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Cooperation with other international organizations

Cooperative activities with United Nations entities and other intergovernmental organizations that contribute to the work under the Convention, the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement

Note by the secretariat

Summary

The secretariat engages in collaborative activities, initiatives and programmes with United Nations entities, convention secretariats and IGOs that enhance and contribute to the work under the Convention, the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement. The key objective of the secretariat in such engagement is to support the implementation of the Convention, the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement in an efficient and effective manner. This document provides information on activities that the secretariat has been involved in with other IGOs since SBSTA 48.

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Abbreviations and acronyms

| | |
|-----------|--|
| AC | Adaptation Committee |
| ACE | Action for Climate Empowerment |
| AFB | Adaptation Fund Board |
| BUR | biennial update report |
| CBD | Convention on Biological Diversity |
| CDM | clean development mechanism |
| CGE | Consultative Group of Experts |
| COP | Conference of the Parties |
| CTCN | Climate Technology Centre and Network |
| FAO | Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations |
| GCF | Green Climate Fund |
| GEF | Global Environment Facility |
| GHG | greenhouse gas |
| GIZ | German Agency for International Cooperation |
| ICAO | International Civil Aviation Organization |
| IEA | International Energy Agency |
| IGO | intergovernmental organization |
| ILO | International Labour Organization |
| IMO | International Maritime Organization |
| IOM | International Organization for Migration |
| IPCC | Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change |
| IPU | Inter-Parliamentary Union |
| LDC | least developed country |
| LEG | Least Developed Countries Expert Group |
| MOU | memorandum of understanding |
| MRV | measurement, reporting and verification |
| NAP | national adaptation plan |
| NC | national communication |
| NDC | nationally determined contribution |
| NWP | Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change |
| OHCHR | Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights |
| PCCB | Paris Committee on Capacity-building |
| RCC | regional collaboration centre |
| REDD-plus | reducing emissions from deforestation; reducing emissions from forest degradation; conservation of forest carbon stocks; sustainable management of forests; and enhancement of forest carbon stocks (decision 1/CP.16, para. 70) |
| SB | sessions of the subsidiary bodies |
| SBI | Subsidiary Body for Implementation |
| SBSTA | Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice |
| SCF | Standing Committee on Finance |
| SDG | Sustainable Development Goal |
| TEC | Technology Executive Committee |
| TNA | technology needs assessment |
| UNCCD | United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification |
| UNDP | United Nations Development Programme |
| UNDRR | United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction |

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| UNEP | United Nations Environment Programme |
| UNEP DTU Partnership | 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 and the United Nations Environment Programme |
| UNESCO | United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization |
| UNHCR | Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees |
| UNIDO | United Nations Industrial Development Organization |
| UNITAR | United Nations Institute for Training and Research |
| UNSD | United Nations Statistics Division |
| UN Alliance | United Nations Alliance on Climate Change Education, Training and Public Awareness |
| UN CC:Learn | One UN Climate Change Learning Partnership |
| UN DESA | United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs |
| UN Women | United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women |
| WHO | World Health Organization |
| WMO | World Meteorological Organization |

I. Introduction

A. Mandate

1. SBSTA 30 requested the secretariat to prepare, before SBSTA sessions at which its agenda item on cooperation with other international organizations is to be taken up, an information note summarizing relevant cooperative activities.¹

B. Background and scope

2. Article 7, paragraph 2(l), of the Convention states that the 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 places great value on working with other international organizations, including United Nations entities, the secretariats of other multilateral environmental agreements and the scientific community.

3. This document summarizes the main activities carried out by the secretariat in cooperation with other international organizations since April 2018 (hereinafter referred to as the reporting period), when the previous information note on the subject,² prepared for SBSTA 48, was published.

C. Overview of cooperative activities

4. United Nations and other international organizations provide expertise, assistance and support to Parties for the effective implementation of the Convention, the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement. Having recognized the many interlinkages within the complex UNFCCC process, and that expertise and resources – human, financial and other – might also be found in other parts of the United Nations system and other IGOs, the COP and the subsidiary bodies have encouraged other organizations to undertake tasks and activities in support of their work.

5. Conversely, cognizant the expertise and knowledge that the secretariat has accumulated over the years, many international organizations call upon it to contribute to discussions and policy documents on climate change matters. The secretariat is receiving and responding to increasing requests from other United Nations organizations and forums for advice and collaboration related to climate change.

6. The adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,³ in paragraph 31 of which the UNFCCC is acknowledged as the primary international, intergovernmental forum for negotiations on the global response to climate change, has increased the need for closer cooperation and coordination within the United Nations system, in particular given that, as stated in its paragraph 71, the Agenda and the SDGs and targets, including their means of implementation, are universal, indivisible and interlinked. Through close cooperation with United Nations entities and other international organizations, the secretariat can help countries to achieve the SDGs in a coherent and collaborative way.

7. The secretariat collaborates with United Nations and other international organizations across all its mandated workstreams.

¹ FCCC/SBSTA/2009/3, para. 128.

² FCCC/SBSTA/2017/INF.2.

³ See https://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/1&Lang=E.

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

8. The SBSTA may wish to take note of the information 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 key priority areas in which the secretariat could enhance efforts to leverage contributions to addressing climate change from other IGOs, and on possible approaches to undertaking such efforts, including through MOUs and partnerships.

II. Specific areas of cooperation

9. This chapter provides an overview of the secretariat's cooperative activities during the reporting period, including those specifically in support of the efforts of Parties to implement the Convention, the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement. It is not a comprehensive account of all the secretariat's activities, initiatives and programmes.

A. Technology

1. Technology Mechanism

10. 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 GHG emissions in all relevant sectors. COP 16 established the Technology Mechanism to facilitate implementation of enhanced action on technology development and transfer to support the full implementation of the Convention.⁴ The Technology Mechanism has two components: the TEC and the CTCN, and serves the Paris Agreement.⁵

11. As the policy component of the Technology Mechanism, the TEC analyses technology policy issues and provides policy recommendations to countries to enhance climate technology development and transfer. It facilitates collaboration among technology stakeholders and promotes coherence across technology activities. In supporting the work of the TEC, the secretariat engages with many United Nations organizations, IGOs and non-governmental organizations.

12. During the reporting period, the secretariat supported the internal task forces of the TEC established to support implementation of the TEC workplan for 2016–2018. The task forces included representatives of, and received input from, the GCF and GEF secretariats, the International Renewable Energy Agency, the South Centre and UNEP.

