



United Nations

FAOCC/SBSTA/2016/INF.3



Framework Convention on
Climate Change

Distr.: General
29 March 2016

English only

Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice

Forty-fourth session

Bonn, 16–26 May 2016

Item 13 of the provisional agenda

Cooperation with other international organizations

Summary of cooperative activities with United Nations entities and intergovernmental organizations that contribute to the work under the Convention

Note by the secretariat

Summary

The secretariat engages in collaborative activities, initiatives and programmes with United Nations entities, convention secretariats and intergovernmental organizations that enhance and contribute to the work under the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol. The key objective of the secretariat in such engagement is to support the implementation of the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol and to support the UNFCCC process, as well as Parties, in an efficient and effective manner. This document includes information on relevant activities that the secretariat has been involved in with other intergovernmental organizations since the forty-second session of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice.

GE.16-05075(E)



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Contents

	<i>Paragraphs</i>	<i>Page</i>
I. Introduction	1–4	3
A. Mandate	1	3
B. Background and scope	2–3	3
C. Possible action by the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice	4	3
II. Specific areas of cooperation.....	5–107	3
A. Technology	6–16	3
B. Climate finance	17–32	5
C. Capacity-building.....	33–34	7
D. Action for Climate Empowerment	35–40	8
E. Adaptation.....	41–61	9
F. Mitigation.....	62–91	15
G. Climate knowledge: science, research and systematic observation	92–94	20
H. Gender.....	95	21
I. The post-2015 development agenda.....	96–99	22
J. Action Agenda	100–107	22
III. Regular cooperation with the United Nations Headquarters and other United Nations organizations	108–113	23
A. Activities initiated by the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination.....	108–110	23
B. Secretary-General’s Climate Change Support Team	111	24
C. Joint Liaison Group of the Rio Conventions.....	112	24
D. World Health Organization	113	24

I. Introduction

A. Mandate

1. The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA), at its thirtieth session, requested the secretariat to prepare, before sessions at which the agenda item on cooperation with relevant international organizations is to be taken up, an information paper summarizing relevant cooperative activities.¹

B. Background and scope

2. Article 7, paragraph 2(l), of the Convention states that the Conference of the Parties (COP) shall seek and utilize the services and cooperation of, and information provided by, competent international organizations and intergovernmental and non-governmental bodies. Thus, the secretariat gives high priority to working with other international organizations, including United Nations entities, secretariats of other multilateral environmental agreements and the scientific community.

3. This document summarizes the main cooperative activities carried out by the secretariat and other international organizations since April 2015, the publication date of the previous summary,² which was prepared for SBSTA 42.

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

4. The SBSTA may wish to take note of the information provided in this document. It may also wish to invite Parties to provide guidance on the scope and direction of the cooperative activities presented in chapters II and III below. The SBSTA may further wish to make recommendations on: (1) key priority areas in which the secretariat should enhance efforts to leverage the potential contributions of other intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) to addressing climate change; and (2) possible approaches to undertaking such efforts, including the establishment of public–private partnerships.

II. Specific areas of cooperation

5. This chapter provides an overview of the cooperative activities undertaken by the secretariat during the reporting period, including activities that were undertaken specifically in support of the efforts of Parties to adopt a global climate change agreement at COP 21. It is not, however, a comprehensive account of all activities, initiatives and programmes undertaken by the secretariat.

A. Technology

1. Implementation of the Technology Mechanism

6. Article 4, paragraph 1(c), of the Convention stipulates that all Parties are to promote and cooperate in the development, application and diffusion, including transfer, of technologies, practices and processes that control, reduce or prevent anthropogenic

¹ FCCC/SBSTA/2009/3, paragraph 128.

² FCCC/SBSTA/2015/INF.3.

emissions of greenhouse gases (GHGs) in all relevant sectors. COP 16³ established the Technology Mechanism to facilitate the implementation of enhanced action on technology development and transfer to support the full implementation of the Convention. The Technology Mechanism consists of two components: the Technology Executive Committee (TEC) and the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN).

7. As the policy component of the Technology Mechanism, the TEC analyses technology policy issues and provides policy recommendations to countries in order to support them in enhancing technology development and transfer to accelerate action on mitigation and adaptation. The TEC also facilitates collaboration between, and seeks cooperation from, technology stakeholders and promotes coherence across technology activities.

8. In supporting the work of the TEC during the reporting period, the secretariat engaged with a wide range of United Nations organizations, IGOs and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) at the international, regional and national levels.

9. The secretariat supported the internal task forces of the TEC, established to support the implementation of the TEC workplan. The task forces included representatives of, or drew upon inputs from, the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the Green Climate Fund (GCF), the International Energy Agency (IEA), the International Partnership for Energy Efficiency Cooperation, the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the South Centre, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).

10. The secretariat organized the 11th meeting of the TEC, in which several United Nations organizations, IGOs and NGOs participated either in person or via the live webcast and social media platforms that the secretariat managed. It also engaged with the GEF and WIPO as they held side events at the meeting.

11. The secretariat supported the TEC in its evaluation of the Poznan strategic programme on technology transfer, which drew upon inputs from the African Development Bank, the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the GEF, the GCF, the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB), UNEP, UNEP DTU Partnership⁴ and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO).

12. As the implementation component of the Technology Mechanism, the CTCN supports countries' efforts to enhance the transfer and implementation of climate technologies. It has three core services: (1) providing technical assistance at the request of developing countries; (2) creating access to knowledge on climate technologies; and (3) fostering collaboration among climate technology stakeholders.

13. The secretariat collaborated closely with the CTCN during the reporting period and closely followed the work of the Advisory Board of the CTCN. It also continued to maintain a close working relationship with UNEP and UNIDO, the host organizations of the Climate Technology Centre, and participated in UNEP and UNIDO regional training workshops for national designated entities.

³ Decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 117.

⁴ The partnership, formerly known as the UNEP Risoe Centre, operates under a tripartite agreement between Denmark's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Technical University of Denmark (DTU) and UNEP.

2. Technology needs assessments

14. Technology needs assessments (TNAs) are a set of activities that developing countries undertake to identify their mitigation and adaptation technology priorities. Through TNAs, developing countries also create technology action plans (TAPs) for the implementation of climate technologies.

15. During the reporting period, the secretariat continued to collaborate with the GEF and UNEP DTU Partnership in the TNA global project, phase II, supported by the Poznan strategic programme on technology transfer. The project is providing financial and technical support to 26 developing country Parties for conducting or updating their TNAs.

16. The secretariat also supported the TEC on TNA-related matters in relation to the TEC mandate to provide guidance on how the results of the TNAs, in particular the TAPs, can be developed into projects that can ultimately be implemented.⁵ This work involved collaboration with the CTCN and UNEP DTU Partnership.

B. Climate finance

1. Cooperation with UNFCCC funds

(a) Green Climate Fund

17. By decision 1/CP.16,⁶ the COP designated the GCF as an operating entity of the Financial Mechanism. The arrangements between the COP and the GCF state that the relevant secretariats may, as necessary and subject to the direction of the Board of the GCF and the COP, cooperate and exchange views on matters relevant to the operation of the Financial Mechanism, including the implementation of those arrangements between the COP and the GCF, coordination with other international financing channels and the participation of representatives in meetings of relevant bodies.

