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Subsidiary Body for Implementation Sixty-second session Bonn, 16–26 June 2025 Agenda item 12 Matters relating to the least developed countries

Matters relating to the least developed countries

Draft conclusions proposed by the Chair

1. The Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) welcomed the report on the 47th meeting of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG),¹ held in Luanda from 18 to 21 February 2025.

2. The SBI expressed appreciation to the Government of Angola for hosting the 47^{th} meeting of the LEG.

3. The SBI acknowledged and congratulated the Government of Sao Tome and Principe on the graduation of the country from least developed country (LDC) status as of 13 December 2024.

4. The SBI welcomed the submission, between 1 January 2023 and 20 June 2025, of national adaptation plans (NAPs) by Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Burundi, Ecuador, Haiti, Israel, Jordan, the Marshall Islands, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Zambia and Zimbabwe, bringing the number of NAPs submitted by developing country Parties to 63,² and of sectoral adaptation plans and other outputs related to the process to formulate and implement NAPs by developing country Parties.

5. The SBI also welcomed the submission, between 1 December 2024 and 20 June 2025, by Austria, Finland, Germany, Ireland, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Spain, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America of NAPs and strategies in response to the invitation in paragraph 80 of document FCCC/SBI/2023/21.³

6. The SBI further welcomed the work programme of the LEG for 2025–2026.⁴

7. The SBI took note of the preparations for the NAP Expo planned to take place from 12 to 15 August 2025 in Lusaka.⁵

8. The SBI expressed appreciation to the LEG and the secretariat for their invaluable work in supporting the LDCs, including in helping them to put in place national adaptation plans, policies and planning processes by 2025 and to have progressed in implementing them by $2030.^{6}$



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¹ FCCC/SBI/2025/7.

² See <u>https://napcentral.org/submitted-naps</u>.

³ See <u>https://napcentral.org/developedcountriesnaps</u>.

⁴ FCCC/SBI/2025/7, annex II.

⁵ See <u>https://expo.napcentral.org/2025</u>.

⁶ In accordance with decision 1/CMA.5, para. 59.

9. The SBI welcomed and encouraged the enhancement of collaboration and coordination between the LEG and the Adaptation Committee and other UNFCCC constituted bodies on adaptation-related activities, including the practice of inviting representatives of those bodies to participate and engage in the meetings and relevant events of the LEG.

10. The SBI welcomed the ongoing efforts of the LEG in integrating a gender perspective into its work, as well as the inclusion in the work programme referred to in paragraph 6 above of activities related to engaging all relevant partners and stakeholders, including Indigenous Peoples and local communities, in the process to formulate and implement NAPs.

11. The SBI recognized the significant value of the technical work and outputs of the LEG, emphasizing their utility for the LDCs in advancing adaptation efforts.

12. The SBI welcomed the progress of the LEG in updating the technical guidelines for the NAP process in response to the mandate contained in paragraph 47 of decision 2/CMA.5.

13. The SBI took note of the plans of the LEG to launch the updated technical guidelines for the NAP process at the NAP Expo referred to in paragraph 7 above.

14. The SBI expressed appreciation to the LEG for the inclusive process applied for and extensive consultations undertaken in updating the technical guidelines for the NAP process, in particular through the meeting with experts from Parties and organizations held in Bonn from 10 to 12 March 2025 to review the draft version of the updated technical guidelines,⁷ and a consultation for presenting the updated technical guidelines to Parties, held in Panama City on 23 May 2025 during the first global Climate Week.⁸

15. The SBI requested the LEG to hold additional consultations with Parties, building on those referred to in paragraph 14 above, on the updating of the technical guidelines for the NAP process prior to the NAP Expo referred to in paragraph 7 above.

16. The SBI noted that, as at 19 June 2025:

(a) Of the 44 LDCs, 22 had prepared and submitted NAPs,⁹ 16 were in the process of formulating NAPs,¹⁰ 4 had not yet started the process,¹¹ and up-to-date information was pending for 2 countries.¹² The SBI also noted that Burkina Faso had submitted its updated NAP and Cambodia was in the process of updating its NAP;

(b) Of the four countries referred to in paragraph 16(a) above that had not started formulating NAPs, three have had Green Climate Fund (GCF) NAP readiness grants approved;¹³

(c) Of the 22 LDCs that had submitted NAPs, 21¹⁴ had received approval from the GCF for adaptation proposals to implement priority actions contained in their NAPs in the areas of agriculture, energy, health, ecosystems and water resources, with 18 of the 21 countries having at least one single-country project¹⁵ and 3 with only multi-country projects.¹⁶

17. The SBI welcomed the approval by the GCF Board, at its 40th and 41st meetings, held in October 2024 and February 2025 respectively, of 14 funding proposals amounting to

⁷ Information on the meeting is available at <u>https://unfccc.int/event/NAP_TGReviewMtg_2025</u>.

⁸ Information on the consultation is available at <u>https://unfccc.int/event/Consultation_NAP_TG_CW1</u>.

⁹ Bangladesh, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Haiti, Kiribati, Liberia, Madagascar, Mozambique, Nepal, Niger, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Sudan, Timor-Leste, Togo and Zambia. The NAPs are available at <u>https://napcentral.org/submitted-naps</u>.