13. The secretariat organized the 17th and 18th meetings of the TEC, in which representatives of United Nations organizations and IGOs, such as the IPCC, UN DESA, the UNEP DTU Partnership and the World Intellectual Property Organization, as well as of non-governmental organizations participated either in person or via the live webcast and UNFCCC social media platforms, managed by the secretariat.

14. The secretariat supported the TEC in organizing two regional workshops on South–South and technological cooperation for climate action and sustainable development. The workshops were held in collaboration with the United Nations Office for South–South Cooperation in conjunction with Asia-Pacific Climate Week in July 2018 and Latin America and Caribbean Climate Week in August 2018. In addition, the secretariat supported the organization of a regional technical expert meeting on waste-to-energy conversion and the transition to a circular economy in collaboration with the CTCN and UNIDO, also held in conjunction with Latin America and Caribbean Climate Week.

⁴ Decision 1/CP.16, para. 117.

⁵ Per Article 10, para. 3, of the Agreement.

15. As the implementation arm of the Technology Mechanism, the CTCN supports developing countries in implementing climate technologies. It has three core functions:

- (a) Providing technical assistance at the request of developing countries;
- (b) Creating access to knowledge on climate technologies;
- (c) Fostering collaboration among climate technology stakeholders.

16. During the reporting period, the secretariat collaborated with the CTCN and followed the work of its Advisory Board. TEC 18 was held back to back with the 13th meeting of the CTCN Advisory Board to enhance collaboration and enable interaction between the two bodies, particularly in responding to the outcomes of COP 24 with regard to Parties' guidance on the technology framework. The secretariat continued to collaborate with UNEP and UNIDO, the host organizations of the Climate Technology Centre, participating in CTCN regional activities for national designated entities organized by them.

2. Technology needs assessments

17. Developing countries undertake TNAs to identify their technology priorities for mitigating GHG emissions and adapting to climate change. Through TNAs, developing countries establish climate technology action plans.

18. During the reporting period, the secretariat collaborated with the GEF, UNEP and the UNEP DTU Partnership in phase III of the global TNA project, whereby financial and technical support is being provided to 22 small island developing States and LDCs undertaking TNAs.

19. The secretariat collaborated with the CTCN, UNEP and the UNEP DTU Partnership in supporting the TEC on TNA matters, including by considering with the AC and the LEG how countries can align their TNAs with their NAPs. The secretariat cooperated with the CTCN and the UNEP DTU Partnership to organize a workshop on TNAs in conjunction with the CTCN regional forum for national designated entities in Africa.

3. Technology facilitation mechanism

20. Paragraph 70 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development refers to the launch of a technology facilitation mechanism to support implementation of the SDGs. During the reporting period, the secretariat participated in the United Nations Inter-agency Task Team on Science, Technology and Innovation for the SDGs, a component of the mechanism that involves over 40 United Nations organizations. In this context, the secretariat participated in a workshop on science, technology and innovation for the SDGs organized by UN DESA, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in preparation for the 4th Multi-stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for the SDGs, to be held in 2019.

B. Climate finance

1. UNFCCC funds

(a) Green Climate Fund

21. COP 16 designated the GCF as an operating entity of the Financial Mechanism.⁶ Under the arrangements between the COP and the GCF, the relevant secretariats may, as necessary and subject to the direction of the GCF Board and the COP, cooperate and exchange views on matters relevant to the operation of the Financial Mechanism, including implementation of the arrangements between the COP and the GCF, coordination with other international financing channels and the participation of representatives in meetings of relevant bodies.⁷

⁶ Decision 1/CP.16, para. 102.

⁷ Decision 5/CP.19, annex, para. 18.

22. In the reporting period, the secretariat engaged with the GCF secretariat and attended the GCF Board meetings, at which the Board progressed in implementing guidance from the COP and took funding decisions on project proposals. The two secretariats conducted a joint retreat to explore ways of strengthening their collaboration and partnership; joint task teams were established for enhancing the linkages and continuing the collaboration between the secretariats at the operational level. Furthermore, representatives of the GCF secretariat participated in various meetings and workshops under the Convention, including meetings of constituted bodies, the 2018 SCF Forum, technical expert meetings on adaptation and mitigation, and the 2018 in-session workshop on long-term climate finance. At COP 24, the GCF Board held its 3rd annual meeting with the constituted bodies under the Convention on enhancing cooperation and coherence of engagement.

(b) Global Environment Facility

23. The GEF is entrusted with the operation of the Financial Mechanism.⁸ The MOU between the COP and the GEF states that the relevant secretariats shall cooperate and regularly exchange views and experience as necessary to ensure the effectiveness of the Financial Mechanism in assisting Parties in implementing the Convention.⁹

24. During the reporting period, the secretariat interacted regularly with the GEF secretariat, participating in GEF Council meetings, meetings related to the seventh replenishment of the GEF, and GEF regional expanded constituency workshops. The GEF secretariat participated in UNFCCC meetings and events, including meetings of constituted bodies, CTCN workshops and technical expert meetings on adaptation and mitigation.

(c) Adaptation Fund

25. During the reporting period, the secretariat participated in the AFB meetings, at which decisions taken at COP 21 that might affect the Adaptation Fund were discussed.

26. The AFB secretariat in turn participated in meetings of constituted bodies under the Convention, and interacted with the AC on matters related to adaptation finance in developing countries.

27. Regarding possible future institutional linkages and relations between the Adaptation Fund and other constituted bodies under the Convention, the secretariat and the AFB secretariat continued to provide mutual legal and operational advice relating to the Adaptation Fund.

2. Standing Committee on Finance

28. The secretariat supports the SCF in its collaboration and outreach activities with IGOs and other interested stakeholders. All meetings of the SCF are webcast. An official notification is issued on the UNFCCC website informing admitted IGOs about the possibility of attending SCF meetings,¹⁰ and personalized invitation letters are sent to representatives of United Nations agencies and IGOs for each one.¹¹

29. During the reporting period, the secretariat collaborated with United Nations organizations and IGOs in supporting the organization of the 2018 SCF Forum, on climate finance architecture. The secretariat collaborated with the Ministry of Strategy and Finance of the Republic of Korea on the logistics for the event. Representatives of bilateral and multilateral climate finance channels, think tanks, academia and the private sector participated in the Forum as speakers and resource persons.¹² The secretariat will continue to

⁸ Decision 3/CP.4, para. 1.