18. During the reporting period, the secretariat briefed the GCF secretariat on the UNFCCC process as the GCF made progress towards its full operationalization. The secretariat also followed closely the meetings of the Board of the GCF as the Board took its first funding decisions on project proposals.

19. In turn, representatives of the GCF secretariat participated in meetings of thematic bodies under the Convention, including the Standing Committee on Finance (SCF). At the third SCF forum, focused on forest financing, a representative of the GCF presented the state of GCF work on forest finance. Such participation proved useful to the preparation by the SCF of draft guidance for the GCF. In addition, the GCF secretariat held briefings on the state of play of the fund in conjunction with the sessions of the subsidiary bodies.

20. Furthermore, the secretariat explored how measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) and recognition instruments under the Kyoto Protocol and its experience related to MRV of mitigation outcomes, gained through the provision of support to the regulatory bodies under the Kyoto Protocol, could serve in the assessment of GCF projects. Several meetings between the management of the two secretariats took place regarding possible collaboration initiatives, which will be further explored in 2016, especially in relation to the mandate received by the Executive Board of the clean development mechanism (CDM) to explore opportunities for the financing of the CDM through international climate financing

⁵ This work was undertaken in response to a COP mandate to the TEC (decision 17/CP.20, paragraph 13).

⁶ Decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 102.

institutions, such as the GCF, and to report back to the Conference of the Parties serving as meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP) at its twelfth session.

(b) Global Environment Facility

21. The GEF serves as an entity entrusted with the operation of the Financial Mechanism.⁷ The memorandum of understanding between the COP and the GEF states that the relevant secretariats shall cooperate and exchange on a regular basis views and experience necessary to facilitate the effectiveness of the Financial Mechanism in assisting Parties to implement the Convention.⁸

22. During the reporting period, the secretariat interacted regularly with the GEF secretariat through its participation in the meetings of the GEF. At the 49th GEF Council meeting held in October 2015, the UNFCCC Deputy Executive Secretary delivered a speech addressing the GEF's role in the climate finance architecture. He noted the significant efforts of the GEF undertaken towards ensuring complementarity in climate finance and stressed the critical role of the GEF approaching the post-2020 period.⁹

23. In turn, the GEF secretariat participated in meetings of thematic bodies under the Convention. Its participation in meetings of the SCF proved useful to the preparation by the SCF of draft guidance for the GEF.

(c) Adaptation Fund

24. The secretariat continued to interact with the Adaptation Fund Board (AFB) secretariat during the reporting period. It participated in the meetings of the AFB, at which it provided advice on the interpretation of CMP decisions. The secretariat also contributed to the workshops on climate finance readiness organized by the AFB secretariat, at which a representative of the secretariat delivered a presentation on the state of climate finance under the Convention.

25. The AFB secretariat in turn participated in meetings of thematic bodies under the Convention, including the SCF. It also interacted with the Adaptation Committee (AC) on matters related to adaptation finance, especially on financing for national adaptation plans (NAPs) in developing countries.

26. With regard to the issue of possible future institutional linkages and relations between the Adaptation Fund and other institutions under the Convention, the secretariat and AFB secretariat continued to provide mutual advice from the legal perspective and operational standpoint of the fund, respectively.

2. Cooperation through the work of the Standing Committee on Finance

27. The secretariat supports the work of the SCF, including in relation to collaboration and outreach activities with IGOs and the development of a communication strategy.

28. First and foremost, the secretariat engages with a variety of institutions through the support that it provides for the organization of the SCF forum. The third SCF forum, on enhancing the coherence and coordination of forest financing, took place on 8 and 9 September 2015 in Durban, South Africa. It was organized during the 14th World Forestry Congress, hosted by the South African Government, and in effective partnership with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).¹⁰ More than 180

⁷ Decision 3/CP.4, paragraph 1.

⁸ Decision 12/CP.2, annex, paragraph 10.

⁹ See

<http://unfccc.int/files/press/statements/application/pdf/20152110_49th_gef_council.pdf>.

¹⁰ More information on the third SCF forum is available at

participants attended, including representatives of multilateral and bilateral financial institutions and of United Nations organizations. In preparing for the forum, the SCF reached out to various stakeholders in the area of forest finance.

29. The SCF is currently planning the fourth SCF forum, on the issue of financial instruments that address the risks of loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change. The secretariat continues to facilitate the engagement of the SCF with a wide variety of climate finance stakeholders, for example by assisting with the issuance of an open call for inputs on the scope, purpose and partnerships of the fourth forum.¹¹

30. Furthermore, the SCF, with the support of the secretariat, closely collaborates with climate finance stakeholders specializing in MRV of climate finance flows. Through such collaboration, the first biennial assessment and overview of climate finance flows was published in 2014. The SCF will continue to interact with a variety of stakeholders via technical meetings, side events and webinars as it prepares the second biennial assessment.¹²

31. Regarding MRV of support, the secretariat, in accordance with decision 11/CP.20, paragraph 4, organized a joint in-session technical workshop on the methodologies for reporting financial information by Parties included in Annex I to the Convention (Annex I Parties), under the auspices of the SCF, the SBSTA and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI).¹³ The workshop was held in Bonn, Germany, on 6 June 2015 in conjunction with the forty-second sessions of the subsidiary bodies. Various experts, including from multilateral development banks and OECD, participated actively in the workshop, providing their views on the gaps in and potential improvements to the existing methodologies for the reporting of financial information.

3. Cooperation through the in-session workshop on long-term climate finance

32. The secretariat organizes annual in-session workshops on long-term climate finance.¹⁴ The workshop in 2015 was held in Bonn on 4 and 5 June in conjunction with the forty-second sessions of the subsidiary bodies. The workshop focused on the issues of adaptation finance, developing country Parties' needs for support and cooperation on enhanced enabling environments and support for readiness activities.¹⁵ Climate finance experts from various international organizations, including the Latin American Development Bank (CAF), the Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility and the AFB secretariat, participated actively in the workshop as scene-setting presenters, moderators and breakout group discussants.

C. Capacity-building

1. Cooperation in relation to the framework for capacity-building in developing countries

33. In accordance with decisions 2/CP.7 and 29/CMP.1, the secretariat collaborates with a number of IGOs to collect and compile the information needed by the COP, the CMP and the subsidiary bodies to review the progress made in the implementation of the framework for capacity-building in developing countries established by decision 2/CP.7. In 2015,

<http://unfccc.int/cooperation_and_support/financial_mechanism/standing_committee/items/9053.php>.

¹¹ See <www.unfccc.int/SCF/Forum>.

¹² More information is available at <<http://unfccc.int/8034.php>>.

¹³ More information on the workshop is available at <<http://unfccc.int/8892.php>>.

¹⁴ Decision 3/CP.19, paragraph 12, and decision 5/CP.20, paragraph 13.

¹⁵ More information on the workshop is available at <<http://unfccc.int/8939.php>>.

19 IGOs submitted information on capacity-building activities undertaken in 2014.¹⁶ Such information contributed, inter alia, to supporting the SBI in its annual monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the capacity-building framework.

