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Matters relating to capacity-building

**Annual technical progress report of the Paris Committee
on Capacity-building (for 2020 and 2021)**

Annual technical progress report of the Paris Committee on Capacity-building*

Summary

This report covers the work of the Paris Committee on Capacity-building between September 2020 and August 2021. It contains organizational and procedural information, including on the meeting held during the reporting period. The report includes information on the final activities undertaken by the Committee under its rolling workplan for 2017–2020 and highlights progress in implementing its draft workplan for 2021–2024 under the priority areas of enhancing coherence and coordination of capacity-building under the Convention; identifying current and emerging capacity gaps and needs and recommending ways to address them; and promoting awareness-raising, knowledge- and information-sharing and stakeholder engagement with bodies and relevant actors under and outside the Convention. It concludes with recommendations arising from work undertaken by the Committee in the reporting period.

* This document was scheduled for publication after the standard publication date owing to circumstances beyond the submitter's control.

Abbreviations and acronyms

ACE	Action for Climate Empowerment
CMA	Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement
COP	Conference of the Parties
FWG	Facilitative Working Group
ICG	informal coordination group for capacity-building under the Convention and the Paris Agreement
MRV	measurement, reporting and verification
NAP	national adaptation plan
NDC	nationally determined contribution
OHCHR	United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
PCCB	Paris Committee on Capacity-building
SBI	Subsidiary Body for Implementation
SCF	Standing Committee on Finance
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
WIM	Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts

I. Introduction

A. Mandate

1. COP 21 established the PCCB to address gaps and needs, both current and emerging, in implementing capacity-building in developing country Parties and further enhancing capacity-building efforts, including with regard to coherence and coordination of capacity-building activities under the Convention.¹
2. As per its terms of reference, the PCCB is to prepare annual technical progress reports on its work for submission to the COP through the SBI and make the reports available at the sessions of the SBI coinciding with the sessions of the COP.²
3. COP 25 requested the PCCB to report on the expected work under its workplan and on the progress, outcomes, impacts and effectiveness of the activities in its workplan in its annual technical progress report.³
4. CMA 2 decided that the PCCB shall also serve the Paris Agreement and confirmed that the PCCB shall report to both the COP and the CMA through its annual technical progress report.⁴

B. Scope of the report

5. This report contains information on the work undertaken by the PCCB between 1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021.
6. Chapter II below contains information on PCCB 5, implementation of the final activities under the PCCB rolling workplan for 2017–2020 and implementation of its draft workplan for 2021–2024; and chapter III below presents recommendations of the PCCB arising from its work. A summary of PCCB communication and stakeholder engagement efforts in the reporting period is contained in annex I, and an overview of progress on gender mainstreaming in the work of the PCCB in the reporting period in annex II.

C. Possible action by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation

7. The SBI is invited to consider the information contained in this report. In particular, it may wish to consider the recommendations contained in chapter III below and forward them to the COP and the CMA for consideration and adoption, as appropriate.

II. Activities in the reporting period

A. Fifth meeting

1. Election of the Co-Chairs

8. Yongxiang Zhang (China) was re-elected as Co-Chair of the PCCB for a term of one year, effective from PCCB 5. Roberta Ianna (Italy) was elected as Co-Chair for a term of one year, replacing Marzena Chodor (Poland), whose term ended at PCCB 5.⁵

¹ Decision 1/CP.21, para. 71.

² Decision 2/CP.22, annex, para. 17.

³ Decision 9/CP.25, para. 17.

⁴ Decision 3/CMA.2, paras. 3 and 8.

⁵ During the election, the serving Co-Chairs reminded the PCCB that Parties had recognized the importance of equal representation and participation of women and men in climate discussions and action under the Convention and the Paris Agreement, noting that COP 18 adopted a goal of gender balance in bodies established under the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol and highlighted the

9. The PCCB expressed its appreciation to Ms. Chodor and Ms. Zhang for their leadership during the preceding 12 months, which enabled the PCCB to carry out its work effectively.

10. A list of the members of the PCCB, including the length of their respective terms of office, is available on the UNFCCC website.⁶ Regarding gender composition, the PCCB currently comprises six women (including both Co-Chairs) and six men.

2. Proceedings

11. PCCB 5, the only meeting convened during the reporting period, was held virtually from 9 to 11 June 2021.⁷ The meeting was open to Parties and accredited observers registered for the May–June 2021 sessions of the subsidiary bodies. As per previous practice, constituted bodies under the Convention and the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism were also invited to participate in the meeting. Non-registered stakeholders were able to follow the progress of the meeting via live stream.

12. A total of 171 (compared with 114 at PCCB 4) observers from government, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, and academic and research institutions participated in the meeting (a daily average of 107 observers, compared with 54 at PCCB 4).

13. Observers were given the opportunity to make written submissions on all agenda items via a digital survey, in addition to being able to comment from the floor. The survey was accessible throughout the meeting and observers could make multiple submissions. Several observers expressed their appreciation for the work of the PCCB and the ample opportunity provided for observer participation.

14. The meeting focused on the implementation of the PCCB workplan for 2021–2024. Discussions were structured according to the three priority areas under the workplan: (1) enhancing coherence and coordination of capacity-building under the Convention, (2) identifying current and emerging capacity gaps and needs and recommending ways to address them and (3) promoting awareness-raising, knowledge- and information-sharing and stakeholder engagement with bodies and relevant actors under and outside the Convention.

15. Furthermore, the PCCB discussed various options for its 2022 annual focus area and agreed on building capacity to facilitate coherent implementation of NDCs in the context of national development plans and sustainable recovery.

16. The meeting concluded with the PCCB electing a gender focal point in line with its gender mainstreaming standard, adopted in 2019,⁸ and adopting a provision on the prevention of conflict of interest in its rules of procedure⁹ in response to a recommendation of the United Nations Office of Internal Oversight Services in 2019 arising from its assessment of the adequacy and effectiveness of governance, risk management and control pertaining to the UNFCCC constituted bodies.

B. Final activities under the rolling workplan for 2017–2020

1. PCCB Network

17. The PCCB Network was launched in 2020 to foster synergies and enhance coherence and coordination among capacity-building efforts for climate action.

importance of achieving and sustaining the full, equal and meaningful participation of women in the UNFCCC process (decision 3/CP.25, including annex, para. 5). The PCCB was thus encouraged to seek balanced representation between men and women when nominating the Co-Chairs.

⁶ <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/bodies/election-and-membership#eq-4>.

⁷ See <https://unfccc.int/pccb/pccb-meetings-and-documents#eq-6> for all meeting documentation and the webcasts.

⁸ FCCC/SBI/2019/13, annex.

⁹ The revised rules of procedure are available at <https://unfccc.int/documents/293445>.

18. In September–December 2020,¹⁰ despite limitations resulting from the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic, PCCB Network membership continued to grow and it mobilized over 50 collaborating partners for implementing some 20 activities. Its virtual events attracted over 1,000 participants, who (58 per cent female on average) indicated an 85 per cent satisfaction rate regarding the usefulness of the events for obtaining capacity-building-related knowledge and information.