⁹ Decision 12/CP.2, annex, para. 10.

¹⁰ See <http://unfccc.int/3153.php>.

¹¹ Information on the meetings of the SCF, including the webcasts and lists of participants, is available at <http://unfccc.int/6881.php>.

¹² Information on the institutions that engaged in the SCF Forum is available at <https://unfccc.int/topics/climate-finance/events-meetings/scf-forum/2018-forum-of-the-standing-committee-on-finance>.

facilitate SCF engagement with a wide variety of climate finance stakeholders, including global city networks, United Nations organizations and IGOs, in organizing the 2019 SCF Forum, on climate finance and sustainable cities.¹³

30. The SCF, with the support of the secretariat, closely collaborates with stakeholders specialized in tracking and reporting climate finance. Various international financial institutions and IGOs involved in tracking and reporting climate finance, including groups of multilateral development banks and international financial institutions, United Nations organizations and other international organizations, think tanks, networks of private financial institutions, the International Development Finance Club and OECD, contributed to the 2018 Biennial Assessment and Overview of Climate Finance Flows.^{14, 15} They provided data on climate finance flows and input into the technical report, participated in SCF meetings and two technical meetings, and responded to the call for evidence.¹⁶ The 2018 Biennial Assessment includes information on trends in climate finance flows, considered the implications of the flows and assessed their relevance to international efforts to address climate change, thereby informing Parties' deliberations on climate finance at COP 24.

3. In-session workshop on long-term climate finance

31. The secretariat cooperated with climate finance experts from government, United Nations organizations, IGOs, the private sector and civil society in organizing the 2018 in-session workshop on long-term climate finance.¹⁷ Representatives of UNEP, the AFB secretariat and GIZ participated as speakers and resource persons at the workshop. A summary report on the workshop¹⁸ was prepared for consideration by the COP and to inform the third biennial high-level ministerial dialogue on climate finance, held at COP 24 in accordance with decision 3/CP.19, paragraph 13.

C. Capacity-building

1. Capacity-building framework

32. In accordance with decisions 2/CP.7 and 29/CMP.1, the secretariat collaborates with organizations on collecting and compiling the information needed by the COP, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol and the subsidiary bodies to annually monitor the progress of implementation of the framework for capacity-building in developing countries established under decision 2/CP.7. The information submitted by the organizations is uploaded to the capacity-building portal,¹⁹ a web-based platform that, through an interactive world map, enables external users to search for, identify and download capacity-building information submitted since 2008 by United Nations organizations, specialized agencies and related organizations.

2. Durban Forum on capacity-building

33. 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.²⁰ The 7th Durban Forum, on enhancing capacity for

¹³ See <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/bodies/constituted-bodies/standing-committee-on-finance-scf/scf-forum/2019-forum-of-the-standing-committee-on-finance>.

¹⁴ See document FCCC/CP/2018/8, para. 19, for information on the institutions that engaged in preparing the 2018 Biennial Assessment.

¹⁵ The SCF summary and recommendations on the 2018 Biennial Assessment are contained in the annex to decision 4/CP.24.

¹⁶ See <https://unfccc.int/topics/climate-finance/resources/biennial-assessment-of-climate-finance>.

¹⁷ See <https://unfccc.int/topics/climate-finance/events-meetings/1tf-meetings/long-term-climate-finance-events-in-2018>.

¹⁸ FCCC/CP/2018/4.

¹⁹ See <https://unfccc.int/node/337>.

²⁰ Decision 2/CP.17, para. 144.

implementing NDCs in the context of the Paris Agreement, took place in conjunction with SBI 48²¹ and focused on:

- (a) Enhancing institutional, technical, relational and strategic capacity for implementing NDCs;
- (b) Capacity-building for integrating cross-cutting issues, such as gender-responsiveness, human rights and indigenous peoples' knowledge, into NDC implementation;
- (c) Capacity-building for tracking and reporting on the implementation and impacts of NDC-related action, and the finance used to support the action.

34. The secretariat collaborated with the NDC Partnership, UNDP, the UNEP DTU Partnership and OHCHR, among others, on the 7th Durban Forum.

3. Paris Committee on Capacity-building

35. The secretariat supports the PCCB in its collaboration and outreach activities with United Nations entities, IGOs and other interested stakeholders, and in developing and implementing its communication and stakeholder engagement strategies.

36. During the reporting period, the secretariat supported the organization of the 2nd meeting of the PCCB, held in conjunction with SB 48.²² The meeting was webcast and an official notification was issued on the UNFCCC website informing admitted IGOs about the possibility of attending it. The secretariat facilitated the participation of 12 representatives of United Nations organizations and IGOs in the meeting.

37. In supporting the organization and realization of the first capacity-building hub,²³ hosted by the PCCB at COP 24, the secretariat collaborated with stakeholders from the public and private sector, including representatives of the NDC Partnership, the OECD Development Assistance Committee, the UNEP DTU Partnership and UN Women. Supporting the aim of the PCCB to enhance its outreach activities, the secretariat produced several videos capturing events at the hub and participants' views, which were posted on the PCCB Facebook page.²⁴

38. Furthermore, in supporting the organization of two PCCB side events at COP 24,²⁵ the secretariat collaborated closely with a number of IGOs, including the NDC Partnership, OHCHR, UNDP, and UN Women, on logistical and substantive matters.

4. UNFCCC funds

39. The secretariat seeks input from the secretariats of the Adaptation Fund, the GCF and the GEF, in preparing the annual compilation and synthesis report on capacity-building work undertaken by bodies under the Convention. Representatives of the three secretariats participated in various capacity-building meetings and workshops held under the Convention during the reporting period, including the 2nd meeting of the PCCB, the 7th Durban Forum and the capacity-building hub at COP 24.

5. Regional cooperation

40. During the reporting period, the secretariat co-organized four regional climate finance capacity-building workshops, for the East African Community and in Rwanda and Uganda. RCC Kampala participated in a forecast-based financing workshop organized by the Uganda Red Cross Society in March 2019. The latter organization, supported by the Netherlands Red Cross, is implementing a five-year project funded by IKEA on preparedness for drought and flooding to reduce the effects of such events on communities, including refugee populations.

²¹ See <https://unfccc.int/node/29036>.

²² See <https://unfccc.int/node/10006>.

²³ See <https://unfccc.int/node/182226>.

²⁴ See <https://www.facebook.com/pccb.unfccc>.

²⁵ See <https://unfccc.int/node/183873>.

