

**Seventeenth meeting of the Adaptation Committee
Bonn, Germany, 24 – 27 March 2020**

**Relevant adaptation-related outcomes from the 2019 Climate Change Conference
held in Madrid, Spain**

Recommended action by the Adaptation Committee

The Adaptation Committee (AC), at its 17th meeting, will be invited to consider the information contained in this document and draw from it, as appropriate, for relevant subsequent agenda items and include new activities into its workplan.

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 UNFCCC. This includes those that require action from the AC and those that the AC may wish to monitor.
3. This paper does not aim to summarize all adaptation-relevant outcomes in detail. The full reports of the 25th session of the COP (COP 25), the 2nd session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA 2) and the 51st sessions of the Subsidiary Bodies (SB 51) will be made available online.

2. Relevant outcomes from the December 2019 UN Climate Change Conference

4. Parties concluded the conference with the adoption of a set of decisions and conclusions. This section presents the outcomes that are most relevant to the AC's work in line with its workstreams.

2.1. Overarching coherence

5. Parties did not reach agreement on the 2019 report of the Adaptation Committee and the recommendations contained therein. Consultations will continue at SB 52 in June 2020.
6. In one of the overarching decisions (decision 1/CMA.1 [Chile Madrid Time for Action](#)), the CMA "called on Parties to engage in adaptation planning processes and the implementation of actions, [...] in accordance with Article 7, paragraph 9, of the Paris Agreement,¹ with a view to continue making progress towards the

¹ Article 7, para. 9 reads: Each Party shall, as appropriate, engage in adaptation planning processes and the implementation of actions, including the development or enhancement of relevant plans, policies and/or contributions, which may include:

- (a) The implementation of adaptation actions, undertakings and/or efforts;
- (b) The process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans;

global goal on adaptation". The Paris Agreement had established a global goal on adaptation of enhancing adaptive capacity, strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerability to climate change, with a view to contributing to sustainable development and ensuring an adequate adaptation response in the context of the temperature goal referred to in Article 2. The CMA in Madrid then requested the Adaptation Committee to **consider approaches to reviewing the overall progress made in achieving the global goal on adaptation** and to reflect the outcome of this consideration in its 2021 annual report.

7. With regard to the **Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG)**, the SBI noted with appreciation the ongoing collaboration of the LEG with the AC and others and encouraged the continuation of this collaboration. It requested the LEG to consider how to increase the accessibility and transparency of its meetings and information on its workplan activities, taking into account the rules of procedure and practices of other constituted bodies, as appropriate, and to include information on how it responded to this mandate in the report on its 37th meeting for consideration at SBI 52.

8. On the topic of **gender** (decision -/CP.25 Enhanced Lima work programme on gender and its gender action plan), the COP adopted a new gender action plan. The plan aims to continue the work already started under the first gender action plan. The work area "coherence", for example, aims to ensure that members of constituted bodies are introduced to gender-related mandates and to the relevance of gender in the context of their work. The AC has already reacted to this and agreed on its own workplan on gender, which is already under implementation.

9. Another activity from the gender action plan is to facilitate the exchange of views and best practices of the Chairs of constituted bodies on how to strengthen the integration of the gender perspective into their work. This will take into account synthesis reports prepared by the secretariat.

2.2. Technical support and guidance on adaptation action

10. With regard to **National Adaptation Plans (NAPs)** the COP took note of the work of the AC and the LEG on **gaps and needs related to the process to formulate and implement NAPs**,² including the gaps and needs that the LEG annexed to the report on its 36th meeting.³ The COP requested the AC, through its task force on NAPs, and the LEG to continue to include in their reports information on these gaps and needs identified in undertaking their mandated work and on how to address them. The COP also invited constituted bodies and other organizations to provide information to the AC and the LEG on activities undertaken to address these gaps and needs.

11. The COP requested SBI 53 (November 2020), to consider information from the reports of the AC and the LEG, including on gaps and needs and the implementation of NAPs, and to take further action as appropriate.

