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Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement

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Agenda item 4

Further guidance in relation to the adaptation communication, including, inter alia, as a component of nationally determined contributions, referred to in Article 7, paragraphs 10 and 11, of the Paris Agreement

Parties' views regarding further guidance in relation to the adaptation communication, including, inter alia, as a component of nationally determined contributions, referred to in Article 7, paragraphs 10 and 11, of the Paris Agreement

Information document by the secretariat

Addendum

1. In addition to the 13 submissions contained in document FCCC/APA/2016/INF.2 and the 3 submissions contained in FCCC/APA/2016/INF.2/Add.1, 2 further submissions have been received.
2. In accordance with established practice, these submissions are attached and reproduced* in the languages in which they were received and without formal editing.¹

* These submissions have been electronically imported in order to make them available on electronic systems, including the World Wide Web. The secretariat has made every effort to ensure the correct reproduction of the texts as submitted.

¹ Also available at <<http://unfccc.int/5900>>.

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Paper no. 1: Australia

Submission to the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement on adaptation communications referred to in Article 7, paragraphs 10 and 11 of the Paris Agreement**October 2016**

Australia welcomes the opportunity to share its views on adaptation communications referred to in Article 7, paragraphs 10 and 11 of the Paris Agreement.

Australia considers the increased prominence of adaptation in the Paris Agreement to be an important outcome from COP21. The Paris Agreement elevates and strengthens the role of adaptation at both a national and global level, including a global goal for adaptation which will prompt action to build resilience and reduce vulnerability to climate change; and a commitment by Parties to undertake national adaptation planning processes in a manner that is flexible and nationally appropriate. It also highlights the importance of country driven, gender-responsive and participatory adaptation action. These objectives accord with Australia's commitment to undertaking sustainable and practical adaptation action domestically and through the support we provide to the region.

In Australia's view, adaptation communications should:

- reflect the localised, context-specific nature of adaptation options and actions
- not duplicate existing efforts
- enable countries to showcase their adaptation priorities, actions, and progress.

Scope of the adaptation communication

Australia supports the flexibility enshrined in the Paris Agreement both in content and scope of adaptation communications referred to in Article 7, paragraph 10. This reflects the localised, context-specific nature of adaptation options and actions - that countries and communities experience climate impacts differently and need to consider the responses that work best for them.

There are already multiple avenues for reporting on adaptation actions, needs and progress, including through National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and national communications. Adaptation communications will need to build upon and add value to these processes. They should not duplicate existing efforts or place undue burden on countries with limited capacity to report.

Adaptation communications are an opportunity for countries to showcase at a high level their adaptation priorities, actions, and progress in a concise, easily accessible manner. Based on our domestic experience and our work with partners in the region, there are a number of areas where information would be valuable, both at a national and international level, to manage climate risks, assess progress towards the global adaptation goal and feed into the global stocktake. Australia invites Parties to consider including information on the following areas:

- climate related risks and vulnerabilities

- adaptation action and opportunities in key sectors
- an outline of governance and institutional responses, including processes, policies, regulations and legislation
- knowledge, research and institutional capacity gaps
- engagement of private investment in driving adaptation action and support
- monitoring and evaluation of progress.

There is a growing role for the private sector in supporting countries to meet the challenges of a changing climate. Adaptation communications could be an opportunity for countries to provide information on how they are engaging the private sector in their adaptation actions and encouraging shared responsibility for the management of risk.

Adaptation communications could elaborate on the adaptation elements that many Parties have included in their Nationally Determined Contribution. Developing countries could also use adaptation communications as an avenue to have their adaptation efforts recognised, as referred to in Article 7, paragraph 3.

Australia's experience

Australia has recent experience in developing a national adaptation strategy, having released our *National Climate Resilience and Adaptation Strategy* in Paris. The *Strategy* recognises that in Australia, national and subnational governments, businesses, households and communities all have different but important roles to play in managing climate risks. The *Strategy* supports a 'mainstreamed approach' to climate change adaptation and resilience, emphasising the importance of building institutional capacity, and highlights Australia's support to the Region. It sets out principles that underpin effective adaptation practice and resilience-building, and outlines the Australian Government's vision for the future – key elements that will inform the way we communicate our action and measure progress.