41. RCC Kampala also co-organized pre-COP negotiator training sessions (in 2017 and 2018) on Article 6 of the Paris Agreement in collaboration with GIZ and the German Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety.

42. RCCs Panama and St. George's jointly participated in the 2018 GCF structured dialogue with the Caribbean. Convening ministers and senior government officials, GCF representatives, accredited entities, national designated authorities, readiness delivery partners, private sector representatives and civil society groups, the second such event provided an opportunity to reflect on progress and lessons learned, build partnerships, promote further engagement with the GCF, and explore new investment opportunities for both the public and private sector.

43. RCC Panama has effectively promoted and will continue to promote implementation of the Paris Agreement (especially through NDCs), thereby proving its potential to support the secretariat's work on the ground in the strategic areas of adaptation, finance, capacity-building and technology transfer, and mitigation and data analysis. A good example is the work of the RCC and the NDC Partnership to support Latin American and Caribbean countries in planning their NDC implementation with a view to accelerating climate and development action. In supporting the UNFCCC global Needs-based Finance Project, the RCC and the NDC Partnership advanced MOUs in selected Latin American and Caribbean countries with a view to introducing tools and a strategy for climate finance mobilization. Other examples of such collaboration include:

(a) Providing logistical and substantive support, for example in coordinating the regional hands-on training workshop for the Latin American and Caribbean region on the preparation and reporting of mitigation actions in NCs and BURs;

(b) Supporting the first regional NAP Expo in Latin America and the Caribbean with a view to increasing resilience to and capacity for adaptation to climate change in the region.

D. Action for Climate Empowerment

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

44. The UN Alliance aims to support Parties' efforts to initiate and undertake ACE activities. Representatives of the UN Alliance provided technical support and moderated working group discussions at the 2018 workshop on ways of enhancing the implementation of education, training, public awareness, public participation and public access to information so as to enhance action under the Paris Agreement.²⁶ In addition, the secretariat, in partnership with UN Alliance members and the Government of Poland, organized the Education Day held at COP 24,²⁷ which included a high-level event entitled "Stepping up climate education", attended by ministers, representatives of international organizations and non-Party stakeholders.

2. Global Action Programme on Education for Sustainable Development

45. The Global Action Programme on Education for Sustainable Development, led by UNESCO, aims to generate and scale up action at all levels and in all areas of education and learning to accelerate progress towards sustainable development. It established five partner networks, on policy support, whole-institution approaches, educators, youth and local communities. The secretariat is a member of the policy network and has made a substantive contribution to scaling up education on climate change and sustainable development with a view to achieving target 4.7 of SDG 4.

²⁶ See <https://unfccc.int/event/workshop-on-ways-of-enhancing-the-implementation-of-education-training-public-awareness-public>.

²⁷ See <https://unfccc.int/topics/education-youth/events-meetings/education-day/education-day-at-cop-24>.

3. Action for Climate Empowerment guidelines

46. UNESCO, in partnership with the secretariat, prepared a report²⁸ to facilitate the work of ACE national focal points in implementing the Doha work programme on Article 6 of the Convention. In October 2018, two events were held for disseminating the guidelines:

(a) A regional workshop on ACE for Europe and the Mediterranean region, organized by the secretariat with the financial support of, and in cooperation with, the Government of Italy;

(b) A symposium on using the ACE guidelines to strengthen the role of civil society in raising awareness of climate change, organized by the Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection in close cooperation with the secretariat.

4. 6th Dialogue on Action for Climate Empowerment

47. The secretariat organized the 6th ACE Dialogue, held during SBI 48, in collaboration with United Nations entities. The main objective of the Dialogue is to provide a regular forum for Parties and other stakeholders to share experience, best practices, lessons learned and ideas regarding the implementation of ACE. The 6th Dialogue was split into two sessions, focusing on public participation, public awareness and public access to information, with international cooperation as a cross-cutting theme. Representatives of the UN Alliance provided technical support and moderated working group discussions. The secretariat published a summary report on the 6th Dialogue.²⁹

5. Youth and climate change

48. The secretariat works with United Nations entities and youth organizations to encourage active and meaningful youth participation in the climate change process. During the reporting period, the secretariat worked closely with the Governments of Canada and Fiji, youth non-governmental organizations and UNDP on organizing the 2018 ACE Youth Forum, which brought together youth delegates from 70 countries.³⁰ In addition, the secretariat, in partnership with the Government of Poland, youth non-governmental organizations, United Nations agencies and development partners, organized the Young and Future Generations Day³¹ held during COP 24 to showcase the important role of young people in realizing innovative and ambitious climate change solutions. Furthermore, to highlight existing youth climate change action, the secretariat, in partnership with the GEF Small Grants Programme, Television for the Environment and Connect4Climate, organized the fourth edition of the Global Youth Video Competition on climate change.³² Two winners were selected for 2018 out of the 300 videos submitted by participants from 100 countries.

6. One UN Climate Change Learning Partnership

49. The secretariat is closely engaged with UNITAR in advancing UN CC:Learn, a cooperative initiative involving 35 multilateral organizations. UN CC:Learn supports governments, United Nations agencies and other development partners in designing and implementing results-oriented, sustainable learning to address climate change. It hosts the primary e-learning platform on climate change, which is currently available in six languages, and contributes directly to the implementation of the Doha work programme. The secretariat participated in the 8th UN CC:Learn steering group meeting and the country exchange workshop organized by UNITAR held in March 2018.

²⁸ UNESCO and UNFCCC. 2016. *Action for Climate Empowerment: Guidelines for accelerating solutions through education, training and public awareness*. Paris and Bonn: UNESCO and UNFCCC. Available at https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/action_for_climate_empowerment_guidelines.pdf.

²⁹ FCCC/SBI/2018/19.

³⁰ See <https://unfccc.int/topics/education-youth/youth-engagement/ace-youth-forum>.

³¹ See <https://unfccc.int/topics/education-youth/youth-engagement/young-and-future-generations-day/young-and-future-generations-day-at-cop-24>.

³² See <https://unfccc.int/news/2018-winners-named-in-global-youth-video-competition>.

50. RCC Panama helped the Ministry of Environment of Panama to establish its first Leadership Academy for Youth on Climate Change in May 2018. The Academy was sponsored by the Ministry of Environment, the Konrad Adenauer Foundation and UNDP and supported and financed by RCC Panama, Banistmo bank, Ricoh Company, UNEP and the MarViva Foundation.