2. Cooperation through the Durban Forum on capacity-building

34. COP 17 requested the 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.¹⁷ The secretariat cooperates with IGOs through the support that it provides for the organization of the meetings of the Durban Forum. The 4th meeting of the Durban Forum took place in Bonn on 3 and 8 June 2015 in conjunction with SBI 42.¹⁸ Representatives of IGOs¹⁹ contributed to the discussions, including by:

- (a) Presenting the capacity-building related work of bodies established under the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol;
- (b) Providing an overview of the capacity-building elements included in their workplans;
- (c) Providing an overview of the support available for the preparation of intended nationally determined contributions (INDCs).

D. Action for Climate Empowerment

1. United Nations Alliance on Climate Change Education, Training and Public Awareness

35. The United Nations Alliance on Climate Change Education, Training and Public Awareness (UN Alliance) aims to support Parties in their efforts to initiate and undertake activities related to the implementation of Action for Climate Empowerment. In July 2015, the International Labour Organization joined existing organizations and became the 13th member of the UN Alliance. The secretariat, in partnership with the UN Alliance as well as other United Nations agencies, organized Education Day at the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Paris on 4 December 2015. During Education Day, the UN Alliance organized a joint side event on innovative ways to promote non-formal climate education with a special focus on alternative approaches to learning, such as music, social media and video games.

2. Global Action Programme on Education for Sustainable Development

36. The Global Action Programme on Education for Sustainable Development, the follow-up to the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005–2014), was launched in November 2014 at the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development in Aichi-Nagoya, Japan. The overall goal of this action programme is to generate and scale up action at all levels and in all areas of education and learning to accelerate progress towards sustainable development, contributing to the post-2015 agenda. It established five partner networks: (1) policy support; (2) whole-institution approaches; (3) educators; (4) youth; and (5) local communities. The UNFCCC secretariat, as the secretariat of the UN Alliance, was invited to become a member of the partner network on policy support as well as to participate in the first meeting of the partner networks, held by

¹⁶ Available on the capacity-building portal at <<http://unfccc.int/7204.php>>.

¹⁷ Decision 2/CP.17, paragraphs 144 and 147.

¹⁸ More information on the meeting is available at <<http://unfccc.int/8845.php>>.

¹⁹ UNEP, UNEP DTU Partnership, the World Bank, the GCF and the CTCN.

UNESCO on 26 and 27 May 2015 in Paris. The meeting of the partner networks served to: formally establish the five partner networks; provide space to discuss and elaborate an initial workplan for each partner network, including key implementation milestones; and define within each partner network responsibilities, coordination and working methods.

3. 3rd Dialogue on Article 6 of the Convention

37. The secretariat held the 3rd Dialogue on Article 6 of the Convention on 2 and 3 June 2015 during SBI 42 in collaboration with United Nations entities. During the dialogue, Parties and IGOs, as well as experts, practitioners and stakeholders, shared experiences and lessons learned in relation to climate change education, training and relevant international cooperation. Representatives of the UN Alliance provided technical support and moderated working group discussions. In September 2015, the secretariat published a summary report on the 3rd Dialogue on Article 6 of the Convention.²⁰

4. Youth and climate change

38. The secretariat works together with United Nations entities and youth organizations to mobilize active and meaningful youth participation in the climate change process through the United Nations Joint Framework Initiative on Children, Youth and Climate Change (JFI). The secretariat coordinated the participation of JFI members in youth activities at SBI 42. Moreover, the secretariat worked closely with JFI, the Office of the Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth and Connect4Climate to organize Young and Future Generations Day, the Intergenerational Inquiry, the United Nations Youth Booth, high-level youth briefings and other activities for young people at the Paris Conference.

39. Through its work on JFI, the secretariat continues to contribute to the implementation of the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Youth in the areas of education, civic engagement and political inclusion. In addition, in October 2015 the secretariat participated in the 9th UNESCO Youth Forum, hosted by UNESCO in Paris prior to the 38th session of the UNESCO General Conference. The Youth Forum, entitled "Young Global Citizens for a Sustainable Planet", brought together over 500 young women and men from across the world to address youth engagement in the post-2015 sustainable development agenda. It focused on issues relating to climate change given the Paris Conference was to be held soon thereafter.

40. Shining a light on existing climate change actions undertaken by youth, the secretariat, in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) GEF Small Grants Programme, JFI and Television for the Environment, organized the Global Youth Video Competition on Climate Change. Young people from 60 different countries submitted their videos showcasing the power to act as key players in reaching innovative and ambitious solutions to climate change. Furthermore, the secretariat and UNESCO supported the organization of the Global Challenges Youth Music Contest. A total of 45 young musicians from 26 countries submitted their self-produced music video clips on youth and climate change. The winners of the contest were awarded prizes at the Paris Conference.

E. Adaptation

1. Adaptation and loss and damage

41. The secretariat collaborates with many IGOs and United Nations organizations in supporting adaptation activities, including through the work of the AC, in promoting

²⁰ FCCC/SBI/2015/15.

synergy and in strengthening engagement with national, regional and international organizations, centres and networks. The secretariat also engages with a wide range of organizations in support of the work of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG), including the implementation of national adaptation programmes of action. Furthermore, the secretariat supports the work under the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts, the process to formulate and implement NAPs and the work of the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change (NWP). Specific IGOs that the secretariat cooperates with include, but are not limited to: the GEF, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the secretariats of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, UNDP, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), UNEP, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Bank.

2. Adaptation Committee

42. The AC is the advisory body of the COP on adaptation to climate change. The Committee seeks to promote greater coherence in the way that adaptation is addressed by all countries and to raise the profile of adaptation. The secretariat supports the work of the Committee, including working with all IGOs involved with adaptation activities. Specific activities include the following:

(a) The AC invited regional institutions and United Nations agencies to communicate information on their current support for adaptation in developing countries. The AC's ad hoc group on technical support undertook an analysis of this information, looking for gaps, needs, opportunities, etc. The AC agreed on two types of modality for addressing the identified gaps and needs as proposed by the ad hoc group in a background paper,²¹ which are reflected in the AC's 2016–2018 workplan. By the same token, the AC recognized that the list of modalities contained in the annex to the background paper is not comprehensive and that additional modalities may be applied, including those for outreach beyond the Convention;

(b) A workshop on sharing experiences, good practices, lessons learned, gaps and needs in the process to formulate and implement NAPs²² was organized in collaboration with the LEG, drawing upon inputs from experts and practitioners at different levels;

(c) An expert meeting on promoting livelihoods and economic diversification,²³ building on the relevant work undertaken under the NWP on this matter, was organized under the guidance of the Chair of the SBSTA and in collaboration with relevant NWP organizations. Discussions took place on economic diversification at the regional and national levels, livelihood diversification at the household and community levels and options for strengthening linkages between both, including processes and tools that can effectively integrate efforts, in particular in the NAP process;

(d) A side event held at the Paris Conference to enhance coherent action on adaptation²⁴ presented the achievements of the AC, including its latest publications,²⁵ and offered an opportunity to exchange ideas on ways to enhance the provision of finance,

²¹ Available in AC document AC/2015/15.

²² The workshop took place on 16 and 17 April 2015 in Bonn. See also <unfccc.int/8903> and the workshop report contained in document FCCC/SBI/2015/INF.6.

²³ The expert meeting took place on 7 and 8 September 2015 in Bonn. See also <unfccc.int/9030>.

²⁴ See <unfccc.int/9350>.

