

## CGE Chair – Statement to PCCB

---

- I am pleased to take the floor on behalf of the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (CGE).
- The CGE extends its appreciation to the PCCB for inviting the group to be part of this important dialogue.
- The CGE, one of the first expert groups established by the Convention, plays a critical role in providing technical assistance and advice to developing country Parties and facilitating their participation in the measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) arrangements under the Convention.
- The key areas covered under the mandate of the CGE include providing technical assistance and advice to developing countries on the preparation of national communications and biennial update reports, and necessary institutional arrangements; and training of the team of technical experts to conduct the technical analysis of biennial update reports.
- The technical advice and support to developing country Parties are rolled out, primarily in the form:
  - Developing, updating, and disseminating training materials and technical guidance tools;
  - Conducting of regional hands-on training workshops and a training programme;
  - Setting-up and implementing online training resources such as e-learning programme, e-network and webinars.
- Right after the current mandate was adopted by COP in 2013 in Warsaw, the CGE developed its 5-year rolling work programme. In addition to the technical interventions that aimed towards enhancing the technical capacity of developing countries, there were two key additional activities. It decided to develop a long-term strategy and also dig deeper into problems and constraints, as well as lessons learned and best practices, in the process of and the preparation of national communications and biennial update reports. The results of both these activities feedback into its work programme as well as into the design and delivery of the technical assistance and advice to developing countries.
- The results of the CGE work on problems and constraints, as well as lessons learned and best practices is captured in a technical report which was updated in 2017. The technical report provides a synthesis of problems and constraints as well as lessons learned and best practices emerging from the process of and the preparation of national communications and biennial update reports. The information is disaggregated by the key areas, including institutional arrangements, national greenhouse gas inventories, vulnerability and adaptation assessments, mitigation assessments and cross-cutting areas.

- With this brief introduction of the CGE, let me now address the main matter of discuss at this dialogue.
- The CGE noted with huge interest focus area or theme of the PCCB in 2018. Though the capacity-building support for the implementation of nationally determined contributions (NDCs) in the context of the Paris Agreement is not directly part of the Paris Agreement under the current mandate, the group see strong relationship between the work that group does and NDCs, particularly from the point of technicalities involved in preparing and tracking of NDCs. For example, GHG inventories, mitigation potential assessment, vulnerability and adaptation assessment are logical starting points for preparing NDCs. To that end, the CGE is ready to engage with the PCCB to explore opportunities for synergy and complement each other's work.
- As per the CGE's preliminary assessment, the group will be in a position to make concrete inputs to work of all 4 working groups. For example:
  - One – the, CGE has a long history and rich experience supporting the capacity-building efforts as an integral part of its technical assistance activities. The group can bring that experience and lessons learned to Working Group 1.
  - Two - I am happy to inform you that the CGE agreed to make its products and services gender sensitive. This would provide a good basis for Working Group 2 on cross-cutting issues, particularly in terms of mainstreaming gender into the MRV arrangements.
  - Third - The CGE already contributed to the PCCB's efforts, through Working Group 3, to enhance the capacity-building portal on how to enhance the portal. The CGE intends to continue contributing under this work stream.
  - Four – As mentioned earlier, the CGE has experience in conducting exercises similar to those tasked to Working Group 4, namely, identifying capacity gaps and needs. The technical report on problems and constraints as well as lessons learned and good practices can be a useful input to draw from. Further, the CGE will be in a position to share its experiences and lessons learned in undertaking such exercise.
- In closing, let me conclude my intervention by mentioning that the CGE highly values collaboration and coordination with constituted bodies and other expert groups as well as other partners and stands ready to engage.
- Thank you.