E. Adaptation and loss and damage

51. The secretariat collaborates with IGOs and United Nations organizations in supporting adaptation activities, including through the work of the AC and by promoting synergy and strengthening engagement with national, regional and international organizations, centres and networks. It engages with organizations in supporting the work of the LEG, including on national adaptation programmes of action. It also supports work under the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts, the process to formulate and implement NAPs, and efforts under the NWP. The secretariat cooperates with various IGOs on its adaptation and loss and damage activities, including the CBD, GEF, IOM, the IPCC, and UNCCD secretariats, UNDRR, UNDP, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, UNEP, UNESCO, the World Bank and WHO.

1. Adaptation Committee

52. The AC advises the COP on adaptation to climate change. It seeks to raise the profile of adaptation and promote greater coherence of adaptation action. The secretariat supports the work of the AC and works with all IGOs involved in adaptation activities, such as during the reporting period:

(a) A workshop on fostering the engagement of the agrifood sector in building resilience to climate change, in partnership with the International Trade Centre and with the support of the secretariat. Other IGOs hosted sessions and participated in the three-day event, including FAO, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the World Trade Organization. To build on the success of this work, expand knowledge and facilitate support for private sector engagement in adaptation, the AC and the secretariat are exploring potential further partnerships with IGOs and international financial institutions;

(b) The continuation for a third year of the technical examination process on adaptation, with the objective of identifying opportunities for strengthening resilience, reducing vulnerability and increasing understanding and implementation of adaptation action. The process includes annual technical expert meetings on adaptation, bringing together a broad group of stakeholders, including United Nations organizations and other IGOs, to discuss policies, action, opportunities for action and implementation. The 2018 technical expert meeting focused on adaptation planning in relation to vulnerable ecosystems, communities and groups, with the discussions at the meeting and topical information reflected in a technical paper³³ prepared by the secretariat in consultation with the AC. The AC agreed on the topic of adaptation finance, including the private sector, for 2019 and is exploring potential partnerships with various IGOs and international financial institutions for the event;

(c) A series of regional technical expert meetings on adaptation took place under the technical examination process on adaptation, organized by Parties and non-Party stakeholders in response to an invitation of COP 23³⁴ and attended by representatives of IGOs including the Asian Development Bank, the CTCN, FAO, the GCF secretariat, the Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research, the TEC, UNEP, the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, UNESCO and WMO.

(d) An expert meeting on national adaptation goals and indicators and their relationship with the SDGs and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, co-organized with the United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of

³³ FCCC/TP/2018/3.

³⁴ See decision 13/CP.23 and <http://tep-a.org/regional-technical-expert-meetings-on-adaptation/>.

Sustainability, supported by the secretariat, several governments and UNDRR, and attended by experts from the AC, UNDRR, UNSD and WMO, among others. On the basis of the discussions at the expert meeting and further consideration by the AC, relevant recommendations were approved for consideration at COP 24.³⁵

(e) All AC meetings are open to observers, including IGOs. Observers are invited to provide general statements at the opening and closing of meetings and suggestions during discussions on specific agenda items, and to participate in the work of breakout groups. Such active engagement of observers and the contribution of their experience and expertise to the discussions were deemed beneficial to the work of the AC. Representatives of the GCF secretariat, UNDRR, the United Nations Office of Project Services, WMO, among others, participated in AC meetings during the reporting period.

2. Least Developed Countries Expert Group

53. The secretariat facilitates the work of the LEG in accordance with its mandates³⁶ through collaboration with various organizations, regional centres and networks. During the reporting period the secretariat:

(a) Considered with the GCF secretariat how best to support LDC Parties in accessing funding from the GCF for the formulation and implementation of NAPs. The GCF secretariat provided updates on developing countries' efforts to access funding for NAPs at the 34th and 35th meetings of the LEG. It also organized sessions at the NAP Expos in 2018³⁷ and 2019³⁸ to support developing countries in improving access to funding from the GCF;

(b) Invited the GEF and its agencies to the meetings of the LEG to explore issues faced by LDC Parties in accessing funds from the Least Developed Countries Fund and to explore further collaboration in support of the work of the LEG;³⁹

(c) Engaged relevant organizations, regional centres and networks and the NAP technical working group in supporting the work of the LEG on technical guidance for the formulation and implementation of NAPs, training on NAPs, NAP Expos, advancing Open NAPs and enhancing NAP Central. The NAP technical working group met at SB 48, COP 24 and the NAP Expos in 2018 and 2019;

(d) Invited regional centres and networks to nominate one focal point each for the LEG, in accordance with decision 19/CP.21, paragraph 10, to assist in addressing gaps in, and needs for, adaptation in the LDCs, such as data gaps, regional downscaling of climate change scenarios, and GCF readiness support.

3. Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism

54. The Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism guides the implementation of the mechanism's functions,⁴⁰ one of which is to strengthen 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 the Convention with a view to promoting cooperation and collaboration across relevant work and activities at all levels.

55. The Executive Committee engages with other UNFCCC constituted bodies and relevant organizations and stakeholder networks in thematic expert groups, and in joint work with UNFCCC constituted bodies outlined in their respective workplans. The secretariat supports the Executive Committee and its thematic expert groups, including by working with United Nations entities, IGOs and others involved in averting, minimizing and addressing

³⁵ See document FCCC/SB/2018/3, chapter V.

³⁶ See decisions 8/CP.13, paras. 2 and 5; 6/CP.16, para. 5; 12/CP.18, paras. 7 and 8; 4/CP.21, para. 10; and 19/CP.21, paras. 2(c), 5, 6, 9, 10 and 11.

³⁷ See <http://napexpo.org/2018>.

³⁸ See <http://napexpo.org/2019>.

³⁹ See documents FCCC/SBI/2018/18 and FCCC/SBI/2019/5.

⁴⁰ See decision 2/CP.19, para. 5.

loss and damage associated with climate change impacts. Specific activities during the reporting period include:

(a) The members of the task force on displacement of the Executive Committee, established in response to a request of the COP, include experts from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, ILO, IOM, the Platform on Disaster Displacement, UNHCR, UNDP and civil society. The task force carried out an extensive stocktake and analysis of displacement and broader issues related to human mobility in the context of climate change. The results are contained in seven comprehensive technical reports developed by IGOs that either led or co-led the technical work.