²⁵ See <unfccc.int/6997>.

technology and capacity-building for adaptation in general and the process to formulate and implement NAPs in particular;

(e) A documentary entitled “Adapting to a changing climate”²⁶ highlighting the growing recognition of the need for adaptation to climate change around the world, introducing viewers to the topic of climate change adaptation by weaving inspiring stories of adaptation action together with interviews with experts, was produced in cooperation with the secretariat. It won a gold award at the prestigious Deauville Green Awards and is available in nine languages, including the six official United Nations languages.

43. All AC meetings are open to observers, including IGOs. Observers have been invited to provide general statements at the opening and closing of the meetings, to provide concrete suggestions during the discussions on specific agenda items and to actively participate in the work of breakout groups. Such active engagement of observers and the possibility of feeding additional experience and expertise into the discussions were deemed to be beneficial for furthering the work of the committee and its quest for synergy.

3. Least Developed Countries Expert Group

44. The secretariat continues to facilitate the work of the LEG through collaboration with various organizations, consistent with the mandate of the LEG to engage the GEF and its agencies, the GCF and a wide range of other organizations in implementing the work programme of the LEG.²⁷ Specific activities of the secretariat include:

(a) Inviting the GEF and its agencies to the meetings of the LEG to continue to further explore issues faced by least developed country (LDC) Parties related to accessing funds from the Least Developed Countries Fund and to explore ways to further collaborate to support the work of the LEG;

(b) Inviting to the same meetings organizations that are developing supplements to the technical guidelines for the process to formulate and implement NAPs;

(c) Interacting with the GCF to consider how to best support LDC Parties in accessing funding from the GCF for the formulation and subsequent implementation of NAPs;

(d) The organization of regional training workshops on NAPs in 2014–2015;²⁸

(e) The involvement of the GEF and its agencies, United Nations organizations, international organizations and agencies and regional centres and networks in the NAP Expo held in April 2015.²⁹

4. Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts

45. The Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism guides the implementation of the functions of this mechanism. One of the key functions is

²⁶ See <unfccc.int/8889>.

²⁷ In accordance with decision 8/CP.13, paragraph 5, and decision 6/CP.16, paragraph 5.

²⁸ During the reporting period, a regional training workshop on NAPs for African francophone developing countries was held from 28 September to 2 October in Niamey, Niger; a regional training workshop on NAPs for African lusophone and island States was held in Antananarivo, Madagascar, from 7 to 11 September 2015; a regional training workshop on NAPs for the Asian region was held in Yangon, Myanmar, from 10 to 14 August 2015; and a regional training workshop on NAPs for anglophone North and West African countries was held in Cairo, Egypt, from 27 to 31 July 2015. See <http://unfccc.int/adaptation/workshops_meetings/items/6989.php#NAPA>.

²⁹ See <<http://napexpo.org/2015/>>.

strengthening dialogue, coordination, coherence and synergies among relevant stakeholders, including by fostering dialogue, coordination, coherence and synergies among all relevant institutions, bodies, processes and initiatives outside of the Convention, with a view to promoting cooperation and collaboration across relevant work and activities at all levels.³⁰

46. The Executive Committee engages and collaborates with relevant organizations and expert bodies through the implementation of its initial two-year workplan.³¹ The secretariat supports the work of the Executive Committee, including by working with all IGOs involved.

47. The Executive Committee invited relevant organizations to provide information on:

(a) Best practices, challenges and lessons learned from existing financial instruments at all levels that address the risk of loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change;³²

(b) The scope of current efforts undertaken in addressing slow onset events associated with climate change impacts.

48. The Executive Committee is also in the process of inviting relevant organizations to provide information with a view to:

(a) Enhancing the understanding of the capacity and coordination needs with regard to preparing for, responding to and building resilience against loss and damage associated with extreme and slow onset events, including through recovery and rehabilitation;

(b) Enhancing the understanding of and expertise on how the impacts of climate change are affecting patterns of migration, displacement and human mobility, and the application of such understanding and expertise.

49. All meetings of the Executive Committee are open to observers. During the reporting period, the 1st (24–26 September 2015)³³ and 2nd (2–5 February 2016)³⁴ meetings of the Executive Committee took place with the active participation of a broad range of expert observers from United Nations agencies, IGOs and NGOs, including the private sector, especially in the areas related to: humanitarian assistance; migration, displacement and human mobility; and financial instruments and tools, including risk transfer, on which expert briefings were held during or in conjunction with the meetings.

50. At the meetings, observers were invited to provide concrete suggestions based on their specific expertise and experience during the deliberations in both plenary and parallel working group settings, in addition to providing written inputs on specific agenda items. Such active engagement of observers was highly appreciated by, and deemed to be beneficial for furthering the technical work of, the Committee and its quest for synergy and coherent cooperative action at the international level.

5. National adaptation plans

51. The secretariat's cooperation with various organizations continues to contribute to the evolution of action and the provision of support to LDC Parties and other developing country Parties that are not LDCs in relation to the process to formulate and implement NAPs. Specific activities of the secretariat since SBI 40 include facilitating the engagement

³⁰ In accordance with decision 2/CP.19, paragraph 5(b).

³¹ FCCC/SB/2014/4, annex II.

³² See <<http://unfccc.int/9404>>.

³³ See <http://unfccc.int/adaptation/workstreams/loss_and_damage/items/9283.php>.

³⁴ See <http://unfccc.int/adaptation/workstreams/loss_and_damage/items/9428.php>.

of a wide range of organizations in supporting the LEG in providing technical guidance and support to the LDCs, as well as collaborating with the GEF and its agencies on designing support in response to mandates provided by the COP. The secretariat also collaborated with the International Telecommunications Union on a technical paper on information and communication technologies for climate change adaptation in cities by communicating relevant information and guidelines on adaptation developed under the UNFCCC.

52. The secretariat continues to engage with United Nations organizations and its specialized agencies, bilateral and multilateral agencies and regional networks and centres in the design and implementation of NAP Central.³⁵

53. Furthermore, the secretariat is among the partners of the NAP Global Support Programme.³⁶ The programme, established in response to an invitation made by the COP,³⁷ is aimed at supporting the LDCs through the brokering of knowledge, institutional support and technical support to advance their NAPs.

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

54. The objective of the NWP is to assist all Parties, in particular developing country Parties, including the LDCs and small island developing States, in improving their understanding and assessment of impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change, and in making informed decisions on practical adaptation actions and measures to respond to climate change on a sound scientific, technical and socioeconomic basis, taking into account current and future climate change and variability. The NWP addresses Parties' needs for knowledge, including those arising from the implementation of the Cancun Adaptation Framework.

55. The NWP was established as a knowledge hub for adaptation under the Convention to facilitate and catalyse the development and dissemination of information and knowledge to inform and support adaptation policies and practices at the regional, national and subnational levels through a diverse range of modalities. It responds to adaptation knowledge needs identified by Parties, including the needs relating to NAPs and other relevant workstreams under the Convention, by providing a unique opportunity for linking relevant institutions, processes, resources and expertise outside the Convention.

