant organizations, as well as bilateral and multilateral agencies, to continue to support the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans, drawing on the work of, and where appropriate in consultation with, the Least Developed Countries Expert Group, and to keep the Subsidiary Body for Implementation informed, by providing relevant information, including on best practices and lessons learned, to the secretariat towards the preparation of the annual progress report on the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans, of how they have responded to this invitation;

41. *Also invites* Parties to explore all sources of available financial support for strengthening the formulation and implementation of national adaptation plans, including public, private, domestic and international resources;

41alt Urges developed country Parties to at least double adaptation finance from the 2019 level by 2025 while recognizing that doubling is insufficient to achieve the balance between mitigation and adaptation finance as outlined in Article 9, paragraph 4, of the Paris Agreement;

42. *Takes note* of the UN4NAPs initiative,⁹ under which the least developed countries, small island developing States and other developing countries can communicate on an ongoing basis their needs for technical assistance related to the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans and *invites* developing country Parties to make use of this and other relevant initiatives for this purpose;

(5) Mandate for next assessment

43. *Decides* that the next assessment of progress in the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans will take place in 2028;

44. *Requests* the Subsidiary Body for Implementation to make recommendations on the actions and steps necessary for it to initiate the assessment referred to in paragraph 43 above at its sixty-fourth session (June 2026) for consideration and adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its thirty-first session (December 2026).

⁹ See <https://unfccc.int/UN4NAPs>.