19. Members were asked to provide feedback on Network activities via post-event and Network-wide surveys and ad hoc communications, as appropriate. A Network-wide survey in 2020 indicated that over 80 per cent of members were satisfied with the overall work of the Network. Further details on the survey results were published in the first annual report of the PCCB Network.¹¹

20. Activities¹² included four bimonthly newsletters,¹³ the Recover Better Together campaign¹⁴ (including blogs, joint social media coverage across Network members, a video¹⁵ and a webinar¹⁶), a five-episode video series of “capacity-building stories”¹⁷ and the “Capacity-building Momentum to Recover Better” series of four events.¹⁸ The PCCB took appropriate measures to ensure gender, regional and institutional balance throughout all activities, including ensuring gender-sensitive language in all communications, encouraging gender and regional balance among featured speakers in videos and at meetings and online events, facilitating regional and institutional balance in mobilizing lead partners for implementing activities, and mainstreaming cross-cutting issues, including those relating to gender, youth, indigenous peoples and local communities, across all Network activities.

2. Capacity-building Knowledge to Action Day for Africa

21. The PCCB held a virtual workshop for the Africa region¹⁹ on 24 September 2020.²⁰ The findings from the workshop, together with the outcomes and recommendations from the entire event series, were synthesized in a summary report,²¹ which includes a list of follow-up activities undertaken jointly by organizing partners as a direct result of the series.

22. Participants in the event series obtained a better understanding of key capacity needs for universities, research institutions, policymakers, civil society and the private sector in developing countries for effective engagement in preparing and implementing NDCs and NAPs, and discussed recommended actions for various stakeholder groups. Participants expressed a high degree of satisfaction with the Africa event (80 per cent rated it excellent or very good) considering the agenda, modalities and interventions of the speakers. All respondents reported that the event was conducted in a gender-responsive and inclusive manner.

3. Online training

23. An introductory online course on climate change and human rights developed by the PCCB and OHCHR, in collaboration with the secretariat and with support from Germany’s Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, and implemented by the

¹⁰ See paras. 69–71 below for an overview of Network activities in 2021.

¹¹ PCCB. 2021. *PCCB Network Annual Report*. Bonn: UNFCCC. Available at <https://unfccc.int/documents/273879>.

¹² See <https://unfccc.int/pccb-network/activities#eq-2>.

¹³ See <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/bodies/constituted-bodies/paris-committee-on-capacity-building-pccb/pccb-network/activities-pccb-network/pccb-network-newsletters>.

¹⁴ See https://unfccc.int/pccb-network/recover_better_together.

¹⁵ See https://unfccc.int/pccb-network/recover_better_together#eq-1.

¹⁶ See <https://unfccc.int/pccb-network/capacity-building-for-recovering-better-together>.

¹⁷ See https://unfccc.int/pccb-network/CB_Stories.

¹⁸ See <https://unfccc.int/pccb-network/CBMomentum2020>.

¹⁹ See <https://unfccc.int/knowledge-to-action-day-africa>.

²⁰ See document FCCC/SBI/2020/13, para. 42.

²¹ PCCB. 2021. *Regional Capacity-building Knowledge to Action Days (2019-2020)*. Bonn: UNFCCC. Available at <https://unfccc.int/documents/268153>.

German Agency for International Cooperation was launched in conjunction with the 10th Durban Forum in June 2020.²²

24. The course development started in 2020 in response to capacity gaps and needs identified at a joint PCCB–OHCHR side event and technical workshop in 2018 and 2019, respectively, which focused on building capacity to integrate human rights considerations into climate action. The free, self-paced training course, hosted on the One UN Climate Change Learning Partnership platform, is targeted at the general public and provides modalities for better understanding, participation and action in relation to climate change as well as human rights challenges and opportunities. It includes a section on women and gender-responsive climate action. As at 31 July 2021, 2,666 participants had registered for the course and 590 certificates had been issued. Over 25 expert reviewers provided valuable inputs to the course and the FWG of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform provided valuable guidance and inputs on the module on persons, groups and peoples in vulnerable situations.

4. External engagement

25. The PCCB was invited to participate in or contribute to various events and meetings at the UNFCCC Climate Dialogues 2020, including:

(a) The progress update on the work of the SCF, including a discussion on opportunities for constituted bodies to align workplans in order to strengthen engagement on climate finance matters;²³

(b) Two workshops under the Koronivia joint work on agriculture;²⁴

(c) A poster session at the twelfth meeting of the research dialogue, where the PCCB showcased outcomes of its regional Capacity-building Knowledge to Action Day series;²⁵

(d) The 5th annual meeting of the Green Climate Fund with the constituted bodies, where the PCCB provided an update on the implementation of its workplan and proposed collaborative activities with the Fund;²⁶

(e) The 1st meeting of the structured expert dialogue under the second periodic review of the long-term global goal under the Convention.²⁷

C. Draft workplan for 2021–2024

26. COP 25 requested the PCCB to develop a workplan for the period of its extension on the basis of the priority areas and activities contained in the annex to decision 9/CP.25 for consideration at COP 26.²⁸

27. An initial draft workplan, prepared by the secretariat intersessionally under the guidance of and in consultation with the PCCB, was discussed at PCCB 4 in June 2020. The PCCB finalized the draft workplan intersessionally, taking into consideration feedback received at the meeting and additional comments from observers surveyed after the meeting. The finalized draft workplan²⁹ will be considered at COP 26 and further guidance provided, as appropriate.

²² See <https://unccelearn.org/course/view.php?id=136&page=overview>.

²³ See <https://unfccc.int/event/progress-update-on-the-work-of-the-standing-committee-on-finance>.

²⁴ See <https://unfccc.int/event/improved-livestock-management-systems-including-agropastoral-production-systems-and-others> and <https://unfccc.int/event/socioeconomic-and-food-security-dimensions-of-climate-change-in-the-agricultural-sector>.

²⁵ See <https://unfccc.int/topics/science/events-meetings/research-dialogue/twelfth-meeting-of-the-research-dialogue>.

²⁶ See <https://unfccc.int/event/5th-annual-meeting-between-the-green-climate-fund-and-the-constituted-bodies-of-the-united-nations>.

²⁷ See <https://unfccc.int/event/first-meeting-of-the-structured-expert-dialogue>.

²⁸ Decision 9/CP.25, para. 15.

²⁹ FCCC/SBI/2020/13, annex I.

1. Communication and engagement efforts and outcomes

28. The communication and engagement work of the PCCB in the reporting period was guided by its strategic plan for stakeholder engagement, communications and resource mobilization, developed in 2018.³⁰

29. In June 2021 the PCCB published a final review report on that strategic plan.³¹ The report highlights progress between June 2020 and June 2021 and baseline trends in the communication and stakeholder engagement activities of the PCCB, against which the effectiveness of future efforts can be evaluated. It concludes with a summary of lessons learned and areas for improvement, which were reflected in the communication and stakeholder engagement strategies for the 2021–2024 workplan.

2. Communication and stakeholder engagement strategies for 2021–2024

30. PCCB 5 agreed on strategies for stakeholder engagement and communications³² to guide the work across all priority areas of the 2021–2024 workplan. The strategies build on insights and lessons learned from implementing stakeholder engagement and communication activities under the 2017–2020 workplan and supersede the strategic plan for stakeholder engagement, communications and resource mobilization.