56. NWP partner organizations encompass a broad spectrum of expertise, experience and knowledge and play an important role in the implementation of activities under the work programme. Since its inception, the NWP has engaged over 300 partners, including a number of United Nations system organizations and other IGOs.³⁸

57. United Nations system organizations and IGOs are critical in supporting the evolving work of the NWP, which aims to enhance collaboration with global and regional knowledge networks and NWP partners so as to strengthen the production and dissemination of knowledge on adaptation and to invite regional centres and networks to serve as regional knowledge platforms for the implementation of the activities under the NWP.

58. The Lima Adaptation Knowledge Initiative is an example of a collaborative effort of UNEP and the secretariat, and is an action pledge made under the NWP³⁹ and endorsed and launched by the COP 20 Presidency.

³⁵ See document FCCC/SBI/2015/19, paragraph 32.

³⁶ See <<http://www.undp-alm.org/projects/naps-ldcs>>.

³⁷ Decision 5/CP.17, paragraph 23.

³⁸ A list of of partners is available at <unfccc.int/nwp>.

³⁹ The action pledge is available at <https://www3.unfccc.int/pls/apex/f?p=333:31:3931751897221714::NO::P31_ID:521>.

59. The initiative provides means to consolidate the engagement of organizations under the NWP and provides a systematic approach to prioritizing adaptation knowledge gaps and catalysing responses to subregional and theme-specific adaptation knowledge needs. SBSTA 41 welcomed the Lima Adaptation Knowledge Initiative and encouraged its replication in other subregions, particularly in vulnerable developing countries such as the LDCs, small island developing States and countries in Africa.⁴⁰ Following the implementation of the pilot initiative in the Andean subregion, two further priority-setting workshops have been conducted for the Gulf Cooperation Council subregion and Southern Africa subregion.⁴¹

60. The 9th NWP Focal Point Forum was held in conjunction with SBSTA 43. Through a rich and interactive exchange among over 70 participants from Parties and NWP partner organizations alike, including IGOs, the forum focused on effective ways to facilitate learning on adaptation that can be promoted under the NWP and through the systematic documentation and dissemination of good adaptation practices and lessons learned.⁴² A review group comprising members of the AC and the LEG and thematic experts from NWP partner organizations (including experts from IGOs) undertook the preparations for the review and selection of case studies for presentation at the forum.

61. SBSTA 40 agreed on a set of activities to be undertaken under the NWP, prior to SBSTA 45, in order to collect, analyse and disseminate information and knowledge to inform adaptation planning and actions at the regional, national and subnational levels, addressing ecosystems, human settlements, water resources and health and on linking national and local adaptation planning processes.⁴³ The activities are to be undertaken under the guidance of the Chair of the SBSTA in collaboration with the AC and the LEG and with contributions from relevant NWP partner organizations and regional centres and networks.⁴⁴ Specific activities included:

(a) The synthesis of information submitted by Parties and NWP partner organizations on adaptation planning and practices,⁴⁵ including 10 submissions from United Nations organizations and IGOs;

(b) A total of 170 case studies contributed by Parties and NWP partner organizations, including regional centres and networks, highlighting good practices and lessons learned and a synthesis of the case studies;⁴⁶

(c) Ongoing engagement with regional centres and networks, including regional entities of United Nations organizations and IGOs, towards undertaking regional activities on sharing knowledge, which will be reported at SBSTA 44.

⁴⁰ FCCC/SBSTA/2014/5, paragraph 19.

⁴¹ See <https://www3.unfccc.int/pls/apex/f?p=333:31:1727277722569461::NO::P31_ID:521>.

⁴² Further information on the forum is available at <http://unfccc.int/adaptation/workstreams/nairobi_work_programme/items/9357.php>.

⁴³ FCCC/SBSTA/2014/2, paragraph 19.

⁴⁴ FCCC/SBSTA/2014/2, paragraph 24.

⁴⁵ FCCC/SBSTA/2014/4 and FCCC/SBSTA/2014/MISC.8.

⁴⁶ FCCC/SBSTA/2015/4.

F. Mitigation

1. Enhancing pre-2020 mitigation ambition, REDD-plus and supporting the preparation of intended nationally determined contributions

(a) Nationally appropriate mitigation actions

62. Pursuant to decision 1/CP.16, developing countries are to implement nationally appropriate mitigation actions (NAMAs) in the context of sustainable development, supported and enabled by technology, financing and capacity-building, aimed at achieving a deviation from 'business as usual' emissions by 2020.

63. The secretariat collaborates closely with a number of international and bilateral organizations and international initiatives aimed at assisting developing countries in the design and implementation of their NAMAs,⁴⁷ including:

(a) Through the organization and conduct of regional capacity-building workshops to facilitate the preparation and implementation of NAMAs;⁴⁸

(b) By organizing the NAMA Market Place at selected global conferences, an initiative whereby selected NAMAs are presented to a panel of potential donors and investors;

(c) In coordinating the work of the NAMA Partnership, a group of multilateral organizations, bilateral cooperation agencies and think tanks aimed at enhancing collaboration and complementarity to accelerate the provision of support to developing countries for the design and implementation of their NAMAs;⁴⁹

(d) By contributing to the coordination of the activities of three international partnerships: the NAMA Partnership, the Low Emission Development Strategies Global Partnership and the International Partnership on Mitigation and MRV;

(e) On producing technical material on various aspects of NAMAs, such as the *Framework for Measuring Sustainable Development in NAMAs* and *From Theory to Practice: Understanding Transformational Change in NAMAs*;⁵⁰

(f) More recently, by engaging in an initiative to develop a compendium of approaches for developing baselines with a view to supporting developing countries in the planning of mitigation action. Organizations taking part in this initiative include the World Bank, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit, UNDP, FAO and others.

(b) REDD-plus

64. The secretariat has participated in and contributed to several forest-related activities with other member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF), either jointly as a member of the CPF or through collaboration with individual members of the partnership.⁵¹ The secretariat is also an observer on the policy board of the United Nations

⁴⁷ As requested in decision 1/CP.18, paragraph 23, and decision 16/CP.18, paragraph 11.

⁴⁸ Additional information is available at <<http://unfccc.int/focus/mitigation/items/7429.php>>.

⁴⁹ See <<http://www.namapartnership.org/>>.

⁵⁰ Available at <<http://www.namapartnership.org/PUBLICATIONS/NAMAs-and-Sustainable-Development>>.

⁵¹ The partner organizations of the CPF are: the Center for International Forestry Research, CBD, FAO, the GEF, the International Tropical Timber Organization, the International Union for Conservation of Nature, the International Union of Forest Research Organizations, the UNCCD and UNFCCC secretariats, UNDP, UNEP, the United Nations Forum on Forests, the World Agroforestry Centre and the World Bank.

collaborative initiative on reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries (UN-REDD) and collaborates closely with UN-REDD partner agencies. Furthermore, the secretariat continues to follow, as an observer, the work related to REDD-plus⁵² of the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility and the Forest Investment Program under the Strategic Climate Fund of the World Bank.

65. The secretariat continues to support the activities of all Parties by maintaining a REDD-plus Web Platform,⁵³ which contains information from Parties, relevant organizations and stakeholders.⁵⁴ The secretariat improved and further developed this platform to include the Lima REDD-plus Information Hub.⁵⁵

(c) Intended nationally determined contributions

66. By decision 1/CP.19, paragraph 2(b), the COP invited all Parties to initiate or intensify domestic preparations for their INDCs, without prejudice to the legal nature of the contributions, in the context of adopting a protocol, another legal instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force under the Convention applicable to all Parties towards achieving the objective of the Convention as set out in its Article 2, and to communicate those INDCs to the secretariat well in advance of COP 21 (by the first quarter of 2015 by those Parties ready to do so) in a manner that facilitates the clarity, transparency and understanding of the INDCs.

