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Capacity-building

Capacity-building under the Convention

Capacity-building under the Kyoto Protocol

Compilation and synthesis report on capacity-building work of bodies established under the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol

Note by the secretariat*

Summary

This report was prepared to inform discussions during the 4th meeting of the Durban Forum on capacity-building. The report compiles and synthesizes information on capacity-building contained in reports published by relevant bodies established under the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol (namely the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention, the Least Developed Countries Expert Group, the Adaptation Committee, the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts, the Technology Executive Committee, the Climate Technology Centre and Network, the Standing Committee on Finance, the Green Climate Fund and the Executive Board of the clean development mechanism) since the 3rd meeting of the Durban Forum on capacity-building. Parties may wish to consider information contained in this report with a view to further enhancing the monitoring and review of the effectiveness of capacity-building.

* This document was submitted after the due date owing to the timing of scheduled meetings of the bodies established under the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol.

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I. Introduction

A. Mandate

1. The Conference of the Parties (COP), by decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 144, requested the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) to further enhance the monitoring and review of the effectiveness of capacity-building by organizing an annual in-session Durban Forum for in-depth discussion on capacity-building with the participation of Parties, representatives of the relevant bodies established under the Convention, and relevant experts and practitioners, with a view to sharing their experiences and exchanging ideas, best practices and lessons learned regarding the implementation of capacity-building activities. By paragraph 146 of the same decision, the COP requested the secretariat to compile and synthesize the reports prepared by the relevant bodies established under the Convention since the most recent session of the Durban Forum on capacity-building.

2. The 3rd meeting of the Durban Forum on capacity-building took place in June 2014, during SBI 40. SBI 41 decided that the 4th meeting of the Durban Forum on capacity-building would be held during SBI 42.¹

3. The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP) decided, by decision 10/CMP.8, paragraph 1, that the Durban Forum on capacity-building is an appropriate arrangement for sharing experiences and exchanging ideas, best practices and lessons learned regarding the implementation of capacity-building activities related to the Kyoto Protocol with the participation of Parties, representatives of the relevant bodies established under the Convention and relevant experts and practitioners.

B. Scope of the note

4. This report compiles and synthesizes information of relevance to capacity-building contained in the following reports by the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (CGE), the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG), the Adaptation Committee, the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts, the Technology Executive Committee (TEC), the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN), the Standing Committee on Finance (SCF), the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and the Executive Board of the clean development mechanism (CDM) produced since the 3rd meeting of the Durban Forum on capacity-building:

- (a) Progress report on the work of the CGE (FCCC/SBI/2014/17);
- (b) Progress report on the work of the CGE: report on the regional training workshops on the preparation of biennial update reports (BURs) from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties) (FCCC/SBI/2014/18);
- (c) Progress report on the work of the CGE: report on the workshop on the peer review of the materials for the training of the team of technical experts (FCCC/SBI/2014/19);
- (d) Progress report on the work of the CGE: long-term strategy of the CGE (FCCC/SBI/2014/INF.15);
- (e) Progress report on the work of the CGE: technical report on problems and constraints, as well as lessons learned and best practices, in the process of and the

¹ FCCC/SBI/2014/21, paragraph 91.

preparation of national communications and BURs by non-Annex I Parties (FCCC/SBI/2014/INF.16);

- (f) Report on the 26th meeting of the LEG (FCCC/SBI/2014/13);
- (g) Report of the Adaptation Committee (FCCC/SB/2014/2);
- (h) Report of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism (FCCC/SB/2014/4);
- (i) Joint annual report of the TEC and the CTCN for 2014 (FCCC/SB/2014/3);
- (j) Report on the 9th meeting of the TEC (TEC/2014/9/18);
- (k) Report on the 10th meeting of the TEC (TEC/2015/10/12);
- (l) Summary of the workshop on national systems of innovation of the TEC (TEC/2015/10/9);
- (m) Summary of the thematic dialogue on development and transfer of technology in distributed renewable energy generation and integration (TEC/May 2015);
- (n) TEC brief on technologies for adaptation in the agriculture sector (November 2014);
- (o) TEC brief on technologies for adaptation in the water sector (November 2014);
- (p) Background paper on distributed renewable energy generation and integration (February 2015);
- (q) Report of the SCF to the COP (FCCC/CP/2014/5);
- (r) Report of the GCF to the COP (FCCC/CP/2014/8);
- (s) Annual report of the CDM Executive Board to the CMP (FCCC/KP/CMP/2014/5).

