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Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change

**Report on the technical workshop on increasing economic resilience to
climate change and reducing reliance on vulnerable economic sectors,
including through economic diversification**

Note by the secretariat

Summary

This note provides a summary of the technical workshop on increasing economic resilience to climate change and reducing reliance on vulnerable economic sectors, including through economic diversification, held under the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change. The workshop was held in Cairo, Egypt, from 28 to 30 April 2009. Discussions at the workshop focused on the understanding, development and dissemination of measures, methodologies and tools for increasing economic resilience, including the understanding of social aspects. This note contains a summary of key discussion points, major challenges, gaps, needs, opportunities and barriers as well as a summary of recommendations and issues for follow-up and further consideration, including possible next steps under the Nairobi work programme.

* Exact dates within the sessional period are subject to confirmation.

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I. Introduction

A. Mandate

1. The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA), at its twenty-eighth session, requested the secretariat to organize, under the guidance of the Chair of the SBSTA and before its thirtieth session, a technical workshop on increasing economic resilience to climate change and reducing reliance on vulnerable economic sectors, including through economic diversification.¹
2. The workshop was to involve representatives from Parties, business, communities and experts with a view to promoting understanding and the development and dissemination of measures, methodologies and tools for increasing economic resilience, including the understanding of social aspects. The SBSTA further requested the secretariat to prepare a report on this workshop, to be made available by its thirty-first session.²

B. Scope of the note

3. This document provides information on the workshop referred to in paragraph 1 above, drawing upon the discussions and presentations that took place.³
4. The document contains:
 - (a) A description of the workshop proceedings (chapter II);
 - (b) An analysis of the issues addressed at the workshop (chapter III);
 - (c) A summary of recommendations (chapter IV);
 - (d) Issues for follow-up and further consideration (chapter V).

C. Possible action by the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice

5. The SBSTA may wish to consider this workshop report at its thirty-third session as part of its consideration of the outputs from activities completed prior to that session, with a view to reviewing the results of the implementation of the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change.

D. Background

6. The overall objective of the Nairobi work programme is to assist all Parties, in particular developing countries, including the least developed countries and small island developing States, to improve their understanding and assessment of impacts, vulnerability and adaptation, and to make informed decisions on practical adaptation actions and measures to respond to climate change on a sound scientific, technical and socio-economic basis, taking into account current and future climate change and variability.⁴
7. Activities under the Nairobi work programme are undertaken with a view to advancing the objective stated in the annex to decision 2/CP.11. Activities in the area of economic diversification under the Nairobi work programme are intended to address, in particular, the subthemes stated in

¹ FCCC/SBSTA/2008/6, paragraph 73.

² FCCC/SBSTA/2008/6, paragraph 74.

³ These presentations are available at <<http://unfccc.int/4781.php>>.

⁴ Decision 2/CP.11, annex, paragraph 1.

paragraph 3 (b) (v), “Promoting understanding and the development and dissemination of measures, methodologies and tools including for economic diversification aimed at increasing economic resilience and reducing reliance on vulnerable economic sectors, especially for relevant categories of countries listed in Article 4, paragraph 8, of the Convention”.

II. Proceedings

8. The technical workshop on increasing economic resilience to climate change and reducing reliance on vulnerable economic sectors, including through economic diversification, was held in Cairo, Egypt, from 28 to 30 April 2009. It was organized by the secretariat in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment of Egypt. Ms. Helen Plume, the Chair of the SBSTA, chaired the workshop.

9. Participants at the workshop comprised 50 representatives from Parties, relevant international organizations, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), research entities and businesses that are active in the areas of economic development, risk management, adaptation and development planning, at the community and national levels.

10. Discussions at the workshop were informed by ongoing and previous work under the Convention, in particular under the Nairobi work programme, including submissions from Parties and relevant organizations⁵ and a synthesis report,⁶ as well as the information contained in the summary report of the results of the implementation of the Nairobi work programme for the period up to the twenty-eighth session of the SBSTA.⁷

11. Following the welcoming statement by Mr. Maged George Elias Ghattas, the Minister of State for Environmental Affairs of Egypt, a set of presentations introduced the conceptual framework of the topic in order to facilitate subsequent discussions. These presentations included the objective of the Nairobi work programme, background to and scope of the workshop, links between adaptation and economic resilience, and social dimensions of economic diversification in the context of climate change.