12. In the same decision, the COP took note of the progress of the Green Climate Fund (GCF) in enhancing the process of accessing support for the formulation and implementation of NAPs and expressed its appreciation to the AC and the LEG for their engagement with the GCF in this regard. The SBI echoed this appreciation in its conclusion text relating to least developed countries.

13. Regarding the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts (WIM) coherence is a key theme throughout decision -/CMA.2 (WIM and its review) and further collaborative activities will emerge. For example, the CMA requested the secretariat, under the guidance of the Executive Committee (Excom), to organize meetings in conjunction with relevant regional forums, engaging relevant constituted bodies, networks and work programmes under the Convention and the Paris Agreement, to identify ways of integrating loss and damage into relevant work and guidelines, as appropriate.

(c) The assessment of climate change impacts and vulnerability, with a view to formulating nationally determined prioritized actions, taking into account vulnerable people, places and ecosystems;
(d) Monitoring and evaluating and learning from adaptation plans, policies, programmes and actions; and
(e) Building the resilience of socioeconomic and ecological systems, including through economic diversification and sustainable management of natural resources.

² decision -/CP.25

³ [FCCC/SBI/2019/16](#).

14. It encouraged relevant constituted bodies under the Convention and the Paris Agreement, in collaboration with the Excom, to integrate loss and damage into their work, where appropriate. On the other hand, it also requested the Excom and its thematic expert groups to draw upon the work of relevant constituted bodies, networks and work programmes.

15. Another outcome that directly relates to the AC is the newly adopted plan of action of the **task force on displacement (TFD)** as annexed to the Excom's 2019 annual report.⁴ Activity 14 of the action plan calls for collaboration with the LEG and the AC to raise awareness of the importance of integrating consideration of human mobility in the context of climate change. The workplan states that this could be done via a NAP Expo or possibly a topic under the AC's Adaptation Forum.

16. Regarding the **Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform (LCIPP)**, the SBSTA welcomed the report on the 1st meeting of the Facilitative Working Group (FWG) of the LCIPP and the FWG's first workplan,⁵ which is designed to facilitate the implementation of the functions of the LCIPP. The workplan contains activities that directly involve the AC, for example a map of existing policies and practices for the participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in climate change related bodies and processes under and outside the UNFCCC. The workplan also foresees another multi-stakeholder in-session workshop on enhancing synergy and interaction with climate change related bodies and processes under and outside the UNFCCC, building on the successful examples from the SB session in June 2019 and COP 25.

2.3. Technical support and guidance on means of implementation

2.3.1. Finance⁶

17. As per usual practice, the AC provided input to the **Standing Committee on Finance (SCF)** for its draft guidance to the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism of the Convention. The SCF was unable to conclude its work and agreed to forward to the COP and the CMA a compilation of information from the submissions on the draft guidance. It also agreed to assess its modalities of work on the draft guidance at its first meeting in 2020.

18. Decision [-/CP.25](#) (mirrored in decision [-/CMA.2](#)) endorsed the SCF's workplan for 2020⁷ and underlined the importance of the SCF focusing its work in 2020 in accordance with its current mandates.

19. The COP welcomed the SCF's decision on the topic of its 2020 Forum, which will be financing nature-based solutions. It also took note of the SCF's appointment of focal points to liaise with the other constituted bodies under the Convention and the Paris Agreement.

20. Decision [-/CP.25](#) on the report of the **Green Climate Fund (GCF)** to the Conference of the Parties and guidance to the GCF welcomed the adoption of the [workplan of the GCF Board for 2020–2023](#), which establishes a regular policy implementation, learning and review cycle. It also welcomed the collaboration between the GCF, the AC and the LEG.

2.3.2. Technology

21. In decision [-/CP.25 \(Technology Mechanism\)](#) the COP noted the initiative of the Technology Executive Committee, under its rolling workplan for 2019–2022, to promote innovative approaches to upscaling adaptation technologies, including through the organization of an in-session technology day in 2020.