C. Possible action by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation

5. The SBI may wish to consider this report to inform discussions at the 4th meeting of the Durban Forum on capacity-building.

II. Capacity-building elements in the work of bodies established under the Convention

A. Capacity-building elements in the work of the Consultative Group of Experts

6. The objective of the CGE is to improve the process and preparation of national communications and BURs by non-Annex I Parties by providing technical advice and support to such Parties.²

7. In accordance with its work programme for 2014–2018,³ the CGE implemented activities as described in paragraphs 8 to 15 below.

² Decision 19/CP.19, annex, paragraph 1.

³ FCCC/SBI/2014/17, annex I.

8. The CGE conducted three regional hands-on training workshops on the preparation of BURs.⁴ The main objectives of these workshops were to enhance the capacity of national experts in using the “UNFCCC biennial update reporting guidelines for Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention”⁵ to facilitate the preparation of their first BURs and to serve as platforms to exchange views, lessons learned and experiences relating to the process and preparation of national communications and BURs.⁶

9. Participants noted that the workshops had helped them to gain a better understanding of the elements to be reported in BURs,⁷ but felt that the preparation of BURs is a learning process that may take at least two to three reporting cycles⁸ and would require the establishment of sustainable institutional arrangements functioning on a continuous basis.⁹ While some Parties have, to a certain extent, the required institutional arrangements in place, other Parties still operate on an ad hoc basis following the receipt of project funding.¹⁰ Participants further highlighted the need for continuous training of national experts¹¹ and suggested that the CGE could identify Parties that require additional capacity-building initiatives at the national level. Such initiatives could be designed to include training workshops lasting two to three weeks in these countries.¹² The lack of coordination between ministries and insufficient availability of data were highlighted as some of the key challenges in meeting the reporting requirements.¹³

10. The CGE also conducted a workshop on the peer review of training materials for the team of technical experts (TTE)¹⁴ to give national experts an opportunity to provide feedback on the draft training materials with a view to ensuring that these materials will enable the TTE to fulfil the objectives of the technical analysis of BURs.¹⁵

11. The CGE made available its training materials on the preparation of BURs in Arabic, French and Spanish on the UNFCCC website¹⁶ and agreed that the materials would be translated into the remaining official United Nations languages in 2015, subject to the availability of resources.¹⁷

⁴ The regional training workshop for the Latin America and Caribbean region was held in Panama City, Panama, from 16 to 18 July 2014 and was attended by 32 national experts representing 25 non-Annex I Parties from the region. The regional training workshop for the Asia-Pacific and Eastern European regions took place in Yerevan, Armenia, from 8 to 10 September 2014 and was attended by 39 national experts representing 32 non-Annex I Parties from the regions. The report on the two workshops is contained in document FCCC/SBI/2014/18. The regional training workshop for the Africa region was held in Bonn, Germany, on 23–25 February 2015. At the time of the preparation of this document, the report on the workshop was not yet available.

⁵ Decision 2/CP.17, annex III.

⁶ FCCC/SBI/2014/18, paragraph 8.

⁷ FCCC/SBI/2014/18, paragraphs 14 and 40.

⁸ FCCC/SBI/2014/18, paragraph 25(a).

⁹ FCCC/SBI/2014/18, paragraphs 15, 25(e) and 30(a).

¹⁰ FCCC/SBI/2014/18, paragraphs 19(c) and 31(a).

¹¹ FCCC/SBI/2014/18, paragraph 31(f).

¹² FCCC/SBI/2014/18, paragraph 33(c).

¹³ FCCC/SBI/2014/18, paragraphs 36(c) and (e) and 37(a).

