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**Thirteenth meeting of the Adaptation Committee  
Bonn, Germany, 27 February to 2 March 2018**

**Relevant adaptation-related outcomes from the 23<sup>rd</sup> session of the Conference of the Parties and the 47<sup>th</sup> sessions of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation,  
Bonn, Germany, November 2017**

**Recommended action by the Adaptation Committee**

The Adaptation Committee (AC), at its 13<sup>th</sup> meeting, will be invited take note of the information provided in this report and draw from it, as appropriate, for relevant subsequent agenda items. It may also wish to include relevant activities derived from recent decisions, conclusions or workplans of other bodies into its own workplan for the period 2019-2021.

## 1. Introduction and scope

1. As part of its efforts to promote the implementation of adaptation action under the Convention in a coherent manner in line with the Cancun Adaptation Framework and the Paris Agreement, the Adaptation Committee (AC) requested the secretariat to prepare an updated map of mandates, workplans and/or decisions with adaptation relevance under the Convention after each session of the Conference of the Parties (COP).
2. This paper is intended to provide an overview of new and relevant developments on adaptation under the Convention. This includes those that require action from the AC and those that the AC may wish to monitor. The paper is broadly structured along the AC's workstreams.

## 2. Developments from the November 2017 UN Climate Change Conference

### 2.1. Overarching coherence

3. At its 21<sup>st</sup> session, the COP gave five different mandates to the AC with a view to developing recommendations for consideration by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA).<sup>1</sup> On three of these mandates<sup>2</sup> the AC worked closely together with the **Least Development Countries Expert Group (LEG)** and the two bodies established a joint working group for this purpose which operated during 2016 and 2017. All recommendations elaborated in response to these mandates to the AC, and to the AC and the LEG together, were included in the two bodies' respective reports to the SBSTA and the SBI (SB) 47.<sup>3</sup> The technical work completed was appreciated by the Parties who in turn initiated their consideration of the recommendations. The Parties agreed to continue consideration of this matter at SB 48 (April–May 2018) with a view to making a recommendation to be forwarded by COP 24 for consideration and adoption at CMA 1.<sup>4</sup> While there is currently no pending work mandated to the AC from the Paris Agreement and

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<sup>1</sup> 1/CP.21, paras. 41, 42 and 45.

<sup>2</sup> 1/CP.21, paras. 41 and 45.

<sup>3</sup> FCCC/SB/2017/2, and joint AC-LEG addendum FCCC/SB/2017/2/Add.1 – FCCC/SBI/2017/14/Add.1.

<sup>4</sup> FCCC/SBI/2017/19, paragraphs 77-80.

its operationalizing decision 1/CP.21, the AC may wish to remain flexible to accommodate any possible follow-up mandates in the future.

4. Parties, through the SBSTA conclusions welcomed the opportunities presented to the **Nairobi work programme (NWP)** to contribute to the work of constituted bodies under the Convention, in particular the AC and the LEG. They noted that these opportunities have strengthened the role of the NWP in providing knowledge support to the work of the AC and the LEG through innovative partnership arrangements. The SBSTA conclusions acknowledged the submissions from Parties, NWP partner organizations and other relevant organizations on their recent work in the areas of human settlements and adaptation, indicators of adaptation and resilience at the national and/or local level or for specific sectors, and adaptation actions and plans that could enhance economic diversification and produce mitigation co-benefits. Much of this provides valuable background information for ongoing work under the AC, such as the 2018 workshop on national adaptation goals/adaptation indicators. The relevance and effectiveness of the NWP will be reviewed at SBSTA 48.

5. At COP 23 Parties also made good progress in including local communities and indigenous peoples in the climate discourse, particularly by operationalizing the **Local communities and indigenous peoples platform**.<sup>5</sup> The purpose of the platform is to strengthen the knowledge, technologies, practices and efforts of local communities and indigenous peoples related to addressing and responding to climate change, to facilitate the exchange of experience and the sharing of best practices and lessons learned on mitigation and adaptation and to enhance the engagement of local communities and indigenous peoples in the UNFCCC process.

6. The COP noted the flexible five-year rolling workplan of the **Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts (WIM ExCom)**,<sup>6</sup> which enables the timely consideration of cross-cutting issues and current, urgent and emerging needs. It welcomed the plan of the task force on displacement (which has AC participation) to convene a meeting in May 2018 on all areas of its work, which will include wide consultations with stakeholders to ensure regional coverage.