(b) A stakeholder consultation workshop organized by IOM and the Platform on Disaster Displacement during the reporting period brought together 90 experts and key stakeholders working on human mobility and climate change to take stock of progress in the implementation of the task force's workplan and to inform the development of recommendations on integrated approaches to averting, minimizing and addressing displacement related to the adverse impacts of climate change.⁴¹

(c) IOM and the Platform on Disaster Displacement, assisted by other task force members, organized a side event at COP 24 to showcase the work of the task force and promote a better understanding of the nexus between climate change and displacement.

(d) The Suva expert dialogue was held in May 2018 to explore a wide range of information, inputs and views on ways of facilitating the mobilization and establishment of expertise and the enhancement of support for averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with climate change impacts. Over 200 experts, including from United Nations organizations and IGOs, in disaster risk management, adaptation, development and finance were convened to advance thought leadership on the subject. Experts from UNDRR, UNEP and the World Bank, among others, facilitated round-table discussions on risk reduction and comprehensive risk management for extreme weather events and slow onset events.

56. During the reporting period, the Executive Committee established three thematic expert groups, on comprehensive risk management, non-economic losses and slow onset events. Under the terms of reference of the groups, their members include experts from United Nations organizations and IGOs, similar to the task force on displacement. Those invited to join the comprehensive risk management expert group include experts from IGOs such as UNDRR, the World Bank, the World Food Programme and WMO.

57. All meetings of the Executive Committee are open to observers. The participation of a broad range of expert observers, including from United Nations agencies and IGOs, is welcome. Representatives of ILO, IOM, UNDP, UNDRR, UNHCR, the United Nations Office of Project Services, the World Food Programme, WMO and the United Nations University participated in Executive Committee meetings during the reporting period. Observers actively engage in the meetings, including in both plenary and parallel working groups, and provided suggestions based on their specific expertise and experience. Their active involvement is highly appreciated by the Executive Committee and deemed beneficial to the implementation of its five-year rolling workplan, the advancement of its technical work and the quest for synergy and coherent cooperative action at the international level.

4. National adaptation plans

58. The secretariat's cooperation with various organizations contributes to expanding action and enhancing the provision of support to developing countries for the formulation and implementation of NAPs. Specific activities of the secretariat in the reporting period include:

(a) Facilitating the engagement of a wide range of organizations in helping the LEG to provide technical guidance and support to the LDCs, and collaborating with the GCF secretariat and the secretariat of the GEF and its agencies in designing support measures in response to mandates from the COP;

⁴¹ The recommendations are contained in the annex to decision 10/CP.24.

(b) Through the NAP technical working group, involving various organizations, including those developing supplementary materials to the technical guidelines for the formulation and implementation of NAPs, in developing and harmonizing technical materials on NAPs, including the integrative framework for NAPs and the SDGs;

(c) Encouraging United Nations organizations and specialized agencies, bilateral and multilateral agencies and regional networks and centres to contribute to the organization of NAP Expos. Significant contributions to the organization of the three regional NAP Expos in 2018 and the global NAP Expos in 2018 and 2019 include the design and organization of technical sessions and the provision of funding for the participation of relevant experts from developing countries;

(d) Encouraging United Nations organizations and specialized agencies, bilateral and multilateral agencies and regional networks and centres to contribute information to NAP Central.

59. The secretariat is among the partners of the National Adaptation Plan Global Support Programme,⁴² established in response to an invitation of the COP,⁴³ aimed at providing knowledge and institutional and technical support to the LDCs for advancing their NAPs.

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

60. The NWP⁴⁴ is a knowledge-to-action hub for information on adaptation and resilience that supports enhanced action on climate resilience with four core, interconnected and mutually reinforcing functions:

(a) Engaging a growing network of non-Party stakeholders in sharing their experience and expertise;

(b) Capturing and synthesizing the latest information and knowledge on key adaptation issues;

(c) Fostering science–policy–practice collaboration to close identified knowledge gaps;

(d) Disseminating knowledge and fostering learning to boost adaptation action at all levels.

61. Under the guidance of the SBSTA Chair, relevant and technically robust knowledge support is provided to countries under the NWP, which serves as a strategic technical bridge between constituted bodies under the Convention and non-Party stakeholders. By leveraging the expert contributions of a global network of partners, the NWP amplifies actionable climate adaptation knowledge that responds to needs identified in different workstreams.

62. The secretariat continues to expand the NWP partner network,⁴⁵ which now consists of 378 organizations, including 48 United Nations system organizations and 29 IGOs. The NWP knowledge network comprises a variety of organization types operating at multiple scales with expertise in a wide range of sectors and thematic areas. Such diversity accounts for its agility in responding to the knowledge needs of Parties and constituted bodies under the Convention.

63. In addition, the secretariat is working to strengthen NWP partnerships by increasing opportunities for continuous engagement via online and in-person platforms and activities. NWP partners are encouraged to submit action pledges and commit to contributing to the work under the NWP over the longer term, thereby catalysing follow-up action and linking partners' workplans to the activities under the NWP.

⁴² See <http://www.undp-alm.org/projects/naps-ldcs>.

⁴³ Decision 5/CP.17, para. 23.

⁴⁴ See <https://unfccc.int/nwp>.

⁴⁵ See <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NWPStaging/Pages/NWP-partner-organizations.aspx>.

(a) Collaboration under the Lima Adaptation Knowledge Initiative

64. NWP partner the Global Development Network, in partnership with the secretariat, UNEP, the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development, GIZ India and Oxfam, organized a knowledge-to-action lab⁴⁶ in November 2018, which connected 25 researchers, practitioners and policymakers with knowledge users and climate finance actors to define strategies for linking adaptation research to implementation knowledge and data in closing the subset of six priority knowledge gaps in the Hindu Kush Himalayan region.⁴⁷

65. The International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development, a subregional coordination entity serving the Hindu Kush Himalayan region, is co-organizing events with partners⁴⁸ and formulating action pledges and research proposals that target priority adaptation knowledge gaps in the subregion.

66. At the poster session during the tenth meeting of the research dialogue, held in conjunction with SBSTA 48, UNEP and the secretariat co-presented a poster⁴⁹ on the Lima Knowledge Adaptation Initiative that provided an overview of 85 priority knowledge gaps by region, theme and cluster.

(b) Collaboration in specific thematic areas

67. Under the NWP, various stakeholders, including United Nations entities and IGOs, engage in specific thematic work in response to the adaptation knowledge needs of Parties and those arising from workstreams under the Convention and the Paris Agreement.