¹⁴ The COP, by decision 20/CP.19, adopted the composition, modalities and procedures of the TTE for undertaking the technical analysis of BURs, requested the CGE to develop and organize appropriate training programmes for nominated technical experts and decided that once the training programme is established, only those nominated experts who have successfully completed the training programme shall be eligible to serve on the TTE.

¹⁵ The objectives of the technical analysis are contained in decision 20/CP.19, annex, paragraph 15.

¹⁶ <<http://unfccc.int/7915.php>>.

¹⁷ FCCC/SBI/2014/17, paragraph 19.

12. The CGE agreed to explore the possibility of organizing a joint event with the LEG on the preparation of the vulnerability and adaptation assessment chapters of national communications and national adaptation plans (NAPs).¹⁸

13. In developing its long-term strategy for 2015–2018, the CGE identified the following challenges, *inter alia*:¹⁹

(a) Continued need and demand to enhance the national capacities of non-Annex I Parties to prepare their national communications and BURs, with a focus on putting sustainable institutional arrangements in place;

(b) Lack of interdisciplinary knowledge and communication at the national level to ensure effective coordination among a wide range of national institutions and other stakeholders;

(c) National challenges in establishing and maintaining institutional arrangements on a continuous basis, which result in a loss of capacity built, lessons learned, experiences and institutional memory, inefficient management of the data and information necessary for reporting as well as lack of outreach and awareness;

(d) Necessity to move beyond a ‘one size fits all’ approach when developing training materials by taking into account differing national and regional circumstances, capabilities and levels of knowledge and expertise.

14. The CGE found that the recent COP decisions requiring non-Annex I Parties to submit national communications every four years and BURs every two years had resulted in a vast increase in capacity-building needs, at both the individual and the institutional level²⁰ and expects additional capacity-building needs to arise from a protocol, another legal instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force under the Convention applicable to all Parties to be adopted at COP 21 in accordance with decision 1/CP.17.²¹

15. As regards capacity-building, the long-term strategy of the CGE aims to:

(a) Design and deliver capacity-building initiatives, targeting both individuals and institutions that match country-specific needs and local context and taking into account the evolving reporting needs of non-Annex I Parties, in a comprehensive and cost-effective manner²² by conducting a needs analysis, designing and developing a training programme, delivering training, creating an enabling environment and enhancing networking and peer exchange;²³

(b) Design and deliver capacity-building initiatives that respond to the needs of the TTE undertaking the technical analysis of BURs under the international consultation and analysis process²⁴ by conducting a needs analysis, identifying effective training delivery mechanisms, adjusting the training programme and guiding the selection of the TTE;²⁵

(c) Assist non-Annex I Parties in enhancing the sustainability of their national communication and BUR process²⁶ by developing tools and guidance materials that facilitate setting up and enhancing robust institutional arrangements that function on a

¹⁸ FCCC/SBI/2014/17, paragraph 45.

¹⁹ FCCC/SBI/2014/INF.15, paragraphs 6–8.

²⁰ FCCC/SBI/2014/INF.15, paragraph 13.

²¹ FCCC/SBI/2014/INF.15, paragraphs 15–17.

²² FCCC/SBI/2014/INF.15, paragraph 25.

²³ FCCC/SBI/2014/INF.15, paragraph 27.

²⁴ FCCC/SBI/2014/INF.15, paragraph 28.

²⁵ FCCC/SBI/2014/INF.15, paragraph 30.

²⁶ FCCC/SBI/2014/INF.15, paragraph 31.

continuous basis and enhancing access to financial, technical and capacity-building resources, and exploring and identifying potential linkages and relationships between national policies and adaptation and mitigation strategies.²⁷

B. Capacity-building elements in the work of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group

16. The mandate of the LEG, under its current term (2011–2015), includes the provision of support to the least developed countries (LDCs) in the preparation and implementation of national adaptation programmes of action (NAPAs), implementation of the LDC work programme, and technical guidance and support to the NAP process.