31. The strategies provide an overview of the challenges and opportunities and describe the objectives, target groups, means and strategic approaches for the communication and stakeholder engagement activities of the PCCB, accounting for interlinkages between the workstreams. They are accompanied by a planning guide and a results-based assessment framework for monitoring and reporting on progress. Annexed to the strategies is a set of criteria to guide the participation of external experts in the work of the PCCB working groups.

32. The strategies highlight four objectives: awareness-raising; efficiency and effectiveness; inclusiveness and diversity; and convening stakeholders. These are pursued through social media, web pages and portals, email communication, events and meetings, surveys and open calls, and tools and publications. The PCCB will continually update its approach and may revise the strategies as needed.

33. The PCCB will periodically monitor and review progress with a view to enhancing the impact of its communication and stakeholder engagement efforts. It will discuss progress annually at its meetings, guided by the results-based framework.

3. Cross-cutting issues

34. COP 22 invited the PCCB to take into consideration cross-cutting issues such as gender-responsiveness, human rights and indigenous peoples' knowledge in managing its first workplan,³³ which it will continue to do for its second. Youth is another cross-cutting issue that the PCCB regularly considers.

35. Specifically with regard to gender, COP 25 requested all constituted bodies to continue to include in their regular reports information on progress towards integrating a gender perspective into their processes.³⁴ By continuing to implement its gender mainstreaming standard, the PCCB has further progressed in gender mainstreaming, in terms of both ensuring equal representation of women at its events and considering gender in a cross-cutting manner in its technical work (see annex II).

³⁰ PCCB. 2019. *Strategic Plan for Stakeholder Engagement, Communications and Resource Mobilization*. Bonn: UNFCCC. Available at <https://unfccc.int/documents/198470>.

³¹ A summary of communication and engagement efforts is contained in annex I; the full report is available at <https://unfccc.int/documents/279256>.

³² See PCCB document PCCB/2021/7. Available at <https://unfccc.int/pccb/pccb-meetings-and-documents#eq-6>.

³³ Decision 16/CP.22, para. 4(a).

³⁴ Decision 3/CP.25, para. 12.

4. Priority area (a): enhancing coherence and coordination of capacity-building under the Convention

(a) Activity A.1: collating and reviewing current and planned capacity-building work of constituted bodies established under the Convention and the Paris Agreement that implement capacity-building activities in order to provide an overview of capacity-building activities under the Convention and the Paris Agreement, and regularly sharing this information with the constituted bodies

36. In the reporting period, the PCCB made significant progress under both subactivities.

37. Under subactivity **A.1.1**, the PCCB established the ICG in early 2021 to support the collation and review of an overview of current and planned capacity-building activities of constituted bodies under the Convention and the Paris Agreement, and operating entities of the Financial Mechanism, and under other relevant processes under the Convention and the Paris Agreement. The ICG provides a space for representatives of those bodies, entities and processes that is conducive to coordinating climate change related capacity-building plans and activities and facilitating information-sharing, coherence and identification of opportunities. As at June 2021, the ICG comprised 32 members representing 15 constituted bodies, operating entities and UNFCCC processes.³⁵

38. To ensure the effective establishment of the ICG, the PCCB, with the support of the secretariat:

- (a) Sought nominations for membership in January 2021;
- (b) Set up an ICG web page and prepared documents to facilitate its work;
- (c) Held a voluntary informal briefing for all ICG members virtually on 25 May 2021 to provide space for an initial get-together, facilitate a common understanding of the purpose of the group, provide guidance on preparing for its 1st meeting and discuss issues and provide clarifications as needed;
- (d) Held the 1st meeting of the ICG virtually on 8 June 2021.

39. The 1st ICG meeting was attended by members from all bodies, entities and processes represented in the ICG, with the exception of two constituted bodies whose nominated members were unable to join. The discussions centred around coordination and collaboration opportunities across bodies, entities and processes represented and the recommendations on improving coherence and coordination of capacity-building that the PCCB was to include in its 2021 technical progress report. Several avenues for coordination and collaboration were proposed, such as by the representatives of the Consultative Group of Experts, the FWG, the SCF and the WIM Executive Committee.

40. Consequently, the PCCB and the SCF are exploring (as of July 2021) the possibility of a joint event, building on the SCF needs determination report³⁶ due to be made available prior to COP 26, and opportunities for coordination and collaboration in relation to the next SCF Forum, on finance for nature-based solutions, which has a strong emphasis on capacity-building as a key enabler. The FWG and the PCCB continued their discussions on enhancing coordination after the meeting and agreed to explore the co-production of non-binding guidance for ICG members on how to ensure proper engagement of indigenous peoples and inclusion of their knowledge in the capacity-building work undertaken by the bodies and entities and under the processes represented in the ICG.

41. Indications of the promising start made by the ICG include:

- (a) Representation of all relevant bodies, entities and processes in the group, including those with a focus on cross-cutting issues such as those relating to gender, indigenous peoples' knowledge and youth;
- (b) Active engagement by members;

³⁵ A membership list and all other ICG-related documents, such as the report on its 1st meeting, are available at <https://unfccc.int/pccb-icg>.

³⁶ See <https://unfccc.int/topics/climate-finance/workstreams/needs-report>.

- (c) Positive feedback from members during the get-together and 1st meeting;
- (d) Positive feedback from observers upon receiving a detailed summary of the outcomes of the 1st meeting and planned next steps at PCCB 5;
- (e) Successful identification of several initial avenues for coordination and collaboration across members at the 1st meeting and during follow-up exchanges;
- (f) Action- and results-oriented intersessional exchanges between the PCCB and several ICG members.

42. Under subactivity **A.1.2**, the PCCB, with the support of the secretariat, created a comprehensive, forward-looking overview of current and planned capacity-building activities under the Convention and the Paris Agreement of bodies and entities and under processes represented in the ICG.³⁷ The ICG actively contributed to developing the living document, which, as agreed at its 1st meeting, will be updated biannually ahead of its meetings. The ICG welcomed the document and agreed that it constitutes a good basis for the group's coordination efforts. It will be adjusted as needed on the basis of feedback from members.

43. The 2nd and 3rd meetings of the ICG are expected to be held in conjunction with the 3rd Capacity-building Hub at COP 26 and PCCB 6 at SBI 56, respectively. The meeting agendas will be developed by the PCCB intersessionally and made available online in advance. The meeting formats will depend on the formats of the above-mentioned events. A meeting summary will be prepared and circulated after each meeting. The ICG will continue to coordinate intersessionally on the basis of the coordination and collaboration opportunities already identified.

(b) Activity A.2: providing recommendations to Parties on improving coherence and coordination of capacity-building and avoiding duplication of efforts

44. PCCB recommendations on improving coherence and coordination of capacity-building were drafted in consultation with the ICG (see para. 76 below); thus this activity can be considered completed for 2021. The PCCB will prepare recommendations intersessionally for the COP and/or the CMA in 2022, as appropriate, taking into account any input from the ICG (see subactivity A.1.1) and the technical session on coherence and coordination expected to be held during the 3rd Capacity-building Hub (see subactivity A.3.1). Moreover, the PCCB intends to issue a call for submissions from Parties and non-Party stakeholders in 2022 on experience, best practices and lessons learned regarding improving coherence and coordination of capacity-building, which will be used in drafting recommendations in 2023.

