

SUBMISSION BY THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES (LDCs) ON KEY POINTS ON SECOND REVIEW OF PCCB REVIEW TO BE PRESENTED DURING THE INFORMAL CONSULTATION ON MATTERS RELATED TO CAPACITY BUILDING ITEM - THE SECOND REVIEW OF THE PCCB AND THE NEED FOR EXTENDING ITS MANDATE.

- Zambia, speaking on behalf of the Least Developed countries (LDCs), wishes to congratulate you the co-facilitators for being selected to facilitate informal consultations on matters related to capacity building, particularly focusing on critical agenda items on the second review of the Paris Committee on Capacity Building (PCCB), annual monitoring of the implementation of the capacity building framework and development of the Terms of References for the Fifth Review of the implementation of the capacity building framework in developing countries under the Convention for consideration and adoption at COP 29;
- From the outset, I wish to state that the LDCs believe that capacity-building is a critical means of implementation that underpins a country's ability to address climate change and its impacts. It is integral to implementing the Convention, the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement;
- Co-facilitators, as we all know, PCCB was established at COP 21, with the aim of addressing gaps and needs, both current and emerging, in implementing capacity-building in developing country Parties and further enhancing capacity-building efforts, including with regard to coherence and coordination in capacity-building activities under the Convention;
- The establishment of PCCB was an important milestone for the multilateral process, particularly for the Least Developed Country as we needed a body to coordinate the implementation of the framework for capacity building initiatives in developing country as espoused in decision 3/CP.7 with its priority areas including **institutional capacity building, enhancement and/or creation of an enabling environment; national communications, development and transfer of technology, capacity building for implementation of adaptation measures, education, training and awareness**, among others;
- At at COP 25, the PCCB was reviewed and its mandate extended by five years and guided to prioritise its work programme for 2021 – 2024 based on following three priority areas:
 - (a) Enhancing coherence and coordination of capacity-building under the Convention with a focus on avoiding duplication of efforts, including through collaboration with bodies under and outside the Convention that engage in activities related to capacity building, as appropriate and in accordance with their respective mandates;

(b) Identifying capacity gaps and needs, both current and emerging, and recommending ways to address them;

(c) Promoting awareness-raising, knowledge- and information-sharing and stakeholder engagement with bodies and relevant actors under and outside the Convention, as appropriate and in accordance with their respective mandates

- Based these priority areas, the Least Developed Countries wish to submit that:
 - a) Capacity-building is progressing steadily at the institutional, systemic and individual level. This has been noticed in some of our LDCs countries where institutional arrangements for implementation of climate change actions are being enhanced. This has facilitated smooth implementation of the national adaptation planning at country levels. We have also seen that in some LDCs countries that national policies, strategies and plans for addressing climate change actions are increasingly being formulated;
 - b) **On Enhancing coherence and coordination of capacity-building**, the LDCs have noted that there has been steady progress made on this matter. However, there need for PCCB to continuous strengthen institutional arrangements at the national level to coordinate the implementation of the framework, promoting the integration of climate change issues into national planning processes to increase the effectiveness and sustainability of outcomes;
 - c) **On identifying capacity gaps and needs, both current and emerging, and recommending ways to address them:** The Least Developed Countries wish to submit that the PCCB work on this thematic area has progressed very well through not as expected. The PCCB focused it work and played its coordination role to ensure that capacity gaps and needs, both current and emerging were identified and recommendation on ways to address them were made. Key findings on this area of focus from the LDCs perspective is that most the LDCs have been able to identify the gaps and needs, both current and emerging. Some of the gaps reported include those that relate to formulation and implementation of NAPs, access to finance, development of bankable project proposals for accessing fund from the financial mechanism of the Convention, compiling GHG inventories and reporting, inadequate mechanisms for monitoring of capacity building activities, limited knowledge and institutional capacities for transparency reporting, securing accredited entities to support the development of project proposals for funding, climate modelling and vulnerability assessment, among others. PCCB has documented these gaps and needs, both current and emerging in its annual reporting process. Some works are still on-going on addressing them by different constituted bodies under Convention and the Paris Agreement including different players outside the UNFCCC process.

- d) On third area of focus on **Promoting awareness-raising, knowledge- and information-sharing and stakeholder engagement with bodies and relevant actors under and outside the Convention, as appropriate and in accordance with their respective mandates:** the PCCB has made tremendous progress in promoting awareness-raising, knowledge and information sharing and stakeholder engagement with constituted bodies under the Convention.
- The formulation of PCCB stakeholder engagement strategy and a communication strategy to support the implementation of its workplan for 2021–2024 provided a good platform for PCCB to guide its work in effectively engaging stakeholders, as well as raising public awareness of climate change related capacity-building.
 - The use of informal coordination group on capacity-building under the Convention and the Paris Agreement, the PCCB Network, the Capacity-building Hub and social media proved to be very effective in promoting awareness-raising, knowledge- and information-sharing and stakeholder engagement.
 - The LDCs have also noted that regular coordination mechanisms have been established by PCCB to support the collation and review of an overview of current and planned capacity-building activities of constituted bodies under the Convention and the Paris Agreement, operating entities of the Financial Mechanism, and other relevant processes under the Convention and the Paris Agreement with participation
 - Participation of external experts, private sector and national, regional institutions in capacity building related activities has been enhanced
- However, the Least Developed Countries wish to highlight that despite steady progress made on the implementation of the PCCB mandate made as contained in decision 1/CP21, Para 71 as well as guided by its 2021-2024 work plan, PCCB as a constituted body still requires support to carry out its mandate effectively. The broadened mandates of PCCB now serving both the COP and CMA entails additional responsibilities requiring more support and resources.
 - PCCB also needs to broaden its engagement with developing country parties and establish its connection to national level structures which has been lacking. There should be a clear strategy of how PCCB works connects to national level capacity building events to ensure coherence.
 - On the need to extend PCCB mandate, the LDCs are of considered view that the mandate should be extended by a longer term. The Group is flexible on the length of mandate extension. We believe that a mandate of 5 years with prioritized activities

is key. These priorities may include these current three priority areas as elaborated in the annex of decision 9/CP.25 as well as other priority contained in decision 1/CP.21 Para 73 and other areas assigned to PCCB by COP and CMA

- **I thank you co-facilitators.**