¹⁰ Angola, Comoros, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Rwanda, Senegal, Somalia, Tuvalu, Uganda and United Republic of Tanzania.

¹¹ Djibouti, Eritrea, Solomon Islands and Yemen.

¹² Afghanistan and Myanmar.

¹³ All countries referred to in footnote 12 above except Solomon Islands.

¹⁴ All countries referred to in footnote 10 above except the Central African Republic.

¹⁵ Bangladesh, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Ethiopia, Haiti, Kiribati, Liberia, Madagascar, Mozambique, Nepal, Niger, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Timor-Leste, Togo and Zambia.

¹⁶ Chad, Democratic Republic of the Congo and South Sudan.

USD 247.6 million for the implementation of adaptation priorities identified in NAPs or other adaptation strategies, and by the GCF secretariat of 15 readiness proposals amounting to USD 32.6 million for the formulation of NAPs or other adaptation planning processes for the LDCs. The SBI also welcomed the approval by the GCF secretariat, between August 2024 and June 2025, of four project proposals from the LDCs amounting to USD 6.1 million for the development of project activities under the Project Preparation Facility.

18. The SBI further welcomed the approval by the Adaptation Fund Board at its 43rd and 44th meetings, held in October 2024 and April 2025 respectively, of eight project proposals from the LDCs amounting to USD 61 million.¹⁷

19. The SBI welcomed the approval, at the 38th Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF)/Special Climate Change Fund Council meeting, held from 4 to 5 June 2025, of four project proposals from the LDCs for funding under the LDCF amounting to USD 40 million.

20. The SBI noted with concern that the session for pledging funds to the LDCF planned for the twenty-ninth session of the Conference of the Parties was cancelled because outreach to donors indicated that the magnitude of such pledges would not warrant the session, and that, as at 5 June 2025, seven project proposals from the LDCs requesting USD 89 million had already been technically cleared by the Global Environment Facility but were awaiting funding.¹⁸

21. The SBI also noted with concern that:

(a) No LDCs have submitted a new NAP since December 2023, despite the call for Parties that have not yet done so to have in place their national adaptation plans, policies and planning processes by 2025,¹⁹ and emphasized the need for enhanced efforts to support the LDCs in this regard;

(b) The LDCs continue to experience challenges, complexities and delays in accessing funding from the GCF for formulating and implementing NAPs, particularly in relation to the submission and review of proposals for funding;

(c) There is limited consideration given to NAPs as effective tools for accessing funding under the Financial Mechanism, and the LDCs are required to provide extensive information on and justify their project proposals aimed at implementing the policies, projects and programmes identified in their NAPs, even though the NAPs have already undergone a comprehensive and rigorous formulation process.

22. The SBI requested the LEG to continue formulating recommendations on ways to address the challenges referred to in paragraph 21(b) above, and to submit the recommendations to the Standing Committee on Finance for consideration.

23. The SBI took note of the gaps in the LDCs' capacity to implement their NAPs, including their needs in relation to strengthening their implementation and resource mobilization strategies and efforts, and institutional accreditation and fiduciary readiness, facilitating local access to adaptation funding, improving national climate data infrastructure, tracking and valuing adaptation benefits, and ensuring inclusive governance and participation.

24. The SBI requested the LEG to include activities aimed at addressing the matters referred to in paragraph 23 above in NAP Expos and the workshops conducted under the LEG work programme referred to in paragraph 6 above.

25. The SBI invited United Nations organizations, specialized agencies and other relevant organizations, as well as bilateral and multilateral agencies, to provide to the LEG, by 31 July 2025, information on how they have responded to the invitation in paragraph 8 of decision

¹⁷ See Adaptation Fund Board documents AFB/B.43/17 and AFB/B.44/17, available at <u>https://www.adaptation-fund.org/documents-publications/meeting-reports/</u>.

¹⁸ See LDCF/SCCF Council document GEF/LDCF.SCCF.38/02, available at <u>https://www.thegef.org/council-meeting-documents/gef-ldcf-sccf-38-02.</u>

¹⁹ Decision 1/CMA.5, para. 59.

15/CP.29 for inclusion in the report to be prepared by the LEG for consideration at SBI 63 (November 2025).²⁰

26. The SBI invited the LEG to continue engaging a wide range of organizations in implementing its work programme, including through the thematic working groups created by the LEG in response to the mandate in paragraph 9 of decision 15/CP.26.

27. The SBI also invited the LEG to continue its efforts to enhance the accessibility and transparency of its meetings and information.²¹

28. The SBI urged additional contributions to the LDCF, noting the urgency of providing funding for the seven project proposals referred to in paragraph 20 above.

29. The SBI invited Parties and relevant organizations to continue providing resources for supporting the implementation of the LEG work programme.

30. The SBI took note of the estimated budgetary implications of the activities to be undertaken by the secretariat referred to in paragraphs 6 and 24 above.

31. It requested that the actions of the secretariat called for in these conclusions be undertaken subject to the availability of financial resources.

²⁰ Submissions can be sent via email to <u>leghelp@unfccc.int</u>.

²¹ See decision 15/CP.26, para. 6.