2.3.3. Capacity Building

22. By decision [-/CP.25](#) (Review of the **Paris Committee on Capacity-building (PCCB)** for 2019), the COP extended the PCCB by another five years. It welcomed the annual technical progress report of the PCCB for 2019⁸ and took note of the recommendations contained therein.

⁴ [FCCC/SB/201/5/Add.1](#)

⁵ Annexed to the report of FWG 2, contained in document [FCCC/SBSTA/2019/4](#).

⁶ A more detailed overview on recent developments on adaptation finance is available in the 5th issue of the AC's [Finance Bulletin](#).

⁷ [FCCC/CP/2019/10–FCCC/PA/CMA/2019/3](#), annex V.

⁸ [FCCC/SBI/2019/13](#).

23. In the report, the PCCB notes that it formed a partnership with the Adaptation Fund Board (AFB) secretariat and the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN) to raise awareness of **available readiness and capacity-building support for adaptation**, including via a bulletin. The bulletin will include information on available readiness and capacity-building support for accessing programme adaptation finance from organizations providing such support to developing countries under the Convention and the Paris Agreement. The bulletin is also expected to promote collaboration and partnerships in the delivery of readiness and capacity-building support, which in turn could strengthen the quality of technical assistance and other forms of support aimed at resilience-building on the ground delivered to developing countries.

24. The COP further agreed on three priority areas to focus the PCCB's very broad workplan for 2016-2020. Activities for 2020 for each of the priority areas were annexed to the decision, and priority area b) is of particular relevance to the AC: Identifying capacity gaps and needs, both current and emerging, and recommending ways to address them. Activity (a) of this work area is "Interacting with other constituted bodies to allow the Paris Committee on Capacity-building to gather information on what they are doing to address capacity gaps and needs in areas relevant to their mandates to provide input to their work, as appropriate". This has a direct link to the AC's ongoing work on capacity gaps for accessing adaptation funding.

25. With regard to initial institutional arrangements for **capacity-building under the Paris Agreement**, Decision -/[CMA.2](#) invites the PCCB to work closely with other constituted bodies under the Convention and the Paris Agreement to address gaps and needs, both current and emerging, in implementing capacity-building in developing countries and to enhance the coherence and coordination of capacity-building in accordance with the relevant mandates and activities of those bodies.

3. Next steps

26. The AC may wish to take note of the information provided in this document and draw from it, as appropriate, for relevant subsequent agenda items. It may also wish to include the following activities in its flexible workplan for 2019-2021:

- a) The consideration of approaches to reviewing the overall progress made in achieving the global goal on adaptation and to reflect the outcome of this consideration in its 2021 annual report;
- b) Continued work – through the NAP Taskforce – on gaps and needs related to the process to formulate and implement NAPs, and to include information on these gaps and needs in its 2020 annual report;
- c) Consider how to gather information from constituted bodies and other organizations on activities undertaken to address these gaps and needs;
- d) When discussing the theme of upcoming Adaptation Fora, cooperate with the TFD to accommodate the TFD's workplan activity to raise awareness of the importance of integrating consideration of human mobility in the context of climate change. This could be done via a NAP Expo or a topic under the AC's Adaptation Forum.
- e) Formally include the LCIPP-FWG as a collaboration partner in its workplan, including contributions to papers and events;
- f) Contribute, as appropriate, to the SCF's 2020 Forum which will focus on financing nature-based solutions. This could be channelled through the Nairobi work programme and draw on work currently and previously undertaken by its partner organizations;
- g) Contribute, as appropriate, to the TEC's in-session technology day in 2020, which will promote innovative approaches to upscaling adaptation technologies;
- h) Consider contacting the PCCB, the AFB and the CTCN to explore how synergies could be created between the two bulletins:

- i) The PCCB/AFB/CTCN bulletin on available readiness and capacity-building support for accessing adaptation finance from organizations providing such support to developing countries under the Convention and the Paris Agreement; and
 - j) The AC's Adaptation Finance Bulletin.
-