(c) Activity A.3: liaising and engaging with bodies under and outside the Convention and the Paris Agreement that are engaged in implementing capacity-building activities, as consistent with their mandates

45. All subactivities are on track. Preparations for subactivity **A.3.1** on examining key aspects of enhancing coherence and coordination of capacity-building under the Convention and the Paris Agreement are set to start in August 2021. The expected output is a technical session at the 3rd Capacity-building Hub focusing on key aspects of enhancing coherence and coordination. The PCCB will develop the concept and agenda for the technical session in close consultation with the ICG. The findings of the session will be disseminated in early 2022 and reported in the 2022 technical progress report. They are also expected to contribute to any PCCB recommendations in 2022 under activity A.2.

46. Subactivity **A.3.2** concerns the PCCB participating in meetings and events of other constituted bodies and under relevant processes under the Convention and the Paris Agreement, and/or providing inputs to those meetings and events, as requested and as appropriate and relevant to its mandate and workplan.

47. One deliverable under this subactivity is the preparation of a synthesis report as input to the global stocktake. As part of the information collection and preparation component of

³⁷ The latest iteration is available at <https://unfccc.int/pccb-icg>.

the stocktake, CMA 1 requested or invited the preparation of 13 synthesis reports³⁸ by February–March 2022, three months prior to the commencement of the technical assessment. In line with its area of expertise, the PCCB was invited to prepare a report on the areas referred to in decision 19/CMA.1, paragraph 36(d) and (f).

48. PCCB 5 agreed to consider the scope of the synthesis report intersessionally, liaise with other constituted bodies on the reports they are planning to produce in response to the mandate, and request the secretariat to prepare, under the guidance of the PCCB, an annotated outline of the synthesis report by 15 October 2021 for intersessional consideration with a view to finalizing the report by February 2022. The PCCB intends to organize a webinar on methodological issues and assumptions related to its synthesis report and to participate in a meeting of the technical dialogue of the global stocktake.

49. With regard to the second output or deliverable under this subactivity, the PCCB participated in or contributed to the following events, meetings and expert groups upon invitation in 2021:

(a) The expert group on action and support of the WIM Executive Committee, of which a PCCB member was appointed a member in January;³⁹

(b) A meeting of gender focal points of constituted bodies on 24 March, where the PCCB gender focal point presented recent efforts of the PCCB in mainstreaming gender across its work;

(c) The 19th meeting of the Adaptation Committee, from 16 to 19 March;⁴⁰

(d) The plenary of the COP 26 Catalyst for Climate Action Assembly hosted by the COP 26 Presidency on 14 May during Latin America and the Caribbean Climate Week, where the PCCB presented its role and regional efforts;⁴¹

(e) The 5th meeting of the FWG, from 24 to 25 June;⁴²

(f) The plenary of the COP 26 Catalyst hosted by the COP 26 Presidency on 6 July during Asia-Pacific Climate Week, where the PCCB presented its role and regional efforts;⁴³

(g) The event on addressing knowledge and skills gaps for enhanced transparency under the Paris Agreement held by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on 14 July during the ACE Youth Forum 2021, where the PCCB was invited to speak on the interlinkages between capacity-building, ACE and transparency under the Paris Agreement;⁴⁴

(h) The dialogue on youth for enhanced climate action on developing a strategy for youth in climate action held by SLYCAN Trust on 16 July during the ACE Youth Forum 2021, where the PCCB was invited to speak on the skills and capacity needed by youth to better engage in climate action, the role of education and awareness-raising in scaling up climate action, and international and regional action to support and empower youth to engage in climate action at all levels.⁴⁵

50. Such engagement has been very useful for the PCCB to follow relevant work of other bodies and under UNFCCC processes, enabling it to establish connections with its own work and highlight synergies across capacity-building under the Convention. The engagement also enabled the PCCB to provide capacity-building-specific inputs to the work of other bodies and under relevant UNFCCC processes, thereby raising awareness of key capacity-building-

³⁸ Decision 19/CMA.1, paras. 23–24.

³⁹ See <https://unfccc.int/process/bodies/constituted-bodies/WIMExCom/Action-Support>.

⁴⁰ See <https://unfccc.int/event/nineteenth-meeting-of-the-adaptation-committee-ac19>.

⁴¹ See <https://wiltonpark.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Plenary-session-agenda-14-May-Ext.pdf>.

⁴² See <https://unfccc.int/event/FWG5>.

⁴³ See https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/6Jul_Catalyst_OpeningPlenary.pdf.

⁴⁴ See <https://aceyf.com/week-of-ace-events-2021/addressing-knowledge-and-skill-gaps-for-enhanced-transparency-under-the-paris-agreement%3A-a-consultation-with-youth-and-academia>.

⁴⁵ See <https://aceyf.com/week-of-ace-events-2021/youth-for-enhanced-climate-action%3A-developing-a-strategy-for-youth-in-climate-action>.

related matters and promoting consideration of these issues by other actors. By disseminating capacity-building-related knowledge and information and providing coherent messaging on capacity-building, PCCB engagement can contribute to greater coherence and coordination across capacity-building under the Convention.

51. The PCCB will continue participating in or contributing to events, meetings and expert groups upon invitation or request, as appropriate and relevant to its mandate and workplan. One contribution already scheduled relates to a 2019 invitation to collaborate with the Adaptation Committee on an event focused on including gender considerations in adaptation planning and implementation. The event was originally scheduled to take place during the 2020 NAP Expo, which was postponed owing to the pandemic.

52. Having attended previous such events, the PCCB has been invited to participate in the plenary of the COP 26 Catalyst hosted by the COP 26 Presidency on 27 September during Africa Regional Climate Week 2021; and to offer practical solutions to long-standing capacity-building challenges at the Catalyst's Global Gathering on Capacity-building in October 2021, which will contribute to recommendations to be put forward by Catalyst partners at the 3rd Capacity-building Hub.

53. With regard to subactivity **A.3.3** on engaging with bodies under and outside the Convention and the Paris Agreement, as appropriate, on coherence and coordination of capacity-building, regular and targeted communication and collaboration take place through established modalities of the PCCB, including the ICG (see activity A.1), the PCCB Network (see activity C.4) and the Capacity-building Hub (see activity C.3).

5. Priority area (b): identifying capacity gaps and needs, both current and emerging, and recommending ways to address them

(a) Activity B.1: interacting with other constituted bodies to allow the Committee to gather information on activities related to addressing capacity gaps and needs in areas relevant to their mandates to provide input to their work, as appropriate

54. Sub-activity **B.1.1** on interacting with other constituted bodies is in progress. At the 1st ICG meeting, the PCCB announced the intention to send a survey (open from 15 June to 15 August 2021) to ICG members after the meeting to gather information on efforts to address capacity gaps and needs undertaken by bodies and entities and under processes represented in the ICG and by other stakeholders in relevant work areas.

55. Besides seeking general information on efforts to address capacity gaps and needs, the survey focuses on gathering information on the effectiveness and sustainability of the efforts, their gender-responsiveness and inclusiveness, and best practices, including practices that could be applied by other bodies or entities or under processes represented in the ICG. In addition, recipients were asked to share recommendations or lessons learned with regard to effectively addressing the capacity gaps and needs of developing countries and other stakeholders, as well as suggestions on how the PCCB could best support their efforts.