17. The objectives of the LEG two-year rolling work programme for 2014–2015 are to provide technical guidance and support to the LDCs on the NAP process and on the preparation, revision and implementation of NAPAs; support knowledge management and outreach in supporting adaptation planning, prioritization and implementation; provide guidance and support on the integration of adaptation into development planning and strengthening of considerations relating to gender and vulnerable communities in adaptation planning and implementation; support the monitoring and evaluation of progress, effectiveness and gaps in the context of NAPAs, NAPs and the LDC work programme; and support the implementation of the LDC work programme.²⁸

18. At its 26th meeting, the LEG reviewed progress in the implementation of its work programme and decided that the regional training workshops on NAPs to be held in 2014 and 2015 would focus on building the capacity of countries on how to perform technical work under the NAP process. The workshops would provide tools and other resources of direct use to the countries to facilitate their work on the formulation and implementation of NAPs.²⁹ The LEG also decided to continue developing the online platform NAP Central³⁰ to facilitate the NAP process, including through the NAP Central support group.³¹

19. The LEG also held a meeting to take stock of its support provided to the LDCs since 2001 by assessing progress made in the following: addressing the adaptation needs of the LDCs; sharing key lessons learned and good practices arising from NAPAs and other adaptation efforts in the LDCs and other vulnerable countries; providing an opportunity for an exchange of views on the modalities used in the delivery of support to the LDCs; sharing information on experiences and lessons learned in the work of the LEG in collaborating with various partners in implementing its mandates and work programme, especially at the regional level; and exploring emerging gaps and needs for adaptation by building on current and future processes, including on technical aspects of the NAP process.³²

20. The first regional training workshop on NAPs, as referred to in paragraph 18 above, was held in the Pacific region with the objectives of enhancing the capacity of the LDCs to address medium- and long-term adaptation needs through the NAP process and providing tools, resources, practical strategies and good practices that countries can build upon for their NAP formulation process.³³

²⁷ FCCC/SBI/2014/INF.15, paragraph 34.

²⁸ FCCC/SBI/2014/4, annex I.

²⁹ FCCC/SBI/2014/13, paragraph 21.

³⁰ <<http://unfccc.int/nap/>>.

³¹ FCCC/SBI/2014/13, paragraphs 28 and 30.

³² The meeting was organized in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme in Bangkok, Thailand, from 9 to 11 March 2015. At the time of the preparation of this document, the report on the meeting was not yet available.

³³ The workshop was held in Port Vila, Vanuatu, from 3 to 7 November 2014. At the time of the

21. The LEG continued the organization of the annual NAP Expo in 2014 and 2015. The NAP Expo serves as a platform to exchange experiences, lessons learned and ideas on the NAP process.³⁴

22. Within the reporting period, the LEG also continued to disseminate technical guidelines and other resource materials for the NAP process and conducted its 27th meeting.³⁵

C. Capacity-building elements in the work of the Adaptation Committee

23. The Adaptation Committee was established by the COP to promote the implementation of enhanced action on adaptation in a coherent manner under the Convention through, inter alia: providing technical support and guidance to Parties; strengthening, consolidating and enhancing the sharing of relevant information, knowledge, experience and good practices; promoting synergy and strengthening engagement with national, regional and international organizations, centres and networks; and providing information and recommendations for consideration by the COP when providing guidance on means to incentivize the implementation of adaptation actions, including finance, technology and capacity-building.³⁶

24. During the reporting period, the Adaptation Committee held its 6th and 7th meetings.³⁷ It also held a number of events aimed at strengthening linkages and/or the understanding on key issues that would facilitate the provision of technical support to countries on adaptation. These included:

(a) A special event during the fortieth sessions of the subsidiary bodies, in response to a request by the COP,³⁸ to showcase its activities and engage with Parties and other stakeholders in a dialogue on promoting synergy and strengthening engagement with national, regional and international organizations, centres and networks to further sharpen the focus of its work;³⁹

(b) A meeting with representatives of United Nations agencies, relevant multilateral and bilateral agencies and non-governmental organizations on how best to support the process of formulation and implementation of NAPs;⁴⁰

(c) A workshop on means of implementation for enhanced adaptation action with a focus on adaptation finance looking at, inter alia, how institutional arrangements are being developed to facilitate access to finance and enable the planning and implementation of

preparation of this document, the report on the workshop was not yet available.