67. The secretariat, in cooperation with UNDP, GIZ and the World Resources Institute, organized a series of regional dialogues with a view to supporting countries in the preparation of their INDCs. The initiative, which was implemented in 2014–2015, included the organization of six regional dialogues and three subregional training workshops and the development of technical material, including a manual for the development of INDCs.

68. The initiative provided a space for countries to share information on INDCs, including on processes and technical aspects. It also established a platform for the coordination of support initiatives, which resulted in unprecedented participation by countries: by the end of 2015, over 95 per cent of Parties had communicated an INDC to the secretariat.

2. Cooperation with the International Civil Aviation Organization and the International Maritime Organization

69. The secretariat collaborates closely with the secretariats of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the International Maritime Organization (IMO)⁵⁶ in order to address emissions from international aviation and maritime transport.

70. The secretariat holds the status of an observer in relation to both organizations and regularly participates in meetings of the Committee on Aviation Environmental Protection under ICAO and the Marine Environment Protection Committee under IMO. During such meetings the secretariat informs Parties on relevant developments under the UNFCCC by providing oral and written statements as well as by engaging directly with Parties if requested. Furthermore, the secretariat works collaboratively with the secretariats of ICAO and IMO on relevant issues. In the context of ICAO's and IMO's work to address GHG

⁵² In decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 70, the COP encouraged developing country Parties to contribute to mitigation actions in the forest sector by undertaking the following activities: reducing emissions from deforestation; reducing emissions from forest degradation; conservation of forest carbon stocks; sustainable management of forests; and enhancement of forest carbon stocks.

⁵³ <<http://redd.unfccc.int/>>.

⁵⁴ As requested in decision 2/CP.13, paragraph 10.

⁵⁵ Pursuant to decision 9/CP.19, paragraph 19.

⁵⁶ Decision 18/CP.5, paragraph 3.

emissions from international aviation and maritime transport, respectively, the secretariat also participates in technical working groups addressing climate-relevant matters under both bodies. The secretariat seconded a staff member to the ICAO secretariat in order to support its ongoing work on market-based approaches to addressing GHG emissions from international aviation.

71. In response to reoccurring invitations made by the SBSTA, the secretariats of ICAO and IMO continuously report on their relevant actions to address GHG emissions from international aviation and maritime transport to the SBSTA under its agenda item on emissions from fuel used for international aviation and maritime transport. The SBSTA regularly takes note of these reports and their activities. In addition, both the ICAO and the IMO secretariat organized interactive side events at the Paris Conference.

3. Collaboration with the International Energy Agency

72. The secretariat collaborates closely with IEA on a number of issues in relation to energy and climate change. A highlight of the 2015 activities was its collaboration with IEA in the context of the preparation of the IEA *World Energy Outlook Special Report 2015: Energy and Climate Change*.⁵⁷ In addition, following established practices, the secretariat provides inputs to and comments on drafts of the World Energy Outlook published by IEA. Both organizations have regular exchanges in relation to energy-related issues, including on data, projections and policies.

73. Furthermore, the secretariat maintains constant cooperation with IEA in the context of the expert reviews of national GHG inventories from Annex I Parties. The implementation of the changes due to the transition to the new UNFCCC reporting guidelines for GHG inventories from Annex I Parties that take on board the requirements from the 2006 IPCC methodological guidance took place in 2015. A particular focus will be given in 2016 to the improvement of the associated joint cooperation processes.

4. Collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Environment Programme

74. The Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (CGE), with support from the secretariat, collaborates with UNDP and UNEP as joint administrators of the Global Support Programme for Preparation of National Communications and Biennial Update Reports. This programme provides logistical and technical support for the timely preparation and submission of national communications and biennial update reports to the COP, and complement the efforts of the CGE by facilitating the provision of technical support to non-Annex I Parties at both the subregional and national levels. Through their representation in the CGE, UNDP and UNEP contribute to various elements of the work programme of the CGE.

75. Also, the secretariat collaborates with UNEP in the preparation of the UNEP emissions gap and adaptation gap reports.

76. To support the implementation of NAMAs in developing countries and the implementation of nationally determined contributions (NDCs), the secretariat and UNDP are collaborating on the development of standardized baselines under the CDM rules that can be used for other purposes (NAMAs, implementation of NDCs). This has resulted in the elaboration of a standardized baseline for the agriculture sector. Another standardized

⁵⁷ Available at <<https://www.iea.org/publications/freepublications/publication/weo-2015-special-report-energy-climate-change.html>>.

baseline for the waste sector is under development and it will be followed by several standardized baselines for the power sector in different countries.

77. In relation to CDM methodologies for the building sector and a city-wide approach to mitigation actions, the secretariat is collaborating with UNEP on its Sustainable Building and Climate Initiative. Several joint workshops have been organized to explore approaches to the quantification of the impact of mitigation activities in these sectors.

5. Collaboration with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

78. The secretariat continues to contribute actively to the work of the task force on a set of key climate change related statistics and indicators that was created in 2014 by the Bureau of the Conference of European Statisticians. The objective is to define an internationally comparable set of key climate change related statistics and indicators that can be derived from the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting and other sources available in national statistics. By the end of 2015, a preliminary set of key climate change related indicators had been developed and the focus of the work is now shifting to the finalization and refinement of those indicators.

79. In addition, the secretariat contributed to the organization and conduct of the first-ever expert forum for producers and users of climate change related statistics, conducted at the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) premises in Geneva, Switzerland, on 2 and 3 September 2015. The event was well attended by representatives of national statistical offices of UNECE members and other countries and it provided an excellent opportunity for the exchange of information and experience in the area of climate-related data.

80. Also, the secretariat collaborated with UNECE on the expert work on greening the energy sector that is a cornerstone of UNECE work in the light of Sustainable Development Goal 7 (on energy), adopted in September 2015. UNECE is working on reducing the carbon footprint of the energy sector by promoting energy efficiency and renewable energy through focused work on the collection of best practices, standards and the analysis of experiences and the regular exchange of information between institutions.

6. Contribution to the operation of the United Nations wide data portal

81. The secretariat provides regular updates to the GHG data presented on UNData,⁵⁸ which contributes to the capability of this portal to serve as a United Nations wide platform for data dissemination within and outside the United Nations system. The secretariat also participates in the regular data manager meetings to provide inputs and discuss the developments related to the associated data systems and data management.

7. Collaboration related to the Montreal Protocol

82. The secretariat collaborates on a regular basis with the secretariat for the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and for the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (Ozone secretariat) in the context of addressing ozone-depleting substances that have high global warming potential. The secretariats closely coordinate relevant work and participate regularly in each other's meetings, thereby exchanging expertise and knowledge. In particular, there have been several exchanges related to how experience with the CDM could be used for the assessment of hydrofluorocarbon projects under the Montreal Protocol.

⁵⁸ <<http://data.un.org/>>.

8. Collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

83. In order to meet their reporting requirements under the UNFCCC, non-Annex I Parties should have in place a system that enables them to submit reports on a regular basis. The UNFCCC project on technical assistance for sustainable national GHG inventory management systems in Western Africa was launched in May 2014 and is designed to provide in-kind technical assistance from 2014 to 2017 to seven Western African countries (Benin, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Senegal and Togo) for establishing and maintaining the institutional, legal and procedural arrangements needed to perform national GHG inventory system functions (inventory planning, preparation and management) and to improve the quality of GHG inventories for the energy, agriculture and forestry sectors. The regional project is based on the identification of inventory-related problems, the assessment of technical assistance needs and the identification of the required technical interventions to address the needs developed in close collaboration with the participating countries and with FAO with regard to the agriculture and forestry sectors.

9. Collaboration with the World Bank on the use of the clean development mechanism beyond the Kyoto Protocol

84. The secretariat developed a very fruitful collaboration with the World Bank on the use of the CDM for the results-based financing of mitigation activities. This resulted in the creation of mechanisms such as the Carbon Initiative for Development and the Pilot Auction Facility, which are using the CDM infrastructure to evaluate the impact of the mitigation activities that they incentivize.

85. The World Bank, through the CDM reform working group, is collaborating with the secretariat on the further development of the CDM to make it serve the Convention beyond the Kyoto Protocol. Each year, the CDM reform working group meets at least twice and prepares a workplan on the methodologies that need to be developed to broaden the applicability of the mechanism and those that need to be simplified. The working group has also made several proposals related to the simplification and streamlining of the CDM project cycle.

10. The clean development mechanism and the Nairobi Framework

86. The Nairobi Framework⁵⁹ is an initiative that began with the collaboration of the secretariat with a number of agencies, including UNDP, UNEP and UNEP DTU Partnership, the World Bank and the African Development Bank. The Nairobi Framework was established with the specific target of helping developing countries, especially those in sub-Saharan Africa, to improve their level of participation in the CDM. Following the adoption of the Paris Agreement, Nairobi Framework partners have expanded the scope of the partnership to include providing support to developing countries for implementing their NDCs in the areas of carbon climate finance, technology transfer and capacity-building and for mitigation by creating an enabling environment at the national level, regulatory mechanisms and carbon markets, including the CDM.

87. Together, the partners of the Nairobi Framework, in cooperation with other organizations, continue to support the organization of regional carbon forums and events. The 7th African Carbon Forum was successfully delivered in April 2015 in Marrakech, Morocco, followed by a high-level ministerial dialogue. Also under the Nairobi Framework Partnership umbrella and in collaboration with CAF, IADB, the Latin American Energy Organization and the International Emissions Trading Association, the 9th Latin American and Caribbean Carbon Forum was held in Santiago in September 2015. The Asia-Pacific regional workshop on promoting the CDM and the market mechanisms for the post-2020

⁵⁹ See <http://cdm.unfccc.int/Nairobi_Framework/index.html>.

period was organized in collaboration with ADB and the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies and held in September 2015 in Manila. The secretariat also organized specific regional workshops for designated national authorities (DNAs) on carbon finance, held back-to-back with the African Carbon Forum and the Latin American and Caribbean Carbon Forum.

88. The secretariat also delivered, through its regional collaboration centres (RCCs), a series of capacity-building and engagement events for the integration of the CDM and market mechanisms into INDCs. During September 2015, RCC Lomé organized a workshop in Cameroon and eight clinic-style workshops in Togo; RCC Kampala organized a workshop in Entebbe, Uganda; and RCC St. George's organized one workshop in Grenada. The secretariat, through RCC Bogota and in collaboration with the DNA of Colombia, also organized a first-of-a-kind workshop entitled "Marketplace: CDM fair and other carbon market initiatives", held in November 2015 in Colombia.

89. Through its RCCs the secretariat continues its direct provision of support to project participants and developers for the development of new CDM projects and standardized baselines and its support in new areas such as INDC development with a view to integrating market mechanisms. The secretariat established its fifth RCC in August 2015 in Bangkok to promote the CDM in the Asia-Pacific region. The centre is being operated in partnership with the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies.

90. Through the CDM Loan Scheme,⁶⁰ which is collaboratively administered by the United Nations Office for Project Services and UNEP DTU Partnership on behalf of the secretariat, by the end of 2015, 78 loans had been approved, 62 of which have been signed and executed, with a total amount of USD 6,302,901 committed and USD 3,073,934 disbursed.

91. The secretariat also collaborated with the Sustainable United Nations facility, hosted by UNEP, to facilitate all United Nations organizations, specialized agencies and funds in becoming climate-neutral organizations in their operations before 2020. By COP 21, out of 64 United Nations organizations, 21 reported that they had already achieved climate neutrality.

G. Climate knowledge: science, research and systematic observation

92. Cooperation with the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS) secretariat and other agencies has been a large and important component of the further development and enhancement of scientific knowledge on climate change through research and systematic observation of the climate system around the world. In that context, the secretariat continues to collaborate closely with scientific programmes, agencies and organizations, including the IPCC, WMO, GCOS, UNEP, the World Conservation Monitoring Centre, UNESCO and the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs.

93. Collaboration with the IPCC, in its role as the primary provider of scientific information to the UNFCCC process, has continued throughout the past year. The IPCC Fifth Assessment Report constitutes a key input to the 2013–2015 review. The secretariat closely follows the work of the IPCC and participates as an observer in its meetings.

94. The IPCC continuously responds to the various mandates and invitations arising from the UNFCCC process. The secretariat has collaborated with the IPCC as well as other United Nations organizations and IGOs in the following activities during the reporting period:

⁶⁰ See <<http://cdmloanscheme.org/>>.

- (a) The 7th Research Dialogue, held during SBSTA 42;
- (b) Jointly organizing regional workshops to facilitate the preparation by non-Annex I Parties of their national GHG inventories through, among others, the use of the *2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories*, including the inventory software, as well as the tools available to support the establishment of suitable national institutional arrangements to support the frequent submission of national GHG inventories.

H. Gender

95. The secretariat has strengthened its collaboration with other IGOs to mainstream gender considerations in various climate change thematic areas, raise awareness of the importance of gender considerations and celebrate women's climate action. The secretariat is also an active participant in the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment and in the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality. Some of the secretariat's activities with a focus on gender and climate change or with gender-related components during the past year include the following:

(a) The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the secretariat organized an expert group meeting back-to-back with the eleventh part of the second session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action (ADP). The meeting supported the implementation of the Lima work programme on gender by building on the outcomes of a gender-themed workshop held during SBI 42.⁶¹ The resulting meeting report⁶² highlighted common elements and principles for gender mainstreaming across various UNFCCC processes, including those related to technology development and transfer and climate finance;

(b) The organization of Gender Day at the Paris Conference on 8 December 2015, which included a series of activities dedicated to the topic of gender and climate change that focused on implementation and women's roles as leaders, innovators and change agents in addressing climate change. A number of IGOs, including UN Women, UNDP, UNEP and the International Union for Conservation of Nature, cooperated with the secretariat in the organization of Gender Day and led or actively contributed to the events held;

(c) Also during the Paris Conference, a panel discussion was held at the Rio Conventions Pavilion on 9 December 2015 with the gender focal points from the CBD, UNCCD and UNFCCC secretariats, together with representatives of the GEF, the GCF, UNDP and civil society, exploring synergies across the Rio Conventions to support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in relation to gender;

(d) An inter-agency working group on gender was launched by the GEF to support the implementation of the GEF Gender Equality Action Plan. The secretariat, together with the secretariats of other relevant multilateral environmental agreements, GEF agencies and partner organizations, including numerous IGOs, collaborate through this inter-agency working group to help ensure coherence and accelerate the progress of implementation of gender mainstreaming in GEF-funded projects and programmes, including those related to the UNFCCC.