56. The PCCB will analyse the information gathered. The analysed and synthesized results of the survey will be disseminated, as appropriate, via, inter alia, the capacity-building portal,⁴⁶ the Capacity-building Hub, the ICG and the PCCB Network (sub-activity **B.1.2**).

(b) Activity B.2: continuing efforts to gather and promote the development and dissemination of tools and methodologies for implementing capacity-building activities

57. The first deliverable for 2021 under this activity, a toolkit to assist developing country Parties in assessing capacity-building gaps and needs for implementing the Paris Agreement, is under preparation and envisaged to be published before COP 26. PCCB 5 considered and agreed on the draft outline for the toolkit, which will be based on a series of case studies to allow for broad geographical and thematic coverage and to leverage existing best practices while avoiding strict guidance. The toolkit is expected to include a section with additional resources on cross-cutting issues, to be integrated into the capacity-building portal. The PCCB will take into account comments on the toolkit made by observers at PCCB 5. The

⁴⁶ <https://unfccc.int/topics/capacity-building/workstreams/capacity-building-portal>.

PCCB, the PCCB Network, the ICG, government representatives and other key stakeholders are involved in gathering information for the toolkit.

58. The second deliverable, a call for submissions from Parties and non-Party stakeholders on existing tools and methodologies for implementing capacity-building to enable countries to achieve the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement, was issued on 1 July 2021 and is open until 15 October 2021.⁴⁷ The submissions will be analysed and synthesized by the PCCB and the findings from the analysis, including up-to-date information on existing tools and methodologies, will be disseminated. The findings will feed into a relevant technical session at the 4th Capacity-building Hub (linked to activity C.3).

(c) **Activity B.3: collating, reviewing and sharing information on experience, good practices and lessons learned related to enhancing the ownership of developing countries of building and maintaining capacity, and providing recommendations in this regard**

59. Subactivity **B.3.1** on collating, reviewing and sharing information is on track. A call for submissions from Parties and non-Party stakeholders on experience, good practices and lessons learned was issued on 1 July 2021 and is open until 15 October 2021.⁴⁸ The PCCB will analyse and synthesize the submissions and the findings and synthesis will feed into a number of PCCB activities in 2022, including preparing and disseminating a technical paper and providing recommendations to the COP and the CMA.

60. Under subactivity **B.3.2** on providing recommendations, the first recommendations will be provided in 2022 in order to take into account the findings from the call for submissions issued in 2021 (see subactivity B.3.1).

6. **Priority area (c): promoting awareness-raising, knowledge- and information-sharing and stakeholder engagement with bodies and relevant actors under and outside the Convention**

(a) **Activity C.1: collecting information from relevant sources, including the Durban Forum, on good practices, experience and lessons learned related to capacity-building, and disseminating this information, including via the capacity-building portal, with the aim of addressing gaps and needs related to implementing capacity-building**

61. Subactivity **C.1.1** on collecting and disseminating information has been implemented as planned. A call for submissions from Parties and non-Party stakeholders on the annual PCCB focus area was issued on 11 February 2021 and 23 submissions were received by the deadline of 30 March 2021.⁴⁹ A synthesis of the submissions⁵⁰ was prepared for discussion at PCCB 5. The submissions and synthesis findings are feeding into follow-up activities of the PCCB (see activities C.1.2, C.2 and C.3.1). Key emerging aspects include the importance of building capacity to mainstream climate policy in national development planning across sectors; the pivotal role of institutional arrangements and coordination mechanisms that support the integration of climate and development objectives across ministries and sectors at all levels; the opportunity to foster coherent implementation of NDCs by linking global agendas; the need to build capacity to access financial resources and to track, monitor, evaluate and report progress; and the need for a holistic capacity-building approach that considers both technical and institutional capacity-building and is based on continuity and ownership of capacity-building.

⁴⁷ See <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/bodies/constituted-bodies/paris-committee-on-capacity-building-pccb/submissions/call-for-submissions-from-parties-and-non-party-stakeholders-on-existing-tools-and-methodologies-for>.

⁴⁸ See <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/bodies/constituted-bodies/paris-committee-on-capacity-building-pccb/submissions/call-for-submissions-from-parties-and-non-party-stakeholders-on-experience-good-practices-and>.

⁴⁹ See <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/bodies/constituted-bodies/paris-committee-on-capacity-building-pccb/submissions/call-for-submissions-from-parties-and-non-party-stakeholders-on-the-2021-pccb-focus-area>.

⁵⁰ PCCB document PCCB/2021/5.

62. With regard to the second output or deliverable under subactivity C.1.1 for 2021, disseminating information and knowledge products via PCCB and partner communication channels, including the capacity-building portal, the PCCB, with the support of the secretariat, maintains its online presence through appropriate channels, including its web page and the PCCB Facebook page, which are maintained by the secretariat. The PCCB Facebook page has 24 per cent more followers since the previous reporting period. The information and resources cover announcements of capacity-building-related events,⁵¹ recent publications, tools, e-learning courses, case studies, ongoing projects and calls for submissions. Information on the resources is circulated through the periodic newsletter of the PCCB Network (see subactivity C.4.2). In addition, the PCCB uses the communication channels of partners, particularly under the PCCB Network (see subactivity C.4.2), to boost the reach and effectiveness of its efforts. The PCCB will continue to collect and disseminate capacity-building-related information and knowledge products, guided by its communication and stakeholder engagement strategies.

63. Under subactivity **C.1.2**, PCCB members attended the 10th Durban Forum and discussed its outcomes and key messages at PCCB 5 with a view to ensuring that they are reflected in the work of the PCCB, including its recommendations to the COP and the CMA. The PCCB agreed to organize a follow-up webinar, tentatively scheduled for September 2021, to identify good practices, lessons learned and case studies that respond to the challenges identified at the Durban Forum, using, inter alia, the synthesis of submissions on the annual PCCB focus area (see subactivity C.1.1) and available expertise within the PCCB Network. The PCCB plans to hold a thematic day on the PCCB annual focus area during the 3rd Capacity-building Hub.

64. With regard to subactivity **C.1.3**, the PCCB uses the capacity-building portal to the extent possible for disseminating resources. The PCCB submitted comprehensive guidance to the secretariat on further enhancing the portal during a previous reporting period,⁵² which the secretariat is taking into account in overhauling the portal, set to be completed in 2022. The PCCB will then be able to more easily use it for collecting and disseminating capacity-building information and resources.

(b) Activity C.2: providing recommendations to Parties on (i) enhancing the sharing of good practices, experience and lessons learned related to capacity-building among relevant bodies under and outside the Convention and the Paris Agreement; (ii) potential areas of collaborative work with those bodies whose work is relevant to the PCCB and its workplan, within their mandates; and (iii) how information from the Durban Forum can be utilized by bodies under and outside the Convention and the Paris Agreement

65. The PCCB has drafted its recommendations (see chap. III below) taking into account interventions and recommendations made in the reporting period by participants across PCCB activities as well as its own experience in sharing good practices, experience and lessons learned (subactivity C.2.1), outcomes of the work of the ICG in the reporting period (subactivity C.2.2) and key messages emerging from the discussions at the 10th Durban Forum (subactivity C.2.3). Activity C.2 can thus be considered completed for 2021.