68. The 12th NWP Focal Point Forum⁵⁰ was held in conjunction with SBSTA 49 on the topic of economic diversification. Parties, experts and stakeholders, including the World Trade Organization, the African Development Bank and the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, discussed how diversifying economic and livelihood activities from the national to household level can reduce the impacts of climate change and support broader development. Participants shared examples of economic diversification and offered insights into current and future opportunities and lessons learned.

69. Under the NWP, in collaboration with the LEG, a joint technical session was held during the 2019 NAP Expo.⁵¹ The technical session brought together government representatives, partners, including ICIMOD, GIZ and IIED and experts to discuss how to use metrics and indicators to measure progress of the adaptation of vulnerable communities, groups and ecosystems to the impacts of climate change.

70. Furthermore, at an NWP side event⁵² at SBSTA 48, over 50 NWP partners, including key partners the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability (which made an action pledge⁵³ thereafter), Party delegates and other stakeholders discussed the way forward and opportunities for collaboration to close knowledge gaps related to human settlements and adaptation, as identified in a report⁵⁴ synthesizing inputs from Parties and NWP partners.

71. Several partner organizations have submitted action pledges, confirming their intent to collaborate and engage in a number of adaptation and resilience initiatives in support of the objectives of the NWP. The most recent joint action pledge is the Resilience Frontiers

⁴⁶ See <http://www.gdn.int/eoi-climate-adaptation-hindukush-himalayas-and-downstream-countries>.

⁴⁷ See <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/nwpstaging/Pages/LAKI-Get-Involved.aspx>.

⁴⁸ See <http://www.icimod.org/?q=30221>.

⁴⁹ Available at https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/2.32%20LAKI_Poster_Final.pdf.

⁵⁰ See <https://unfccc.int/event/12th-focal-point-forum-of-the-nairobi-work-programme>.

⁵¹ See <http://napexpo.org/2019/sessions/parallel-session-7-2>.

⁵² See <https://unfccc.int/topics/adaptation-and-resilience/workstreams/nairobi-work-programme-nwp/workshops-meetings/closing-knowledge-gaps-on-human-settlements-and-adaptation-the-way-forward-nairobi-work-programme/nwp-side-event-closing-knowledge-gaps-on-human-settlements-and>.

⁵³ See <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/nwpstaging/Pages/item.aspx?ListItemId=28633&ListUrl=/sites/NWPStaging/Lists/MainDB>.

⁵⁴ [FCCC/SBSTA/2018/3](https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/nwpstaging/Pages/item.aspx?ListItemId=28633&ListUrl=/sites/NWPStaging/Lists/MainDB).

Initiative,⁵⁵ an inter-agency effort coordinated by the secretariat, in collaboration with EIT Climate-KIC, FAO, the Global Water Partnership, the International Development Research Centre, UNEP, UNESCO and the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs.⁵⁶ The initiative addresses how to maximize our resilience to climate change beyond 2030 by harnessing the potential of new technologies and emerging social trends towards sustainability.

(c) Calls for submissions, case studies and initiatives and the adaptation knowledge portal

72. United Nations entities and IGOs are engaged in the NWP on an ongoing basis via calls for submissions and the adaptation knowledge portal.⁵⁷ In April 2019, calls for case studies were launched on two topics: initiatives focusing on ecosystems and adaptation planning for vulnerable communities and groups as agents of change;⁵⁸ and methods, tools, data, observations and systems for economic, ecosystem and climate modelling and scenarios.⁵⁹ Meanwhile, the adaptation knowledge portal⁶⁰ provides easy access to over 400 case studies and 300 tools and methods contributed by NWP partner organizations and other entities.

F. Mitigation

1. Nationally determined contributions

73. In accordance with Article 4, paragraph 2, of the Paris Agreement, each Party shall prepare, communicate and maintain successive NDCs that it intends to achieve and pursue domestic mitigation measures with the aim of achieving the objectives of such contributions. Further, in accordance with Article 4, paragraph 9, of the Paris Agreement, Parties shall communicate an NDC every five years.

74. Following the success of the dialogues on intended nationally determined contributions organized by the secretariat prior to the adoption of the Paris Agreement, the secretariat, in cooperation with UNDP, is organizing regional NDC dialogues, established as one of the main forums for exchanging experience, views and lessons learned in relation to NDC preparation, communication and implementation. The initiative has provided a platform for discussing different aspects of NDC preparation, increasing Parties' readiness to engage in NDC implementation, and exchanges between bilateral and multilateral donors. It has also provided a space for representatives of planning, finance and environment ministries to discuss technical and political aspects of NDC preparation, communication and implementation between bilateral and multilateral donors. It has also provided a space for representatives of planning, finance and environment ministries to discuss technical and political aspects of NDC preparation, communication and implementation.

75. Four regional NDC dialogues (for Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia; Asia and the Arab States; the Caribbean Region; and Africa) were held during the reporting period.

76. The secretariat and UNDP will continue the initiative: two more regional NDC dialogues are planned for 2019, for Latin America and the Caribbean in August 2019 and for Asia-Pacific in September 2019.

77. The secretariat plays an active role in the activities of the NDC Partnership, a coalition of governments and international institutions supporting developing countries in implementing their NDCs and achieving the SDGs. In particular, it has been engaged in

⁵⁵ See <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/nwpstaging/Pages/item.aspx?ListItemId=28764&ListUrl=/sites/NWPStaging/Lists/MainDB>.

⁵⁶ Further details on the conference are available at <http://www.resiliencefrontiers.org/>.

⁵⁷ See <http://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NWP/Pages/Search.aspx>.

⁵⁸ See <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NWPStaging/News/Pages/Call-for-case-studies-on-initiatives-focusing-on-ecosystems-and-adaptation-planning-for-vulnerable-communities-and-groups-a.aspx>.

⁵⁹ See <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NWPStaging/News/Pages/Call-for-information-and-knowledge-resources-on-monitoring-tools-and-assessment-methods.aspx>.

⁶⁰ See <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/nwpstaging/Pages/Home.aspx>.

setting up a support unit and developing knowledge platforms, and is hosting parts of the NDC Partnership's support unit at the seat of the secretariat.

2. Nationally appropriate mitigation actions

78. Developing countries are to implement nationally appropriate mitigation actions 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 in 2020.⁶¹

79. During the reporting period, the secretariat, in cooperation with partners,⁶² advanced its support and cooperation activities,⁶³ such as developing technical materials on various aspects of mitigation, including compendiums on GHG baselines and monitoring for the residential, commercial and public buildings and agriculture, forestry and other land-use sectors.