12. The workshop was divided into two parts. The first part focused on understanding existing approaches, measures and tools for increasing economic resilience to climate change and reducing reliance on vulnerable sectors, in particular from the perspective of the agriculture and food security sector, and featured the experiences and lessons learned from the Caribbean, which was used as a case study. A representative of the host government shared the host government’s strategies for increasing synergy among policies on poverty reduction, adaptation and economic diversification, emphasizing the need for the integration of economic diversification into sustainable development strategy, including reforms in energy and associated industries. The second part of the workshop focused on ways and means to facilitate the development and dissemination of approaches, measures and tools for increasing economic resilience to climate change and reducing reliance on vulnerable sectors. During two breakout group sessions, participants identified gaps, needs, enabling environments and opportunities as well as further action for increasing economic resilience to climate change and reducing reliance on vulnerable economic sectors in the context of adaptation at the community and national levels.

⁵ Submissions from Parties on economic diversification are contained in document FCCC/SBSTA/2007/MISC.15 and Add.1, and submissions from relevant organizations are contained in document FCCC/SBSTA/2007/MISC.16. Submissions from Parties and relevant organizations on measures, methodologies and tools for increasing economic resilience to climate change and reducing reliance on vulnerable economic sectors are contained in document FCCC/SBSTA/2009/MISC.6.

⁶ FCCC/SBSTA/2007/14.

⁷ FCCC/SBSTA/2008/12.

13. After the breakout groups reported back and gave recommendations for further actions, the chair invited organizations to make action pledges under the Nairobi work programme and share plans for future collaboration to address the gaps and needs identified during the workshop, and provide updates on the status of implementation of existing action pledges. A final panel was held to provide an opportunity for the facilitators and rapporteurs of the breakout group sessions to discuss the findings of these group sessions and their views on the way forward, including follow-up actions under the Nairobi work programme. The workshop concluded with a summary by the chair.

III. Analysis of the issues addressed at the workshop

A. Introduction

14. Climate change poses significant challenges to economic activities and livelihoods. Climate change impacts and vulnerabilities vary by region as well as within countries, hence impacts on a given economic sector depend on the characteristics of that sector and its geographical location. Economies in vulnerable developing countries are highly susceptible to the impacts of climate change, as their economic activities often depend largely on natural resources. Participants noted that many developing countries are experiencing difficulties in strengthening their economic resilience to climate change due to their reliance on a limited number of economic activities.

15. Participants at the workshop considered current practices and lessons learned from a diverse range of approaches, measures, methodologies and tools that have been developed to enhance economic resilience and reduce reliance on vulnerable economic sectors in the context of adaptation to climate change. These include the introduction of effective public policies, social security and safety nets, risk management and financial schemes, and activities related to information and knowledge sharing and learning. This exercise enabled participants to identify enabling factors, gaps, key challenges and the most viable areas for action.

16. Following the identification of gaps and needs during the workshop, a number of organizations provided information on their ongoing activities and pledged to carry out a range of new actions under the Nairobi work programme, with a view to addressing the challenges in enhancing economic resilience to climate change.⁸ These action pledges are intended to further assist developing country Parties in enhancing resilience to climate change across all sectors and at all levels (see section IV).

17. At the workshop, economic diversification was considered as a strategy for risk spreading or reduction that aims to lessen exposure and increase options for adapting to climate change. Economic diversification can therefore help enhance economic resilience, which is a strategy for adaptation in itself.

18. Underlying systems in economic diversification which were viewed as critical at the workshop include technological and industrial innovation, education and training, sufficient health services and social protection, infrastructure for transportation and communication, as well as efficient use of energy, water and natural resources.