³⁴ The 2nd and 3rd NAP Expos were held in Bonn on 8 and 9 August 2014 and 14 and 15 April 2015, respectively. Further information on these events is available at <http://unfccc.int/adaptation/groups_committees/ldc_expert_group/items/8425.php> and <http://unfccc.int/adaptation/groups_committees/ldc_expert_group/items/8887.php>.

³⁵ At the time of the preparation of this document, the report on the 27th meeting of the LEG, which will be contained in document FCCC/SBI/2015/7, was not yet available.

³⁶ Decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 20.

³⁷ The 6th and 7th meetings were held in Bonn from 29 September to 1 October 2014 and from 24 to 27 February 2015, respectively. Further information is available at <http://unfccc.int/adaptation/groups_committees/adaptation_committee/items/8467.php> and <http://unfccc.int/adaptation/cancun_adaptation_framework/adaptation_committee/items/8785.php>.

³⁸ Decision 16/CP.19, paragraph 5.

³⁹ FCCC/SB/2014/2, paragraph 76.

⁴⁰ A report on the meeting is available at <http://unfccc.int/files/adaptation/groups_committees/adaptation_committee/application/pdf/20140927r.pdf>.

adaptation action. Recommendations from workshop participants were, inter alia, to ensure long-term capacity-building of national institutions; promote better interministerial coordination; and engage the public in raising awareness of climate impacts and social co-responsibility of risk mitigation;⁴¹

(d) A second Adaptation Forum, with a focus on promoting regional cooperation on adaptation, including institutional arrangements to build partnerships and strengthen regional networks.⁴² The outcomes of the first Adaptation Forum were captured in a video documentary⁴³ to further raise the profile of adaptation globally.

25. Furthermore, the Adaptation Committee complemented its first thematic report on the state of adaptation under the Convention,⁴⁴ published in 2013, with a second thematic report that provides an overview of institutional arrangements for national adaptation planning and implementation currently in place.⁴⁵ The next report will be published by the end of 2015 and will contain an overview of the Adaptation Committee's work over its first three years.⁴⁶

D. Capacity-building elements in the work of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts

26. One of the functions of the Warsaw International Mechanism is to enhance action and support, including finance, technology and capacity-building, to address loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change.⁴⁷

27. Within the reporting period, the interim members of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism held the initial meeting of the Executive Committee⁴⁸ and developed its initial two-year workplan in accordance with decisions 3/CP.18 and 2/CP.19.⁴⁹

28. The workplan, which has been endorsed by the COP,⁵⁰ aims to enhance the overall capacity of developing countries to address loss and damage associated with climate change impacts through the implementation of focused activities under nine action areas in 2015–2016.

E. Capacity-building elements in the work of the Technology Executive Committee

29. The functions of the TEC are, inter alia, to: provide an overview of technological needs and analysis of policy and technical issues related to the development and transfer of

⁴¹ The workshop was held in Bonn from 2 to 4 March 2015. Further information is available at <http://unfccc.int/adaptation/groups_committees/adaptation_committee/items/8860.php>.

⁴² The Forum took place in Panama City on 7 March 2015. Further information is available at <http://unfccc.int/adaptation/groups_committees/adaptation_committee/items/8861.php>.

⁴³ <http://unfccc.int/adaptation/groups_committees/adaptation_committee/items/8889.php>.

⁴⁴ <http://unfccc.int/files/adaptation/cancun_adaptation_framework/adaptation_committee/application/pdf/ac_2013_report_high_res.pdf>.

⁴⁵ <http://unfccc.int/files/adaptation/application/pdf/adaption_committee_publication_-_web_high.pdf>.

⁴⁶ FCCC/SB/2014/2, paragraph 71.

⁴⁷ Decision 2/CP.19, paragraph 5(c).

⁴⁸ The initial meeting was held from 25 to 28 March 2014 and resumed on 17 and 18 September 2014 in Bonn.

⁴⁹ FCCC/SB/2014/4, annex II.