⁶¹ More information on the workshop is available at http://unfccc.int/gender_and_climate_change/items/9043.php. The report on the workshop is contained in document FCCC/SBI/2015/12.

⁶² Available at <http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2015/10/expert-group-meeting-on-women-and-climate-change-in-bonn>.

I. Post-2015 development agenda

96. The discussions related to the policy processes of the post-2015 development agenda are closely linked to climate change, including the discussions of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals (OWG). Given the importance of and interlinkages between the climate and post-2015 development agenda processes, the secretariat closely follows the latter, recognizing that they are two separate but ‘twin’ processes.

97. During the reporting period, the secretariat continued its engagement with other United Nations entities and acted as a co-lead, together with WMO, in providing substantive input to the co-chairs of OWG through the United Nations System Task Team on the Post-2015 United Nations Development Agenda.

98. The secretariat co-led the drafting of the background paper, “Protecting our planet and combatting climate change”, that was prepared for the interactive dialogues of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda that took place at United Nations Headquarters in September 2015 in New York, the United States of America.

99. In addition, the secretariat participates in the Inter-agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators (IAEG-SDGs) under the United Nations Statistical Commission. The Expert Group is composed of United Nations Member States and includes regional and international agencies as observers. The IAEG-SDGs was tasked with providing a proposal for a global indicator framework (and associated global and universal indicators) for consideration by the Statistical Commission.⁶³

J. Action agenda

1. Workplan on enhancing pre-2020 mitigation ambition

100. By decision 1/CP.20, Parties decided to accelerate activities under the workplan on enhancing pre-2020 mitigation ambition (ADP workstream 2) to intensify the implementation of the recommendations arising from the technical examination of opportunities for actions with high mitigation potential and to focus on supporting substantial, scalable and replicable actions.

101. Two in-session technical expert meetings were organized in 2015 to continue the in-depth work on the identification of good practice scalable policies, measures, actions and support options with the active engagement of non-state actors and multilateral partners in the areas of renewable energy and energy efficiency. As a result of the technical expert meetings the visibility and transparency of ongoing collective action by all and at all levels were enhanced. The outcomes of the process, such as the technical paper on mitigation opportunities and the summary for policymakers, are presented in a user-friendly way on the newly launched website on climate action.⁶⁴ This was of critical importance for further trust- and confidence-building for the successful outcome of both increasing pre-2020 ambition and the negotiation of the Paris Agreement.

102. The following international organizations, partnerships and initiatives were involved in the organization of the two technical expert meetings in 2015: UNEP, the World Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, IEA, IRENA, Sustainable Energy for All, the International Partnership for Energy Efficiency Cooperation, ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability, the World Business Council for Sustainable Development and the UNFCCC support institutions.

⁶³ See <<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/47th-session/documents/2016-2-IAEG-SDGs-E.pdf>>.

⁶⁴ <<http://climateaction2020.unfccc.int/>>.

103. Under ADP workstream 2, with regard to REDD,⁶⁵ forests and land use, the secretariat cooperates with the World Bank and FAO as the leading organizations in these thematic areas. A number of other international organizations are involved in this process, including the Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security under the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research, the Center for International Forestry Research, the IPCC, the Ramsar Convention secretariat and the UN-REDD secretariat.

2. Lima–Paris Action Agenda

104. The Lima–Paris Action Agenda is a joint undertaking of the Peruvian and French COP Presidencies, the Office of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the secretariat. Its original aim was to strengthen climate action throughout 2015, at the Paris Conference in December 2015 and afterwards by: mobilizing robust global action towards low-carbon and climate-resilient societies; providing enhanced support to existing initiatives, such as those launched during the Climate Summit in September 2014; and mobilizing new partners and providing a platform for the visibility of their actions, commitments and results in the run-up to COP 21.

105. During COP 21, Lima–Paris Action Agenda partners organized a series of events that showcased the actions and commitments of stakeholders (focus events) in the so-called action areas: agriculture, forests, resilience, transport, building, energy efficiency, renewable energy, short-lived climate pollutants, transport, business, cities and innovation.

3. Caring for climate

106. The private sector has significant potential to contribute, through technology and finance, to the fight against climate change. The secretariat continues its engagement in the Caring for Climate initiative with the United Nations Global Compact and UNEP. The initiative seeks to advance the role of business in addressing climate change.

107. Under the Caring for Climate initiative, the secretariat engaged in the organization of a focus event on business as part of the Lima–Paris Action Agenda. The Caring for Climate Business Forum provided a venue for business and investors to meet with governments, civil society and the United Nations to advance the climate agenda. With plenary and thematic sessions and a high-level meeting, the forum served as the official platform for companies to demonstrate progress and announce new commitments to action.

III. Regular cooperation with the United Nations Headquarters and other United Nations organizations

A. Activities initiated by the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination

108. The United Nations system is engaged in an action-oriented and coordinated effort to support the international community in addressing the challenge of climate change. United Nations entities contribute to the joint effort of addressing climate change through programmes and projects based on their areas of expertise, intergovernmental mandates and available resources.

109. The United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination is the highest-level coordination forum of the United Nations system. It supports and reinforces the

⁶⁵ Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries.

coordinating role of the intergovernmental bodies of the United Nations system on social, economic and related matters. The secretariat participates in the work of the High Level Committee on Programmes Working Group on Climate Change, currently chaired by WMO.

110. The working group coordinated the presence of the United Nations system at the Paris Conference, ensuring that the work of the United Nations entities were presented through jointly organized side events and exhibits.

B. Secretary-General's Climate Change Support Team

111. The secretariat places high value on its close coordination and collaboration with the United Nations Headquarters, in particular with the Climate Change Support Team (CCST) of the Secretary-General. The secretariat ensures good communication and coordination with CCST through the latter's liaison officer. It also provides support and advice on relevant policy discussions to United Nations entities based in New York and liaises, as appropriate, with permanent missions to the United Nations Headquarters. This engagement was intensified during 2015 in the lead-up to the Paris Conference.

C. Joint Liaison Group of the Rio Conventions

112. Through the Joint Liaison Group of the Rio Conventions, the secretariat maintains close cooperation with the secretariats of CBD and UNCCD. Since SBSTA 42, the secretariats of CBD, UNCCD and the UNFCCC have continued their collaboration, helping to highlight the synergies in the implementation of each convention on the ground and at the national level.

D. World Health Organization

113. Since 2014, the secretariat has been cooperating with WHO in the preparation of country profiles,⁶⁶ gathering data on health and climate change with the aim of facilitating discussions on the effects of climate change on health at both the national and international level. The elaboration of these profiles is ongoing.

⁶⁶ See <<http://www.who.int/globalchange/resources/countries/en/>>.