⁸ These organizations include: the African Development Bank, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, GlobalAgRisk, the Institute for Social and Environmental Transition, the International Labour Organization, the International Trade Union Confederation, Oxfam America, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme and the World Food Programme.

B. Current experiences with approaches, measures and tools

19. In order to deepen understanding of the measures, methodologies and tools required to increase economic resilience to climate change and reduce reliance on vulnerable economic sectors, an overview of different approaches, policies and tools was presented, in particular focusing on the agriculture and food security sector, and using experiences from the Caribbean as a case study. The examples of current practices discussed at the workshop ranged from the adoption of effective public policies, social safety nets, risk management and financial schemes to activities related to information and knowledge sharing and learning.

1. Public policies

20. As regards examples of effective public policies, the representative of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) secretariat outlined an approach adopted in the Caribbean. It includes elements on enhancing capacity, building a national policy framework, and piloting adaptation projects, as well as a regional strategy on climate change which contains a plan of action for resource mobilization. The representative of Cuba elaborated on the strategy employed by Cuba to diversify its national economy, which targets the energy, construction and tourism sectors. The representative of Trinidad and Tobago reported on Vision 2020, a national strategic development plan, which includes measures to increase food security, and plans to develop and promote high-value tourism and ecotourism destinations. Due to the structural vulnerabilities in the Caribbean, combined with the fact that the agriculture and tourism sectors are both highly sensitive to climate change impacts, achieving high adaptive capacity in these sectors is vital for the sustainable development of the region.

21. A diverse range of experiences shared by participants indicated that economic resilience at the community level and the resilience of ecosystems are required for resilience at the national level. The representative of Trinidad and Tobago, speaking from national experience, stressed the importance of setting measurable targets and outcomes and monitoring of progress in order to ensure the effectiveness of plans and strategies.

22. A range of approaches, measures and tools were identified as being conducive to increasing economic resilience at the national level. These include: innovation in public policy, such as legislative reform and policy frameworks that incorporate climate change and sustainable land management; the assessment of climate change impacts on employment and alternative livelihood programmes; adequate provision of social safety nets and social protection such as skill development and training; risk assessment; integration with risk management programmes; promotion of innovative technologies and infrastructure; and effective knowledge management through more extensive knowledge and information sharing, training, institutional strengthening, and establishing climate change information centres.

23. While most of the measures and tools mentioned in paragraph 22 above could potentially enhance economic resilience and reduce reliance on vulnerable economic sectors, participants acknowledged that some may create new vulnerabilities for sectors and population groups that are already vulnerable. This may be in part due to social differentiation in accessing enabling factors and resources, such as microfinance, health insurance, application of labour standards and protection of property rights, particularly with regard to vulnerable population groups such as women.

2. Experience from the agriculture and food security sector

24. In order to enhance economic resilience within the agriculture and food security sector, a number of existing measures were discussed, including: the expansion of agricultural extension services; the promotion of large agricultural estates and the creation of agricultural cooperatives; the promotion of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), and the development of labour-intensive manufacturing;

the enhancement of the quality of and access to microfinance; and the promotion of skill development and institutional capacity-building.

25. Participants acknowledged that in a country or region where the economy relies heavily on natural resources, economic resilience depends on the availability of these resources and ecological resilience. The representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), explaining that enriched carbon soils are more resilient to drought and erosion, emphasized the importance of planning in the agriculture and food security sectors in order to consolidate policies for increasing resilience of cropping systems, improving management of watersheds and improving infrastructure against natural disasters as a means of helping vulnerable populations prepare for climate change impacts.⁹ Enhancing the link between risk management strategies for crop and income loss with disaster risk management was viewed as an effective means of diversifying sources of household income to address the risk of income losses as a result of climate change.

3. Risk management and financial schemes

26. Regarding risk management and financial schemes, participants were informed of initiatives relating to weather-indexed crop insurance, which covers weather-related risks such as drought and excess rain during a crop growing cycle and can be made affordable for small farmers. The representative of MiroEnsure reported on its work in Malawi where the majority of the farmers who participated in the scheme were able to increase production and diversify the range of crops cultivated, increase their assets and the area of land under cultivation, improve housing and irrigation systems, as well as enhance schooling for their children.