⁵⁰ Decision 2/CP.20, paragraph 1.

technologies for mitigation and adaptation; recommend actions to address the barriers to technology development and transfer in order to enable enhanced action on mitigation and adaptation; and catalyse the development and use of technology road maps or action plans at the international, regional and national levels through cooperation between relevant stakeholders.⁵¹

30. Within the reporting period the TEC met once in 2014 and once in 2015⁵² to advance the implementation of its rolling workplan for 2014–2015.⁵³

31. In line with its rolling workplan, the TEC held a workshop on strengthening national systems of innovation in developing countries to support its work on enabling environments for, and barriers to, technology development and transfer.⁵⁴

32. As a follow-up to the outcomes of the workshop on technologies for adaptation held in March 2014,⁵⁵ the TEC prepared TEC briefs on technologies for adaptation in the agriculture sector⁵⁶ and in the water sector,⁵⁷ which highlight the need for comprehensive participatory frameworks that include communities and local governments to support the successful application of technologies for adaptation.

33. As part of its 10th meeting, the TEC held a thematic dialogue on technology development and transfer for distributed renewable energy generation and integration. The overall objective of the thematic dialogue was to support the TEC in identifying and generating policy perspectives, options, mechanisms and measures to advance work in this area. The workshop identified needs of Parties, regulators and planning agencies in relation to capacity-building, including the capacity to develop and enforce fair and appropriate regulations and standards, and to collect data and conduct an economic evaluation of the potential for renewable energy in their countries. The workshop emphasized the importance of building the capacity of local communities by improving energy literacy and awareness, taking into account a gender perspective, as well as by creating education and research programmes.⁵⁸

34. The TEC also prepared a background paper on good practices of technology needs assessments (TNAs), in which it explored good practices that developing country Parties could adopt in undertaking or updating their TNAs. The paper also highlighted good practices to support the implementation of the results of the TNAs, including technology action plans and project ideas.⁵⁹

⁵¹ Decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 121.

⁵² The 9th and 10th meetings of the TEC were held in Bonn from 18 to 21 August 2014 and from 9 to 12 March 2015, respectively. Further information is available at

<http://unfccc.int/ttclear/templates/render_cms_page?TEC_meetings>.

⁵³ <http://unfccc.int/ttclear/misc_/StaticFiles/gnwoerk_static/TEC_infobox_2/0bde16ddda98494d86f0e4ed105b0629/50099ad819ac40a98d336a23c06a4257.pdf>.

⁵⁴ The workshop was held in Bonn on 13 and 14 October 2014. Further information is available at

<http://unfccc.int/ttclear/templates/render_cms_page?s=events_ws_nsi>.

⁵⁵ The workshop was held in Bonn on 4 March 2014 in conjunction with the 8th meeting of the TEC.

Further information is available at

<http://unfccc.int/ttclear/pages/ttclear/templates/render_cms_page?s=events_workshops_adaptationtechs>.

⁵⁶ <http://unfccc.int/ttclear/misc_/StaticFiles/gnwoerk_static/TEC_column_L/544babb207e344b88bdd9fec11e6337f/bcc4dc66c35340a08fce34f057e0a1ed.pdf>.

⁵⁷ <http://unfccc.int/ttclear/misc_/StaticFiles/gnwoerk_static/TEC_column_L/0cac6640a3b945c08e7a54f8e496223e/55e192e14cd6495f975f4098843baf7e.pdf>.

⁵⁸ The summary of the thematic dialogue is contained in document TEC/May 2015, available at

<http://unfccc.int/ttclear/misc_/StaticFiles/gnwoerk_static/TEC_TD5/8ecd8b802eeb4a0fa82e729bef176c99/5d396194f6dc4f47adc6d5f1ae9b16dd.pdf>.

⁵⁹ <http://unfccc.int/ttclear/misc_/StaticFiles/gnwoerk_static/TEM_TEC_meetings/d8024d9b950f43d594fc17fd22b5477a/6d4c53c874c74baab1ee4b287ec9292e.pdf>.