(c) Activity C.3: organizing the annual Capacity-building Hub

66. The 3rd Capacity-building Hub is expected to be held in conjunction with COP 26 (subactivity **C.3.1**). PCCB 5 agreed to use the background note on the 3rd Capacity-building Hub agreed on at PCCB 4⁵³ as a basis for organizing the 3rd Capacity-building Hub and to update it as needed. To ensure that cross-cutting issues are mainstreamed across the programme of the Hub, the PCCB invited four external experts on cross-cutting issues (related to gender, youth, indigenous peoples and human rights) to join its working group 2 for the duration of the Hub preparations and form part of the Hub steering committee.

⁵¹ See the calendar of capacity-building events at <https://unfccc.int/pccb-network/members#eq-3>.

⁵² See document FCCC/SBI/2019/13, para. 44.

⁵³ PCCB document PCCB/2020/9.

67. The final logistical arrangements are to be defined intersessionally, as more information regarding the requirements for hosting the Hub in conjunction with COP 26 becomes available. The PCCB will provide further updates on the modalities of the 3rd Capacity-building Hub as soon as possible.

68. Expected work under this activity in 2021 includes organizing a technical session on key aspects of enhancing coherence and coordination (see subactivity A.3.1) and a thematic day on the PCCB focus area (see subactivity C.1.2), as well as a summary report on the 3rd Capacity-building Hub (subactivity C.3.2) with lessons learned and recommendations for future Hubs.

(d) Activity C.4: promoting strategic stakeholder engagement through, inter alia, targeted outreach activities as set out in the workplan to foster exchange on capacity-building at the national and regional level, including through regional climate weeks, as appropriate, and subject to the availability of resources

69. Thematic dialogues and/or workshops co-organized during regional and/or national events are the expected output or deliverable under subactivity C.4.1. Building on lessons learned from previous engagement at the regional level, the PCCB benefitted from the momentum of the virtual UNFCCC regional climate weeks to highlight the role of youth, particularly female and indigenous youth, in addressing climate and development goals more coherently, especially in the light of the 2021 focus area of the PCCB. The event series⁵⁴ is organized in collaboration with PCCB Network members. The first event took place on 11 May 2021 at Latin America and the Caribbean Climate Week and the second on 6 July 2021 at Asia-Pacific Climate Week. A third event is set to take place during Africa Climate Week, tentatively scheduled for September 2021. The side events conducted so far have shed light on how youth capacity for climate action can be built through access to finance, technical knowledge, mentorship and skills training at the regional, national and international level. It is also important to focus on young people's role as changemakers by engaging them in activities at all levels for revising NDCs and achieving SDG targets. For this, the role of regional, subregional and international networks in strengthening the presence of youth was highlighted.

70. The PCCB Network (subactivity C.4.2) had 262 members as at July 2021, growing by over 30 per cent since the previous reporting period. It has played an instrumental role in the work of the PCCB, particularly with regard to activities under this priority area. The PCCB Network has continued to collect and disseminate capacity-building-related information through bimonthly newsletters (related to subactivity C.1.1), published the first annual report on its activities from April 2020 to April 2021, convened its 2nd meeting, with 99 representatives of 54 member organizations, in April,⁵⁵ and promoted strategic stakeholder engagement, for instance at the regional level (related to subactivity C.4.1). Further activities are under preparation and will be announced on the Network web page.⁵⁶

71. The PCCB is aiming to closely involve members of the Network in organizing the 3rd Capacity-building Hub (activity C.3) and through the participation of external experts in its working groups, consistently with previous agreements.⁵⁷ Another output or deliverable expected under this subactivity by the next reporting period is the outcome of the evaluation of the PCCB Network pilot phase⁵⁸ (extended until December 2021), which will inform the decision of the PCCB regarding further developing and refining the Network.

⁵⁴ See <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/bodies/constituted-bodies/paris-committee-on-capacity-building-pccb/pccb-network/activities-pccb-network/pccb-network-regional-activities>.

⁵⁵ See <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/bodies/constituted-bodies/paris-committee-on-capacity-building-pccb/pccb-network/activities-pccb-network/2nd-meeting-of-the-pccb-network>.

⁵⁶ <https://unfccc.int/pccb-network/activities>.

⁵⁷ See PCCB document PCCB/2020/11, para. 45.

⁵⁸ See PCCB document PCCB/2020/7, chap. I.D.

III. Recommendations for the Conference of the Parties and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement

72. The PCCB is to provide recommendations across several of its work areas.⁵⁹ Thus, according to its workplan for 2021–2024, the PCCB is to provide recommendations for the COP and/or the CMA, as appropriate, under activities A.2 and C.2 (provided below) and B.3.2 (to be provided in 2022).

A. Enhancing coherence and coordination of capacity-building and avoiding duplication of efforts

73. In line with priority area (a) of its workplan, the PCCB further advanced its work on enhancing coherence and coordination of capacity-building over the reporting period, in particular by establishing the ICG, which comprises nominated representatives of constituted bodies, operating entities of the Financial Mechanism and relevant UNFCCC processes.

74. This work is complemented by other PCCB activities that contribute to greater coherence and coordination of capacity-building as part of their objectives, including facilitation of the PCCB Network and PCCB participation in and follow-up work to the annual Durban Forum.

75. On the basis of the outcomes of the above, the PCCB recommends that the COP and the CMA:

(a) Encourage Parties, in concert with capacity-building providers and other capacity-building stakeholders, to:

(i) Strengthen government capacity to coherently implement climate and development agendas, including by developing the capacity of SDG and NDC focal points to collaborate and coordinate;

(ii) Promote greater horizontal alignment across ministries in charge of implementing climate and development agendas and develop capacity to enable greater coordination across different thematic areas and communication that facilitates a better understanding of the work of different government departments;

(iii) Strengthen capacity at multiple government levels to enable coordination between decision makers and technicians and practitioners in the field to ensure policies are based on on-the-ground experience;

(iv) Undertake a comprehensive assessment of local needs and efforts to address those needs and ensure that effective coordination commences at the start of the planning process of a capacity-building project or intervention to avoid duplication or overlap of efforts and ensure coherent approaches among capacity-building providers;

(v) Enhance coherence and coordination of institutional capacity-building, including through inclusive stakeholder engagement, both horizontally and vertically within government and with external stakeholders such as academia, civil society and the private sector;

(vi) Share experience and lessons learned from efforts to create national capacity-building institutional frameworks or road maps as the departure point for the in-country capacity-building process and a means to ensure that capacity-building efforts are undertaken in concert towards permanent institutionalized capacity;

(vii) Enhance coordination of capacity-building efforts under different global agendas, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030;

⁵⁹ See decision 9/CP.25, annex.

(b) Invite Parties and non-Party stakeholders to provide support for the activities referred to in para. 75(a) above;

(c) Encourage the representatives of constituted bodies, operating entities of the Financial Mechanism and UNFCCC processes in the ICG to continue their active engagement to facilitate greater coherence and coordination across their capacity-building-related work.