27. In Ethiopia, the Horn of Africa Risk Transfer for Adaptation (HARITA) pilot project for weather index-based microinsurance has proved to be effective. The representative of Oxfam America elaborated on the project's holistic approach to risk management, integrating risk transfer (through weather insurance), risk reduction (through cash-for-work programmes) and prudent risk taking (through taking credit). Although success is not guaranteed in all years, there has been an increase in resilience to chronic food insecurity, as well as an enhanced integration of credit, extension services and risk reduction. In order for microfinance schemes to be effective, multi-stakeholder engagement is crucial, as the HARITA pilot project has shown, since it involves farmers, academics, NGOs, the private sector and national governments. Political and social buy-in and increased participation of vulnerable populations in income stabilization programmes have been successful elements of the project.

4. Reducing reliance on vulnerable economic sectors

28. With regard to reducing reliance on vulnerable economic sectors, Mauritius explained how it successfully reduced its reliance on sugar exports and diversified into other sectors such as textiles, tourism, and information and communication technology. Participants were informed of the attempt by Kenya to move away from tourism and diversify into horticulture and flower exports, which was unsuccessful due to reduced demand for imported products that have a large carbon footprint. This demonstrates the crucial need to take into consideration global economic trends when diversifying economic activities.

29. While few good documented examples of economic diversification were identified, the experiences gained from restructuring the fur industry in Austria, transforming the sugarcane industry in Cuba and shifting economic activities away from agriculture to the garment industry in Bangladesh were considered relevant, with the possibility of applying similar diversification strategies in other countries.

⁹ Further examples of possible policies as presented by the representative of FAO are available at <<http://unfccc.int/files/adaptation/application/pdf/fao.pdf>>.

30. Participants identified a range of indicators for measuring a country's level of reliance on a given economic sector, including: the percentage of the contribution of that sector to the country's gross domestic product, the share of that sector in the country's exports, and the percentage of the workforce employed in that sector. During the discussion, agriculture, fisheries, forestry, tourism, energy, water, transport and construction were cited as examples of sectors vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. Participants stressed that further work is necessary for the identification of investment opportunities for alternative businesses or livelihoods.

C. Enabling factors and opportunities

31. The importance of creating enabling environments was discussed extensively, as it is essential for building economic resilience. Understanding social aspects, including dealing with cultural resistance to change, and integrating adaptation considerations across all sectors and at all levels is required. Participants paid particular attention to issues of governance, infrastructure, social systems, political stability, and information and knowledge generation and sharing.

32. Participants suggested that possible indicators for economic resilience could include: human, natural and capital resources; levels of infrastructure; access to information and disaster preparedness; availability of social safety nets; market efficiency, including issues related to pricing; available capital; and the degree of gender equality in education and employment.

33. Good governance was identified as a fundamental enabling factor for economic resilience and adaptation. Elements of good governance include: effective and functioning judicial systems; participatory and inclusive processes; coordinated and integrated planning for adaptation; flexible and adaptive management institutions; effective monitoring and enforcement practice; policymaking that supports enabling markets and investment; and provision for local platforms for dialogue.

34. Necessary underlying factors regarding infrastructure to enhance economic resilience include: the building of climate-resilient housing and production facilities; availability of functioning telecommunication systems; a fresh water supply; access to energy; effective coastal defence structures; and climate-resilient road and transport systems to enable the transportation of goods.

35. Regarding enabling social systems, participants focused on the two key thematic areas of education and health. Poor education and training limits the ability of vulnerable groups to diversify their activities that generate income within existing sectors or in new sectors. The importance of increasing the incorporation of women in the workforce was highlighted. The provision of improved health services was discussed in the context of inadequate social protection mechanisms for the poor and for vulnerable groups in society, as this is required to meet the basic needs of vulnerable populations and maintain a healthy labour force.