Modalities for submission of the communications

In keeping with the flexibility that underpins Article 7, paragraph 10 and 11, the adaptation communication is to be submitted and updated periodically, as a component of or in conjunction with other communications or documents, including a National Adaptation Plan, a Nationally Determined Contribution as referred to in Article 4, paragraph 2, and/or a national communication. The adaptation communication should be written in a format that allows it to be recorded in a public registry to be maintained by the Secretariat.

Way forward

Australia is committed to working with Parties and the APA co-chairs to progress this important piece of work.

Paper no. 2: Russian Federation

Предложения Российской Федерации

по пункту повестки 4 Специальной рабочей группы по Парижскому соглашению

Москва, 27 октября 2016

Предложения подготовлены в соответствии с решением Специальной рабочей группы по Парижскому соглашению по пункту 4 повестки.

По вопросам пункта 4 «Дополнительные руководящие указания в отношении сообщения по вопросам адаптации, включаемого, в частности, в качестве одного из компонентов определяемого на национальном уровне вклада, упомянутого в пунктах 10 и 11 статьи 7 Парижского соглашения»:

При рассмотрении вопросов адаптации следует подчеркнуть важность этого направления для абсолютно всех Сторон, включая развитые страны и страны с переходной экономикой.

Охват проблемы адаптации распространяется не только на разные сектора экономики, но и на природные экосистемы. Учитывая необходимость охраны и повышения качества поглотителей и накопителей парниковых газов, включая леса, которые упомянуты в статье 5 пункта 1 Парижского соглашения, в вопросах адаптации следует уделить особое внимание сохранению биоразнообразия в лесах, поддержанию их разновозрастной структуры, сохранению и увеличению облесенной площади.

С экономической точки зрения проблема адаптации наиболее остро стоит в обеспечении продовольственной национальной безопасности, которая равнозначно актуальна для всех стран.

При разработке руководящих указаний по подготовке национальной отчетности по адаптации следует принять во внимание необходимость максимально упростить требования к отчетности и увеличить периоды их представления, принимая во внимание настоящую предельную загрузку по отчетности Сторон Приложения I РКИК ООН. Кроме того, информация по проблемам адаптации, а также возможностям и мерам адаптации не может обновляться часто. Поэтому предлагаемый срок подачи таких сообщений – не чаще раз в шесть лет, имея в виду, что сообщений по адаптации будет частью каждого третьего двухгодичного доклада.

[Translation as submitted]

UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION

Submission by the Russian Federation

on the agenda item 4 of Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement

Moscow, 27 October 2016

The submission is prepared in accordance to the decision of Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement on the agenda item 4.

Regarding the item 4 **«Further guidance in relation to the adaptation communication, including, inter alia, as a component of nationally determined contributions, referred to in Article 7, paragraphs 10 and 11, of the Paris Agreement.»**:

In order to develop further guidance in relation to the adaptation communication, it should be emphasized the importance of the adaptation for all Parties, including developed countries and countries with economies in transition.

The scope of the adaptation does not only covers different sectors of the economy, but also the natural ecosystems. Given the need to protect and enhance the sinks and reservoirs of greenhouse gases, including forests, which are referred to in the article 5 paragraph 1 of the Paris Agreement, the special attention should be given to preserve biodiversity in forests, to maintain their uneven-aged structure, to preserve and increase forested area.

Economically the problem of adaptation is most urgent in ensuring of the national food security, which is equivalently relevant to all countries.

To develop a further guidance in relation to the adaptation communications, including, as a component of nationally determined contributions, Parties should take into account the need to simplify reporting requirements and increase the periods of their submission, taking into account the present overload of Annex I Parties to the UNFCCC by the reporting. In addition, information on adaptation issues and opportunities as well as adaptation measures might not be updated often. Therefore, the proposed deadline for the submission of such reports – not more than once every six years, meaning that adaptation communications to be a part of every third biennial report.