

Initiating considerations on the flexible workplan of the Adaptation Committee for 2022-2024

Recommended action by the Adaptation Committee

The Adaptation Committee (AC), at its 19th meeting, will be invited to discuss the information contained in this document and agree on the next steps towards establishing its next flexible workplan.

1. Background and scope

1. At its 14th meeting, the AC agreed its third workplan, covering the period 2019-2021, which was subsequently welcomed by the COP.¹ The AC agreed to keep its workplan flexible to take on new and emerging tasks and allow for flexibility regarding the timing of activities and revisions of the workplan, as needed.
2. As the current workplan will expire at the end of 2021, the AC may wish to elaborate a new workplan to be agreed in the 2nd half of 2021 and be mindful of incorporating any feedback from the COP following the review of the AC's progress, performance and effectiveness. This document contains possible guiding principles, main themes and next steps to support the AC in the elaboration of its next workplan.

2. Guiding principles

3. The AC may wish to consider the following guiding principles for the elaboration of its next workplan:
 - a) The AC's mandate and objectives, as laid out in decision 1/CP.16, para. 20, which established the AC to promote the implementation of enhanced action on adaptation in a coherent manner under the Convention;
 - b) The overall aim of contributing to the global goal on adaptation as contained in Article 7.1 of the Paris Agreement, the principles guiding adaptation action as contained in Art. 7.5 of the Paris Agreement and to provide technical support and guidance to the Parties to facilitate the implementation of Articles 7.9 – 7.10 of the Paris Agreement;
 - c) A critical self-assessment of past achievements as well as current and future challenges in relation to its mandates;
 - d) The principle of flexibility that the AC has been applying to its workplans to allow for adjustments to accommodate new mandates and developments.

3. Content

4. Ongoing activities will be included in the next workplan, such as the mandates received from the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA), in particular related to the Global Stocktake.
5. Further, the AC may wish to agree on a limited amount of annual focus areas responding to the guiding principles above, with the goal of maximizing impact and avoiding proliferation. In this, the AC may wish to consider which of its recent thematic work areas it wishes to further explore, such as its work on data,

¹ See decision 9/CP.24, para.1.

finance, capacity building or technologies for adaptation, and how and with whom these activities could be carried out.

6. In its effort of maximizing impact, the AC may wish to consider fully exploring the modalities stipulated in decision 2/CP.17, para. 94, to expand the scope of its reach, both in undertaking its activities and in disseminating its outputs.

7. In agreeing on activities that would best respond to the Parties' needs, in line with the AC's mandate, the AC may wish to keep in mind the Paris Agreement's Article 7, para 7, which notes that Parties should strengthen their cooperation on enhancing action on adaptation, taking into account the Cancun Adaptation Framework, including with regard to:

- a) Sharing information, good practices, experiences and lessons learned, including, as appropriate, as these relate to science, planning, policies and implementation in relation to adaptation actions;
- b) Strengthening institutional arrangements, including those under the Convention that serve this Agreement, to support the synthesis of relevant information and knowledge, and the provision of technical support and guidance to Parties;
- c) Strengthening scientific knowledge on climate, including research, systematic observation of the climate system and early warning systems, in a manner that informs climate services and supports decision-making;
- d) Assisting developing country Parties in identifying effective adaptation practices, adaptation needs, priorities, support provided and received for adaptation actions and efforts, and challenges and gaps, in a manner consistent with encouraging good practices; and
- e) Improving the effectiveness and durability of adaptation actions.

4. Possible next steps

8. The AC may wish to consider the following suite of steps to arrive at the adoption of its next workplan at AC 20:

- a) AC 19: Initial discussion, including a self-assessment, as appropriate, on priority areas of work for the years 2022-2024;
- b) Post-AC 19: Co-Chairs, interested AC members and the secretariat perform a screening of the priority areas discussed and elaborate a first set of possible activities to address these areas;
- c) Mid-May 2021: 1st conference call with interested AC members to discuss a first order draft of the work plan;
- d) End of June 2021: 2nd conference call with interested AC members to discuss a second order draft of the work plan;
- e) AC 20 (September 2021): Approval of the work plan for inclusion in the 2021 AC annual report;
- f) AC 21 (early 2022): Review of the workplan in line with the outcomes of COP 26.

Document information

<i>Version</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Description</i>
01.0	8 March 2021	AC 19 to consider and agree on next steps

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