36. Participants emphasized the critical need for promoting incentives for the private sector to develop markets for the provision of financial services and technologies. This would require enabling environments that facilitate investment at both the local and international levels, and the development of cost-effective distribution channels. Participants noted the potential usefulness of existing social networks and distribution systems such as NGOs, producers' associations and/or cooperatives, and resource user groups.

D. Gaps, barriers and challenges

37. Participants identified a wide range of gaps, needs and challenges, from the perspectives of the community and national levels in terms of increasing economic resilience within sectors and reducing reliance on vulnerable sectors.

38. The economies of many developing countries vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change are heavily dependent on the primary sector, especially the agriculture sector, which is highly impacted by climate change. Low levels of economic resilience to climate change is exacerbated by weak institutional capacity, a poorly developed internal market, insufficient business and financial management skills, negative impacts of the globalized world economy on weak macroeconomic indicators and dependence on the exportation of a small number of primary goods.

1. Lack of data and information

39. Gaps in the availability of necessary data were mentioned repeatedly by participants regarding all aspects of the development of measures and tools to build economic resilience to climate change. In addition to the lack of climate data, the scarcity of socio-economic data, national statistics, and data on agriculture and natural resources was highlighted, as well as the limited availability of models for understanding how climate change affects economic activities. This hampers the ability of developing countries to increase sectoral resilience and diversify their economic activities.

40. The lack of relevant information at the community level is a major gap that leads to inadequate understanding of climate change impacts and adaptation options, including resilience measures, among various stakeholders. Information is often not available or in a format that is not readily understandable. Therefore, there is a need for enhanced provision of relevant information on climate, weather and markets, through contextually appropriate methods. Cost-benefit assessments of adaptation measures at the community level need to be strengthened.

41. Enhancing economic resilience at the community level is critical, as climate change impacts are most immediately felt at this level, and it is here that the adaptation options need to be flexible. Integrated approaches, which take into account the multiple social, economic and environmental factors contributing to vulnerability, are required to address the multiple challenges posed by climate change impacts.

42. Some representatives of organizations identified the insufficient information on good practices and experiences on economic diversification as a key limitation for communities to draw on lessons learned. Participants reiterated the importance of both documenting information and ensuring that information reaches relevant stakeholders at the community level. In addition, traditional knowledge was identified as an important complement to science, and participants suggested that this knowledge should be documented and disseminated and its use promoted.

2. Limited participation of key stakeholders

43. The limited participation of key stakeholders is a significant constraint to facilitating the successful development and dissemination of approaches, measures and tools. Key stakeholders include representatives from communities, NGOs, community-based organizations and civil society organizations, labour organizations, local and national governments, academia, industry, supranational bodies and the donor community. A lack of communication, coordination and shared vision hinders adaptation planning and the development of economic resilience options. Participants called for more integrated planning and coherent policies and legislative frameworks, including the integration of disaster management into economic development strategies.

3. Limited availability of education and vocational training

44. Increasing the potential to diversify economic activities requires, in addition to formal education, better access by vulnerable populations to vocational training and new skills and practices for livelihoods sectors (e.g. agriculture and fisheries) and new economic sectors (e.g. food processing and manufacturing). In order to ensure that marginal and vulnerable groups are included in these activities,

it is important to communicate information in a locally appropriate manner, including by using local languages.

45. Participants highlighted the difficulties that women in some communities face in accessing education and training opportunities on business planning and financial literacy, as well as business opportunities to become traders and entrepreneurs or become involved in land ownership. Addressing these difficulties requires gender-specific resource allocation, and should take place at multiple levels with increased participation of women in decision-making and governance.

4. Insufficient funding

46. Discussions during the workshop revealed that limited financial resources, such as those required for investment in new technologies and new economic activities, remain a major obstacle for many developing countries to broaden their range of economic activities. It was noted that official development assistance and voluntary contributions may not be sufficient to support the measures and tools for increasing economic resilience, and that innovative financing for adaptation was necessary. In this context, active engagement of the private sector is indispensable to scale up economic diversification. Participants identified microinsurance as a possible delivery mechanism to achieve this at the community level.