F. Capacity-building elements in the work of the Climate Technology Centre and Network

35. The COP established the CTCN to stimulate technology cooperation and facilitate the implementation of enhanced action on climate technology development and transfer.⁶⁰

36. The CTCN has three core services. These are to (1) provide technical assistance at the request of developing countries to accelerate the transfer of climate technologies; (2) create access to information and knowledge on climate technologies; and (3) foster collaboration among climate technology stakeholders via the network of regional and sectoral experts from academia, the private sector, and public and research institutions. Through these services, it facilitates the provision of information, training and support to build or strengthen the capacity of developing countries to identify technology options, make technology choices and operate, maintain and adapt technology. As part of these efforts, the CTCN strives to assist in developing analytical tools, policies and best practices for country-driven planning to support the dissemination of environmentally sound technologies. This assistance is provided through in-person and online training and outreach activities.

37. During the reporting period, the CTCN held regional training workshops for national designated entities in the Eastern European region and small island developing States in the Pacific and the Caribbean. Taking into account all the training workshops held by the CTCN since its inception, 140 individuals were trained, representing national designated entities or climate change focal points from 119 countries.

38. This series of regional training workshops highlighted gaps in many countries related to necessary capacity and resources for, and expertise in, enabling national designated entities to carry out their role. The CTCN is therefore exploring ways to provide targeted assistance to national designated entities to facilitate the generation and submission of requests that are in line with country priorities and projects. The priority in this regard will be given to the LDCs.

39. The CTCN received more than 25 requests for technical assistance.⁶¹ It identified a positive correlation between the requests received and the countries that participated in the CTCN regional training workshops for national designated entities.⁶²

40. The CTCN continued its outreach efforts through various online and offline communication channels. It is developing a knowledge management system, which will serve national designated entities, government agencies and other climate technology stakeholders in developing countries by providing access to climate technology resources, tools, reports and online training opportunities through an open data platform.⁶³

G. Capacity-building elements in the work of the Standing Committee on Finance

41. The SCF is mandated to assist the COP in exercising its functions with respect to the Financial Mechanism of the Convention in terms of improving coherence and coordination in the delivery of climate change financing, rationalization of the Financial Mechanism, mobilization of financial resources and the measurement, reporting and verification of

⁶⁰ Decision 2/CP.17, annex VII, paragraph 1.

⁶¹ <<http://www.ctc-n.org/technical-assistance/technical-assistance-requests>>.

⁶² FCCC/SB/2014/3, paragraph 67.

⁶³ The knowledge management system of the CTCN can be accessed at <<http://ctc-n.org/>>.

support provided to developing country Parties.⁶⁴ During the reporting period the SCF met three times.⁶⁵

42. One of the mandated activities of the SCF is to organize a forum for the communication and continued exchange of information among bodies and entities dealing with climate change finance in order to promote linkages and coherence.⁶⁶

43. The second SCF forum⁶⁷ focused on the mobilization of adaptation finance through the sharing of experiences, best practices and innovative ideas. The forum brought together more than 140 representatives from Parties, financial institutions, the private sector, civil society and academia.⁶⁸

44. Participants of the forum raised various issues relevant to the mobilization of adaptation finance, including a need to improve access to funding and investor confidence through well-articulated domestic enabling environments; a need for increased capacity to plan for, access, deliver, monitor, report and verify climate finance; and a need to raise awareness of the business sector with regard to the effects of climate change on economic profit.⁶⁹ One of the conclusions that the SCF drew from the forum is that there is a need to build capacity in developing countries to create enabling environments for attracting investments from a range of sources and build investor confidence.⁷⁰

H. Capacity-building elements in the work of the Green Climate Fund

45. Within the reporting period, the GCF put in place a readiness programme to support developing countries in their identification and preparation of projects and programmes for funding,⁷¹ including through the following indicative list of activities:⁷²

(a) Supporting the national designated authority or focal point to engage with regional, national and subnational governments, civil society and private-sector stakeholders;

(b) Developing strategic frameworks for national engagement with the GCF, building on existing strategies and plans, including low-emission development strategies, nationally appropriate mitigation actions (NAMAs), NAPs and NAPAs;

(c) Enabling regional, national and subnational institutions to meet the accreditation standards of the GCF, including for the fast-track accreditation process in coordination with the national designated authority or focal point;

(d) Supporting the development of initial programme and project proposals.