7. Furthermore, the COP requested the secretariat, under the guidance of the ExCom and the Chair of the SBI, to organize, in conjunction with SB 48, an expert dialogue to explore a wide range of information, inputs and views on ways for facilitating the mobilization and securing of expertise, and enhancement of support for averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage, with a view to informing the preparation of a technical paper mandated by COP 22.

8. The COP reiterated its invitation to constituted bodies under the Convention, as appropriate, to continue to integrate into their work efforts to avert, minimize and address loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change in developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, vulnerable populations and the ecosystems that they depend on. It encouraged the ExCom to collaborate with other bodies under the Convention and the Paris Agreement within the scope of their respective mandates and to continue considering ways for facilitating the mobilization and securing of expertise, and enhancement of support, and when considering the composition and mandates of its expert groups and those it may establish.<sup>7</sup>

9. On the topic of **gender**, the COP adopted a gender action plan (GAP).<sup>8</sup> It invited Parties, members of constituted bodies, UN organizations, observers and other stakeholders to participate and engage in implementing the GAP, which is aiming at mainstreaming gender in all activities under the Convention. Priority areas of the GAP are capacity-building, knowledge sharing and communication; gender balance, participation and women's leadership; coherence; gender-responsive implementation and means of implementation; and monitoring and reporting. Activities in the plan requiring engagement with the AC include:

- a) A dialogue at SBI 48, open to Parties and observers, with the chairs of UNFCCC constituted bodies to discuss the outcomes of the technical paper on entry points requested in decision 21/CP.22, paragraph 13, and any potential recommendations;
- b) The provision of capacity-building to chairs and members of UNFCCC constituted bodies and technical teams of the secretariat on how to integrate gender considerations into their respective areas of work and on meeting the goal of gender balance.

## 2.2. Progress made on matters relating to the Paris Agreement work programme

10. The Ad-hoc working group on the Paris Agreement (APA), the SBs, and the COP continue working on matters relating to the **Paris Agreement work programme (PAWP)** to fully operationalize the provisions from

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<sup>5</sup> Decision 2/CP.23.

<sup>6</sup> Contained in the annex to document FCCC/SB/2017/1/Add.1.

<sup>7</sup> Decision 5/CP.23.

<sup>8</sup> Decision 3/CP.23.

the Paris Agreement by COP 24. The current state of work is reflected in the addendum to the conclusions prepared by the Co-Chairs of the APA.<sup>9</sup>

11. The AC may wish to monitor the negotiations under the APA for any possible future roles or mandates assigned to it.

12. With regard to pre-2020 implementation and ambition, the COP decided to convene stocktakes at COPs 24 and 25, taking the format of the 2016 facilitative dialogue, to bring visibility to, and creating a more coherent understanding of the pre-2020 work of the UNFCCC bodies.<sup>10</sup> The stocktakes will consider, inter alia, inputs from the constituted bodies under the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol, and the summaries for policymakers of the technical examination processes.

### 2.3. Technical Examination Process on Adaptation

13. COP 23 conducted the assessment of the **Technical Examination Processes on Mitigation and Adaptation (TEP-A and TEP-M)**, as mandated by decision 1/CP.21, to improve their effectiveness. The COP:

- a) Stressed the urgency of improving the TEPs, as outlined in decision 1/CP.21, including to better integrate them with the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action;
- b) Strongly urged the Chairs of the subsidiary bodies, the high-level champions, the AC, the Technology Executive Committee (TEC) and the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN) to focus the TEPs on specific policy options and opportunities for enhancing mitigation and adaptation that are actionable in the short term, including those with sustainable development co-benefits;
- c) Requested the AC to consider the needs of Parties expressed in their nationally determined contributions (NDCs), national adaptation plans (NAPs) and national communications, to address all four functions of the TEP-A, and to include in its annual report to the COP recommendations for respective processes and for constituted bodies under the Convention, Parties and other organizations on ways forward and necessary actions to be taken, based on the outcomes of the TEMs;
- d) Invited expert organizations, constituted bodies under the Convention and non-Party stakeholders to enhance their engagement in the TEPs;
- e) Invited Parties and non-Party stakeholders to organize regional TEMs, building on existing regional climate action events, as appropriate, with a view to examining specific finance, technology and capacity-building resources necessary to scale up actions in regional contexts, including through regional mitigation and adaptation initiatives, and to provide their reports thereon to the secretariat as input to the TEPs;
- f) Strongly urged the Chairs of the subsidiary bodies, the high-level champions, the Adaptation Committee, the TEC and the CTCN to ensure the necessary continuity of and follow-up on the identified policy options and opportunities, including by informing the SPMs, the high-level events and the 2018 Talanoa dialogue.