5. Institutional and technical capacity for risk reduction schemes

47. The microinsurance schemes presented at the workshop for enhancing sectoral resilience suggest that, given the right conditions, microinsurance can be an effective way to manage risks in vulnerable economic sectors and promote sustainable livelihoods. It could be a valuable tool for improving rural livelihoods and increasing agricultural production. However, the effective application and scaling up of such instruments requires technical and institutional capacities in addition to historical and high-quality climate data at the appropriate spatial scale. These data are often not available in many developing countries. Improvement in the provision of weather information services and early warning systems through the establishment of weather and/or meteorological stations is vital to assist these efforts. In this context, a reform of the legal instruments and policies regarding meteorological and hydrological services is required.

48. Constraints to diversifying economic activities range from psychological barriers to inadequate mechanisms to link social protection and insurance and insufficient investment in retraining of the workforce. Participants expressed concern regarding the potential increase in unemployment, especially among vulnerable groups. Utilizing existing infrastructure for a variety of purposes, including new and/or additional purposes, and improving the efficiency of existing sectors need to be explored further.

IV. Summary of recommendations

49. Based on the presentations and discussions at the workshop, participants identified a range of priority areas of further work to be taken in order to increase economic resilience to climate change and reduce reliance on vulnerable economic sectors. These areas are described in paragraphs 50–55 below.

50. With a view to facilitating the development of coherent options to build economic resilience to climate change, participants proposed the following actions:

- (a) Promoting multi-stakeholder participation;
- (b) Facilitating buy-in for economic development strategies at all levels and for all sectors, including through creating financial incentives for foreign investment, such as legislation

to promote a long-term policy, and identifying investment opportunities for alternative businesses and livelihoods;

- (c) Promoting the integration of economic and social concerns into national development plans, including by identifying markets for new products and services to widen the range of economic activities; and further developing and providing mechanisms for cost-benefit assessments for adaptation measures, including co-benefits of economic diversification options.

51. In order to strengthen economic resilience within sectors vulnerable to climate change at the community level, participants recommended the following actions:

- (a) Incentivizing the involvement of the private sector, including reinsurance companies, and encouraging local and national insurers to enter into the market to facilitate the transfer of technological and financial resources;
- (b) Developing training materials on financial tools and mechanisms, including on microfinance, targeted in particular at community entrepreneurs;
- (c) Identifying and establishing measures and mechanisms to link microinsurance with existing social protection measures.

52. With a view to responding to the specific needs of the most vulnerable groups, participants suggested the following actions:

- (a) Identifying vulnerable groups to enable targeted interventions;
- (b) Facilitating resource allocation to target women through gender-budgeting and monitoring at the community and national levels;
- (c) Facilitating the incorporation of indigenous and local knowledge into decision-making by developing effective tools and processes;
- (d) Strengthening the provision of information on alternative employment and livelihood programmes as well as on broadening skills and retraining for workers in vulnerable sectors.

53. To strengthen the institutional and technical capacity for economic risk management, participants proposed the following actions:

- (a) Enhancing the effectiveness and adequacy of early warning systems;
- (b) Creating vulnerability and resilience indices;
- (c) Increasing the availability of data, including on meteorological parameters, socio-economic data, geographic data, national statistics, agricultural data, and information on natural resources;
- (d) Improving the availability of climate data at appropriate spatial and temporal scales.

54. With a view to promoting the documentation and dissemination of good practices, measures and tools, participants recommended the following activities:

- (a) Developing a 'case study library' of successful tools and good practices as well as lessons learned, including indigenous and local knowledge;

- (b) Enhancing the engagement of existing networks, including networks of NGOs, in order to reach stakeholders at the community level, and ensuring that communication materials are presented in an accessible, relevant and practical manner.