46. The Board of the GCF decided that all deployment of readiness and preparatory support funding will be led by the national designated authority or focal point, in order to ensure country-drivenness. The national designated authority or focal point will be the

⁶⁴ Decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 112.

⁶⁵ The 7th, 8th and 9th meetings of the SCF were held in Bonn from 16 to 18 June 2014, 1 to 3 October 2014 and 10 and 11 March 2015, respectively.

⁶⁶ See decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 121(a).

⁶⁷ The forum took place in Montego Bay, Jamaica, on 21 and 22 June 2014. The SCF provided an executive summary of the report on the second forum to COP 20 as contained in document FCCC/CP/2014/5, annex IV. Further information is available at <<http://unfccc.int/8138.php>>.

⁶⁸ FCCC/CP/2014/5, annex IV, paragraph 5.

⁶⁹ FCCC/CP/2014/5, annex IV, paragraphs 34 and 40.

⁷⁰ FCCC/CP/2014/5, annex IV, paragraph 49.

⁷¹ FCCC/CP/2014/8, "Executive summary", paragraph 1(b).

⁷² See GCF Board decision B.08/11.

direct beneficiary of readiness support funding and/or will select delivery partners, including international organizations, and other international, regional, national and subnational, public or private institutions well-versed in readiness activities.⁷³

47. The GCF website was updated to include a readiness portal designed to support outreach efforts through regular technical updates, a quarterly newsletter and guidance to countries.⁷⁴

III. Capacity-building elements in the work of bodies established under the Kyoto Protocol: elements in the work of the Executive Board of the clean development mechanism

48. The CDM Executive Board supervises the CDM under the authority and guidance of the CMP.⁷⁵

49. The CDM Executive Board and its support structure continued their work with CDM stakeholders during the reporting period, including with designated national authorities through the Designated National Authorities Forum and interactions with the Forum's co-chairs.⁷⁶

50. At the request of the CMP,⁷⁷ the CDM Executive Board continued to promote the equitable geographical distribution of project activities. CDM project development support was mostly led by the regional collaboration centres (RCCs), established in 2013 to operate in partnership with local and regional agencies and multilateral development banks. RCCs were designated to support existing projects, actualize the CDM project cycle under programmes of activity, develop standardized baselines together with a pipeline of future projects, and broaden knowledge related to the CDM. The four established centres⁷⁸ provided direct support to project participants involved in hundreds of existing project activities, resulting in some of these activities moving forward in the project cycle. The centres were also active in identifying new project activities, some of which moved through the CDM pipeline as a result of follow-up actions. Furthermore, the presence of RCCs on the ground helped to catalyse action by several international and regional agencies.

51. The CDM Executive Board continued to give increased attention to communication and outreach by conducting, inter alia, the African Carbon Forum in Namibia in 2014 and in Morocco in 2015; Carbon Finance workshops and Carbon Markets workshops in Asia and Africa; a joint CDM/NAMA workshop in Colombia and training of developing country journalists; and producing and disseminating videos and CDM-specific online content.⁷⁹

⁷³ FCCC/CP/2014/8, "Executive summary", paragraph 12.

⁷⁴ FCCC/CP/2014/8, section V, paragraph 25. The readiness portal can be accessed at <<http://www.gcfund.org/operations/readiness/updates.html>>.

⁷⁵ Decision 3/CMP.1, annex, paragraph 5.

⁷⁶ FCCC/KP/CMP/2014/5, paragraphs 62(d) and (e) and 63.

⁷⁷ Decision 8/CMP.7, paragraph 30.

⁷⁸ RCCs have been established in Lomé, Togo, in collaboration with the West African Development Bank; in Kampala, Uganda, in collaboration with the East African Development Bank; in St. George's, Grenada, in collaboration with the Windward Islands Research and Education Foundation; and in Bogota, Colombia, in collaboration with the Development Bank of Latin America. Work is currently under way to identify a partner organization for a fifth RCC, to be located in the Asia region.

⁷⁹ FCCC/KP/CMP/2014/5, paragraphs 95 and 97.