### 2.4. Technical support and guidance on adaptation action

14. With regard to **NAPs**,<sup>11</sup> Parties at SBI 47 welcomed the progress made by the AC and the LEG in their respective engagement with the Green Climate Fund (GCF) on ways to enhance access to support for the process to formulate and implement NAPs.

15. They further welcomed the work of the AC on the information paper on the experience of countries in accessing the GCF Readiness Programme for adaptation, including for the process to formulate and implement NAPs, and noted that the information paper will inform the workshop planned to take place during NAP Expo 2018 with a view to informing the assessment of progress in the process to formulate and implement NAPs.

16. Lastly, the SBI invited the AC and the LEG, following the NAP Expo 2018, to consider ways to assist with the implementation of NAPs in their future work programmes and to include information thereon in their reports, as appropriate.

<sup>9</sup> FCCC/APA/2017/L.4/Add.1.

<sup>10</sup> Decision 1/CP.23, paragraphs 12-20.

<sup>11</sup> FCCC/SBI/2017/19, paragraphs 70-71 and 73.

## 2.5. Technical support and guidance on means of implementation

### 2.5.1. Finance<sup>12</sup>

17. In the context of **long-term finance**,<sup>13</sup> the COP urged developed country Parties to continue their efforts to channel a substantial share of public climate funds to adaptation activities and to strive to achieve a greater balance between finance for mitigation and adaptation, recognizing the importance of adaptation finance and the need for public and grant-based resources for adaptation. It recalls the next in-session workshop on long-term climate finance, to be held in 2018, will, with a view to scaling up climate finance for mitigation and adaptation, focus on experiences and lessons learned from articulating and translating needs identified in country-driven processes into projects and programmes, roles of policies and enabling environments for mitigation and adaptation finance, and facilitating enhanced access.

18. In the context of the **review of the functions of the Standing Committee on Finance (SCF)**,<sup>14</sup> the COP encouraged Parties and other constituted bodies under the Convention to continue to provide submissions for the preparation of draft decisions on guidance to the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism, based on the reports of the operating entities, in a timely manner to the SCF.

19. It further recognized the need to avoid duplication of climate finance related work across the different subsidiary and constituted bodies, while respecting the mandates and competencies of the different bodies. The COP requested the SCF to further refine its approach to maintaining linkages with the subsidiary and constituted bodies according to resources available and in the context of its existing working modalities.

20. Lastly, the COP requested the SCF to ensure the value added of its forum when deciding on the topic of each forum, to provide clear recommendations to the COP, as appropriate, regarding follow-up actions on the forum, and invited other bodies and external organizations to take into consideration the outputs<sup>15</sup> of the forum.

21. Regarding the **GCF**, the COP noted with concern the challenges in accessing financial resources for climate action in developing country Parties, especially in relation to funding for adaptation. It encouraged the GCF Board to continue improving the process to review and approve readiness and preparatory support requests, including requests for support to prepare NAPs and voluntary adaptation planning processes, including the timely disbursement for approved programmes. It also invited the Board to consider ways to improve the availability of information on accessing funding from the GCF, as appropriate.<sup>16</sup>

### 2.5.2. Technology

22. Regarding the activities and performance of the **Technology Executive Committee (TEC)** in 2017, the COP invited the TEC to continue to enhance the linkages between the technology needs assessments and the NAPs. It encouraged the TEC to continue strengthening collaboration with other constituted bodies under the Convention, including the AC.<sup>17</sup>

23. The COP further welcomed the report<sup>18</sup> on the independent review of the effective implementation of the **Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN)** and decided to renew the memorandum of understanding between the COP and the United Nations Environment Programme regarding the hosting of the Climate Technology Centre for a further four-year period. It decided that the second independent review of the effective implementation of the CTCN will be commissioned for consideration by COP 27 (November 2021).<sup>19</sup>

### 2.5.3. Capacity Building

24. The COP appreciated the work of the **Paris Committee of Capacity Building (PCCB)** in its first year of operation. The COP encouraged the PCCB, when implementing its workplan,<sup>20</sup> to identify and collaborate with

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<sup>12</sup> A more detailed overview on developments on adaptation finance under the Convention is available in the 2<sup>nd</sup> issue of the AC's [finance bulletin](#).