55. Participants also made a cross-cutting recommendation to strengthen existing modalities for regional and international cooperation, including increasing access to the expertise of specialized intergovernmental agencies and international organizations (e.g. FAO, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the World Trade Organization) and centres of excellence, and to encourage the creation of regional economic groups (e.g. CARICOM and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development) where appropriate.

V. Issues for follow-up and further consideration

A. Possible actions to be undertaken by Nairobi work programme partners to address barriers and challenges and implement recommendations

56. Through presentations and interventions during the workshop, Parties and organizations indicated possible ways to address the identified barriers and challenges, and implement recommendations. A number of organizations made verbal statements to describe how they are continuing to support the Nairobi work programme in the areas related to increasing economic resilience and reducing reliance on vulnerable sectors. Written statements, including action pledges, expressing the commitment of these organizations to contribute to the implementation of the recommendations from the workshop were submitted.¹⁰

57. In order to address the social and economic impacts of climate change on employment and income, ILO committed to mobilizing its technical capacity to make a number of contributions. These include: ensuring that adaptation for vulnerable economic sectors is a policy priority that is based on strong institutional mechanisms; promoting and facilitating the consolidation and emergence of new microbusinesses and SMEs as a means of increasing resilience of the economy to climate change impacts; ensuring that social security and safety net schemes are functioning in high-risk zones; and promoting and supporting of the creation of 'green jobs'. In addition, in order to facilitate adaptability to climate change through flexibility in employment and diversification of sources of household income, ILO plans to increase the employability of job seekers through providing enhanced vocational training, making job seekers better equipped to enter into the labour market.

58. The Institute for Social and Environmental Transition indicated that it plans to support the development, testing and application of, and training on, a range of adaptation methodologies that could support decision-making at local levels; as well as pilot activities for supporting diversification at the community level. The International Trade Union Confederation pledged to foster sectoral, local, national and international trade union action to facilitate the integration of employment into adaptation planning and to raise awareness among trade unions about climate change impacts and their effects on employment and livelihoods.

59. The African Development Bank (AfDB) pledged its continuous support for the implementation of the Nairobi work programme through its regional projects, and elaborated on its various strategies, including the Climate for Development in Africa Programme that generates and disseminates climate information in Africa. At the regional level, the AfDB supports regional vulnerability assessment in different sectors, and funds projects and programmes on forest conservation as well as projects that aim at mainstreaming climate change into national policies.

¹⁰ Written statements by some of the Nairobi work programme partners are available at <<http://unfccc.int/4781.php>>.

60. The World Food Programme reported on its programmes on the ground that are aimed at saving lives and protecting livelihoods. The United Nations Environment Programme reaffirmed its support to the Nairobi work programme through its Global Adaptation Network, which aims at sharing practical knowledge on adaptation. Oxfam America, emphasizing its experience in risk reduction and the importance of bringing together stakeholders at all levels, is assisting countries to increase access to markets, and pledged to provide submissions on microinsurance under the UNFCCC process. The United Nations Development Programme committed itself to continuing its support for countries through the Adaptation Learning Mechanism.

B. Possible next steps under the Nairobi work programme

61. The recommended activities could be undertaken by Parties, relevant organizations and other stakeholders engaged under the Nairobi work programme to address the needs and gaps identified during the workshop. These recommendations could also inform the general consideration by the SBSTA at its thirty-third session of the outcomes of the activities under the Nairobi work programme.

62. Participants at the workshop, under the guidance of the Chair of the SBSTA, proposed a set of activities to be undertaken under the Nairobi work programme. It was noted that some of the outcomes of the discussion at the workshop may provide useful information for Parties in the consideration of relevant agenda items under the Subsidiary Body for Implementation.

63. It was suggested that the Nairobi work programme could facilitate the documentation and dissemination of best practices on approaches, measures and tools aimed at increasing economic resilience and reducing reliance on vulnerable economic sectors by establishing a 'case study library'. Other suggestions for further action under the Nairobi work programme include: creating vulnerability and resilience indices; providing information on alternative employment and livelihood programmes; and holding regional workshops to disseminate information on economic resilience and economic diversification, and to identify 'champions' to implement the associated activities.