B. Enhancing the sharing of good practices, experience and lessons learned related to capacity-building

76. The sharing of good practices, experience and lessons learned related to capacity-building under the Convention and the Paris Agreement is a key function of the PCCB across its three priority areas. On the basis of interventions and recommendations made in the reporting period by participants across PCCB activities, as well as its own experience in this regard, the PCCB recommends that the COP and the CMA encourage Parties to:

(a) Support the sharing of experience from the NDC enhancement process and related capacity-building efforts across different countries;

(b) Support grass-roots communities and organizations in developing countries, women, youth and indigenous peoples in sharing their experience of tackling climate change with a view to learning from diverse community responses, building local leadership and enhancing collaboration;

(c) Ensure inclusiveness and innovation in communicating and experience-sharing in terms of both audience and means of communication, accounting for different needs, language barriers and the digital divide;

(d) Identify pioneers and champions and provide space for knowledge to be shared, including learning communities, to capture best practices and lessons learned, shorten learning processes and accelerate change;

(e) Continue participating in global forums for capacity-building, such as the Durban Forum and the Capacity-building Hub, and take part in shaping the dialogues, enriching the outcomes and transferring the information and knowledge for application in their own contexts;

(f) Share good practices, experience and lessons learned with the PCCB for its consideration and further dissemination, including by participating in the PCCB Network and other PCCB activities, responding to PCCB calls for submissions and submitting information via PCCB social media channels and the capacity-building portal.

C. Potential areas of collaborative work

77. To enhance coherence and coordination of capacity-building efforts under the Convention and the Paris Agreement, the PCCB established the ICG in early 2021. One outcome of the coordination efforts of the ICG is the identification of synergies and collaborative opportunities and their implementation in line with the work programmes and mandates of the bodies, entities and processes represented in the ICG.

78. Drawing on the work of the ICG in the reporting period, the PCCB recommends that, with regard to potential areas of collaborative work with those bodies whose work is relevant to the PCCB and its workplan, within their mandates, the COP and the CMA invite Parties to:

(a) Follow the work of the ICG and consider its meeting reports to take note of collaborative work undertaken or planned as a result of its coordination efforts, and consider the findings and recommendations from the collaborative work of ICG members when undertaking their own capacity-building-related efforts, as appropriate;

(b) Consider the forward-looking overview of capacity-building activities and plans of bodies and entities and under processes represented in the ICG, which is regularly

updated, and request or invite ICG members to collaborate on specific activities, as appropriate;

(c) Take note of the plan of the PCCB and the FWG to co-produce non-binding guidance to facilitate adequate engagement of indigenous peoples and inclusion of their knowledge across capacity-building undertaken by bodies and entities and under processes represented in the ICG;

(d) Note that, following a proposal made by the SCF representative at the 1st ICG meeting, the PCCB and the SCF agreed to explore the possibility of organizing a joint event, building on the SCF needs determination report due to be made available prior to COP 26;

(e) Take note of opportunities for coordination and collaboration between the PCCB, the SCF and other ICG members, as highlighted by the SCF representative in the ICG, in relation to the next SCF Forum, on finance for nature-based solutions, which has a strong emphasis on capacity-building as a key enabler.

D. Use of information from the Durban Forum by bodies under and outside the Convention and the Paris Agreement

79. The 9th Durban Forum took place on 5 June 2020 under the theme of capacity-building to support implementation of the enhanced transparency framework under the Paris Agreement – ensuring coherence and coordination of action and support; and the 10th Durban Forum was held on 2 June 2021 under the theme of building capacity for addressing climate and development goals coherently. The themes were selected on the basis of the COP-mandated thematic alignment of the Forum with the annual PCCB focus area.

80. Recalling the key messages emerging from the discussions at the 9th Durban Forum, the PCCB recommends that, with regard to the use of information from the Durban Forum by bodies under and outside the Convention and the Paris Agreement, the COP and the CMA encourage such bodies to:

(a) Make use of platforms such as the Partnership on Transparency in the Paris Agreement, the MRV Group of Friends and the Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency Global Coordination Platform that can provide a broad umbrella of long-term support, which must build on existing national efforts in developing and strengthening domestic MRV systems;

(b) Enhance the retainment of human capacity at the national level, especially qualified experts with experience of existing transparency arrangements, to ensure continuous improvement in reporting and effective transition to the enhanced transparency framework;

(c) Promote efforts to develop reporting tools tailored to the circumstances of developing countries;

(d) Focus on enhancing capacity related to greenhouse gas inventory data management systems, strengthening institutional arrangements, building capacity at the subnational level, understanding localized impacts in order to make better projections, and modelling mitigation scenarios.

81. Recalling the key messages emerging from the discussions at the 10th Durban Forum, the PCCB recommends that, with regard to the use of information from the Durban Forum by bodies under and outside the Convention and the Paris Agreement, the COP and the CMA encourage such bodies to:

(a) Consider using tools presented at the 10th Durban Forum for identifying synergies between climate and development goals, co-benefits, and capacity gaps and needs that need to be addressed to enable coherent implementation of climate and development agendas;

(b) Promote and facilitate peer-to-peer learning to enhance synergies between climate action and action for achieving SDG targets in order to develop innovative solutions,

join forces to achieve common objectives and facilitate retention of capacity at the institutional level;

(c) Continue strengthening South–South, North–South and triangular cooperation efforts to build or enhance climate-related capacity at the individual, institutional and systemic level;

(d) Ensure the inclusion of grass-roots and indigenous peoples’ knowledge in capacity-building efforts in order to understand the gaps that are blocking progress towards realizing climate and sustainable development co-benefits and to identify solutions or good practices;

(e) Take an inclusive, participatory and whole-of-society approach to planning and implementing capacity-building by involving all stakeholders, including State and non-State actors;

(f) Strengthen capacity in developing countries to develop sound project proposals to enhance access to international and national climate finance sources and mechanisms;

(g) Participate in and contribute to the follow-up work of the PCCB conducted each year after the Durban Forum, including an intersessional thematic webinar and a focus area day at the annual Capacity-building Hub, and take into consideration the findings of this follow-up work in their capacity-building work.

Annex I

Summary of communication and stakeholder engagement efforts of the Paris Committee on Capacity-building in the reporting period

[English only]

1. The PCCB used various means to effectively engage with stakeholders under and outside the Convention and the Paris Agreement consistently with their mandates. Such means include calls for submissions from Parties and observers, surveys and questionnaires to seek feedback and evaluate the success of ongoing activities, consultations and meetings, and modalities such as the PCCB Network and the ICG for further enhancing coherence and coordination of capacity-building efforts. The PCCB received over 250 responses to questionnaires and technical surveys and more than 150 submissions in response to post-event surveys. As at July 2021, the mailing list included 1,607 addresses, a 54 per cent increase since the previous reporting period.

2. The PCCB used virtual events as a critical means to foster and maintain strategic communications and stakeholder engagement in the light of pandemic-related restrictions and the postponement of in-person regional and global climate summits. The PCCB hosted three virtual meetings (of the PCCB,¹ the PCCB Network² and the ICG³), one global dialogue (Climate Dialogues⁴) and three regional events (for Africa,⁵ Latin America and the Caribbean⁶ and Asia-Pacific⁷) and supported the organization of many other events in collaboration with partners. Through such efforts, the PCCB used its convening role to bring together relevant bodies under and outside the Convention and the Paris Agreement and foster synergies and collaboration. For instance, the PCCB invited representatives of the ACE process, the Adaptation Fund, the FWG and the SCF to join the PCCB Network in organizing the “Capacity-building Momentum to Recover Better” event series within the scope of their respective mandates.