<sup>13</sup> Decision 6/CP.23.

<sup>14</sup> Decision 8/CP.23.

<sup>15</sup> The report on the forum is available at

[http://unfccc.int/files/cooperation\\_and\\_support/financial\\_mechanism/standing\\_committee/application/pdf/2017\\_-\\_report.pdf](http://unfccc.int/files/cooperation_and_support/financial_mechanism/standing_committee/application/pdf/2017_-_report.pdf).

<sup>16</sup> Decision 9/CP.23.

<sup>17</sup> Decision 15/CP.23.

<sup>18</sup> Contained in document FCCC/CP/2017/3.

<sup>19</sup> Decision 14/CP.23.

<sup>20</sup> The workplan is available at

[http://unfccc.int/files/cooperation\\_and\\_support/financial\\_mechanism/standing\\_committee/application/pdf/pccb\\_rolling\\_workplan.pdf](http://unfccc.int/files/cooperation_and_support/financial_mechanism/standing_committee/application/pdf/pccb_rolling_workplan.pdf).

institutions and other stakeholders with relevant expertise, tools and resources, including bodies established under the Convention.<sup>21</sup>

### 3. Other relevant elements

25. The **NAP Expo**,<sup>22</sup> organized by the LEG, is an interactive platform providing opportunities to Parties and non-Party stakeholders to advance the formulation and implementation of NAPs by sharing experiences, gaps and needs. It is also an opportunity for the AC to fulfil its function of awareness-raising, outreach and sharing of information. The next NAP Expo will be held from 4-6 April 2018.<sup>23</sup> The information paper produced by the AC on experiences of countries in accessing the GCF Readiness Programme for Adaptation, including for the process to formulate and implement NAPs, will inform an AC workshop planned to take place during NAP Expo aiming to advance the understanding and overcome challenges relating to i) The establishment of National Entities for direct access; and ii) Accessing the readiness programme for adaptation of the GCF.<sup>24</sup>

### 4. Next steps

26. The AC may wish to take note of the information provided in this report and draw from it, as appropriate, for relevant subsequent agenda items. In particular, it may wish to include the following items derived from the information contained in this document into its own workplan for the period 2019-2021:

- a) To remain flexible in order to accommodate any possible follow-up activities from the Paris Agreement and its operationalizing decision 1/CP.21 and any requests in the context of the pre-2020 stocktakes;
- b) To respond to requests from other institutional arrangements under the Convention, and to continue engaging them in the AC's work, as appropriate;
- c) To collaborate with the LEG, following the NAP Expo 2018, to consider ways to assist with the implementation of NAPs in their future work programmes and to include information thereon in their reports, as appropriate (this could be undertaken by the NAP Taskforce);
- d) In the context of the TEP-A:
  - i) To include in the AC report to the COP recommendations for respective processes and for constituted bodies under the Convention, Parties and other organizations on ways forward and necessary actions to be taken, based on the outcomes of the TEMs;
  - ii) To support regional TEM-As, as appropriate;
- e) Continue providing input to the SCF for the preparation of draft decisions on guidance to the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism;
- f) To continue to enhance the linkages between the TNAs and the NAPs (NAP Taskforce)
- g) To continue to support the NAP Expo upon invitation by the LEG (through the LEG's liaison group or the NAP Taskforce)

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<sup>21</sup> Decision 16/CP.23.

<sup>22</sup> Information of NAP Expo 2018 is available at [http://unfccc.int/adaptation/workstreams/national\\_adaptation\\_plans/items/10137.php](http://unfccc.int/adaptation/workstreams/national_adaptation_plans/items/10137.php).

<sup>23</sup> Venue to be confirmed.

<sup>24</sup> FCCC/SBI/2017/19, paragraph 71.