3. The PCCB recognizes challenges related to organizing virtual events and activities and has made efforts to accommodate different languages, time zones and bandwidth capabilities, to the extent possible, for example by diversifying the scheduling of the events, using digital means of engagement such as discussion boards and surveys to enable participation of interested individuals beyond the event time slot, providing simultaneous interpretation (subject to the availability of resources) and making recordings of discussions and brief summaries available afterwards.

4. With regard to communications and outreach, all PCCB knowledge and information products were widely disseminated via its web page, the capacity-building portal and the PCCB Facebook page, which are maintained by the secretariat. This includes an array of outputs in a variety of formats, from event and meeting documents and surveys to brochures, announcements, news articles, technical videos, interviews and social media campaigns. More than 35 communication outlets operated by some 20 partners were mobilized, primarily under the umbrella of the PCCB Network, to disseminate capacity-building-related updates and information. The total reach of the PCCB through digital means of communication is estimated at one million users per year. In addition, the PCCB used email and periodic

¹ See <https://unfccc.int/pccb/pccb-meetings-and-documents#eq-6>.

² See <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/bodies/constituted-bodies/paris-committee-on-capacity-building-pccb/pccb-network/activities-pccb-network/2nd-meeting-of-the-pccb-network>.

³ See <https://unfccc.int/PCCB-ICG>.

⁴ See <https://unfccc.int/event/keeping-momentum-on-capacity-building-pccb-s-work-in-2020>.

⁵ See <https://unfccc.int/knowledge-to-action-day-africa>.

⁶ See <https://unfccc.int/pccb/regional-activities#eq-1>.

⁷ See <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/bodies/constituted-bodies/paris-committee-on-capacity-building-pccb/pccb-network/activities-pccb-network/pccb-network-regional-activities#eq-2>.

newsletters to effectively collect and disseminate capacity-building-related updates and information across its network.

5. A comprehensive overview and assessment of PCCB communications and engagement work can be found in the final review report on the implementation of work under the PCCB strategic plan for stakeholder engagement, communications and resource mobilization.⁸

⁸ Available at <https://unfccc.int/documents/279256>.

Annex II

Progress on gender mainstreaming in the work of the Paris Committee on Capacity-building in the reporting period

[English only]

1. In its gender mainstreaming standard¹ the PCCB recognizes that a gender-sensitive approach to creating, developing and strengthening institutional, systemic and human resource capacity-building can foster inclusive decision-making on, delivery of and access to means and tools for implementation of mitigation or adaptation action. The PCCB also recognizes that building capacity for gender-sensitive and -responsive approaches can lead to more effective climate policy and action.
2. With regard to implementing its gender mainstreaming standard, the PCCB continued the recently established practice of designating one member as its gender focal point to support the coordination, implementation and oversight of gender mainstreaming in PCCB activities. Jeniffer Hanna Collado, the first gender focal point of the PCCB, elected at PCCB 4 for one year, was replaced by Marzena Chodor, elected at PCCB 5 (see para. 16 of this document).
3. The PCCB also continued to use and expand its existing network to strengthen the way in which gender considerations are taken into account in its activities. The PCCB Network, for instance, as at July 2021, included around 17 organizations with a dedicated focus on gender. At the 2nd meeting of the Network, the issue of mainstreaming gender-responsiveness, alongside youth and indigenous peoples' knowledge, in capacity-building and across the activities of the Network was discussed in a dedicated breakout group. Furthermore, the PCCB working group on cross-cutting issues has recently invited a gender expert from PCCB Network member Women Engage for a Common Future to join the group on an activity basis to support the planning and design of the 3rd Capacity-building Hub, envisaged to be held at COP 26 through a gender lens.
4. The PCCB further continued efforts to collaborate with constituted bodies on gender-related capacity gaps and needs and to record and review lessons learned by other constituted bodies. The PCCB is contributing to a forthcoming Adaptation Committee event on integrating gender considerations into adaptation planning and implementation, and the enhanced Lima work programme on gender is represented in the recently established and PCCB-facilitated ICG. The latter is expected to result in opportunities for coordination across constituted bodies with regard to mainstreaming gender in their capacity-building-related activities in the next reporting period.
5. As regards information-sharing, the PCCB regularly published and disseminated information on initiatives supporting the development and/or strengthening of capacity for mainstreaming gender considerations in climate action. Examples include several resources disseminated through the synthesis report on the 2021 focus area of the PCCB,² several resources sent to the secretariat for dissemination on the capacity-building portal,³ and six dedicated posts on the PCCB Facebook page that provided information on gender resources.
6. With regard to gender balance and equal participation at PCCB events and meetings, the PCCB made great efforts to ensure balanced gender representation and active participation by women. At the events organized by the PCCB, on average 65 per cent of the speakers and moderators were female. Where it was possible to gather information on the female–male participant ratio at events, this tended to be positive in terms of female participation, with women accounting on average for 58 per cent of participants at the four events held during the “Capacity-building Momentum to Recover Better” series, 68 per cent

¹ FCCC/SBI/2019/13, annex.

² See PCCB document PCCB/2021/5.

³ <https://unfccc.int/topics/capacity-building/workstreams/capacity-building-portal>.

of participants at the 2nd meeting of the PCCB Network and 60 per cent of participants at the 2021 PCCB side event during Asia-Pacific Climate Week, for example.

7. The greatest challenge with regard to implementing the gender mainstreaming standard is ensuring that gender is mainstreamed in all PCCB events and activities. Owing to time and human resource constraints during the preparatory stage of some events, as well as the fact that the PCCB is still at an early stage of implementing the standard and has yet to establish routine practices around it, the PCCB has not yet been able to implement all relevant aspects of its gender mainstreaming standard for all events. Nevertheless, the PCCB did, whenever possible, ask resource persons to draw attention to gender-specific aspects related to the topic of their interventions. Efforts were also made to integrate gender objectives into the design and organization of several events and activities, such as the 2nd meeting of the PCCB Network,⁴ the PCCB side events at the 2021 Regional Climate Weeks,⁵ the online training on climate change and human rights⁶ and the upcoming follow-up webinar to the Durban Forum. As the majority of the responses to post-event surveys, issued after all PCCB events, indicated strong agreement or agreement that the events had been conducted in a gender-responsive and inclusive manner – in terms of both format or organization and content – the PCCB is confident that its efforts were effective.

8. The PCCB is committed to further improving the mainstreaming of gender across its work on the basis of lessons learned and initial practices established in the reporting period. It remains keen to share its experience with other constituted bodies undertaking similar efforts and to learn from their experience. In this regard, the PCCB appreciated having been invited to and being able to attend a first meeting for constituted body gender focal points, hosted by the Technology Executive Committee gender focal points, in May 2021.

⁴ See <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/bodies/constituted-bodies/paris-committee-on-capacity-building-pccb/pccb-network/activities-pccb-network/2nd-meeting-of-the-pccb-network>.

⁵ See <https://unfccc.int/pccb/regional-activities#eq-1>.

⁶ See <https://unccelearn.org/course/view.php?id=136&page=overview>.