80. Furthermore, the secretariat and partners were involved in communication and outreach activities for disseminating published technical materials to developing countries, including the compendiums on GHG baselines and monitoring for passenger and freight transport⁶⁴ and national-level mitigation actions.⁶⁵

3. International Civil Aviation Organization and International Maritime Organization

81. The secretariat collaborates closely with the secretariats of ICAO and IMO⁶⁶ in addressing emissions from international aviation and maritime transport.

82. It regularly participates as an observer in meetings of the Committee on Aviation Environmental Protection under ICAO and the IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee.

83. The secretariat collaborates with ICAO by participating in the work of its technical expert groups to implement the Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation under ICAO Assembly resolution A39-3,⁶⁷ a global market-based measure scheme to address the annual increase in total carbon dioxide emissions from international civil aviation above the 2020 level, taking into account the special circumstances and respective capabilities of individual countries. In this regard, the secretariat has also contributed to the work of the Committee on Aviation Environmental Protection and its global market-based measure technical task force, specifically the development of MRV, a registry system and quality criteria for emission units.

84. The secretariat has participated in the IMO intersessional working group on the reduction of emissions from ships, supporting the development of the initial IMO strategy on the reduction of GHG emissions from ships and its programme of follow-up actions.

85. ICAO and IMO continually report on their 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 the reports, activities and results.

⁶¹ Decision 1/CP.16, para. 48.

⁶² Including the World Bank, World Resources Institute, FAO, UNDP, International Renewable Energy Agency, GIZ, Torcuato Di Tella Foundation and Swedish Energy Agency.

⁶³ As requested in decision 1/CP.18, para. 23.

⁶⁴ Eichhorst U, Bongardt D, Novikova V, et al. 2018. *Compendium on greenhouse gas baselines and monitoring: passenger and freight transport*. Bonn: UNFCCC. Available at https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/Transport_0.pdf.

⁶⁵ Novikova V, Fuessler J, Molnar M, et al. 2016. *Compendium on greenhouse gas baselines and monitoring: national-level mitigation actions*. Bonn: UNFCCC. Available at http://unfccc.int/files/national_reports/non-annex_i_natcom/cge/application/pdf/final-compendium-mitigation-actions.pdf.

⁶⁶ In accordance with decision 18/CP.5, para. 3.

⁶⁷ Available at http://www.icao.int/Meetings/a39/Documents/Resolutions/a39_res_prov_en.pdf.

4. International Energy Agency

86. The secretariat collaborates closely with IEA on energy and climate change issues. A highlight in 2018 was its input into the preparation of the IEA *World Energy Outlook 2018*.⁶⁸ The secretariat and IEA have regular exchanges and meetings on energy-related issues with a focus on renewable energy and energy efficiency, including on data, projections and policies.

87. The secretariat also cooperates with IEA on an annual basis in the context of data analysis and the review of national GHG inventory submissions from Parties included in Annex I to the Convention. In 2018 the focus was on enhancing cooperation between IEA and the secretariat and renewing the legal cooperation arrangements between them. The secretariat is discussing with IEA how to expand their cooperation with the aim of better supporting the UNFCCC review process and the implementation of the Paris Agreement.

88. In addition, the secretariat has initiated collaborative efforts with IEA to use data on the cost and efficiency of technology in setting country-specific standardized baselines.

5. Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer

89. The secretariat regularly collaborates with the secretariats of the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer, and the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer in the area of ozone-depleting substances with high global warming potential. The secretariats closely coordinate their work in this regard and participate regularly in each other's meetings, exchanging expertise and knowledge, particularly in following up on the adoption of the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol,⁶⁹ and discussing how experience with the CDM could be used in assessing hydrofluorocarbon projects under the Montreal Protocol.

6. World Bank

90. The secretariat has developed fruitful collaboration with the World Bank on the use of the CDM for the results-based financing of mitigation activities. Mechanisms such as the Carbon Initiative for Development and the Pilot Auction Facility for Methane and Climate Change Mitigation use the CDM infrastructure to evaluate the impact of the mitigation activities that they incentivize.

91. The World Bank is the trustee and one of the implementing agencies of the Clean Technology Fund, one of the two Climate Investment Funds. The Clean Technology Fund conducts GHG accounting and reporting on its portfolio, applying the methodologies of the respective implementing agencies of the Fund (Asian Development Bank, African Development Bank, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Inter-American Development Bank and International Finance Corporation). Therefore, the Fund has experience of how GHG accounting works if different methodologies (that follow agreed common principles) are applied. The World Bank is seeking to report the aggregate ex ante net GHG emissions from its lending projects in key sectors, and is therefore engaging with the secretariat to conduct a review of its ex ante GHG accounting methodologies (for energy, forestry, agriculture, transport, water and urban) and to obtain feedback on their robustness and usability and on opportunities for harmonizing such methodologies across the implementing agencies.

7. Technical working group of international financial institutions

92. In 2012, international financial institutions, including multilateral development banks, formed a technical working group to harmonize approaches to GHG accounting. Currently with over 30 members, the group has made critical progress in recent years in developing harmonized methodologies for the renewable energy, energy efficiency and transport sectors. The secretariat participates in the meetings of the working group and provides input on

⁶⁸ IEA. 2018. *World Energy Outlook 2018*. Paris: OECD/IEA. Available at <https://www.iea.org/weo2018/>.

⁶⁹ See http://conf.montreal-protocol.org/meeting/mop/mop-28/final-report/English/Kigali_Amendment-English.pdf.

technical issues, identifying priority areas for enhancing collaboration, broadening sectoral coverage and measures to accelerate the pace of development of the harmonized standards, and building on the work of the participating international financial institutions and the secretariat on methodological issues. The secretariat has been invited to facilitate and provide technical support on GHG accounting to the working group in the future.

8. Clean development mechanism and Nairobi Framework Partnership

93. The Nairobi Framework Partnership⁷⁰ began as a collaboration between the secretariat and a number of agencies, including UNDP, UNEP, the UNEP DTU Partnership, the World Bank, the African Development Bank, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the International Emissions Trading Association and the Asian Development Bank. The Carbon Markets and Investment Association joined the Partnership as a cooperating organization. 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. Since the adoption of the Paris Agreement, Nairobi Framework partners have expanded the scope of the Partnership to include providing support to developing countries for the preparation and implementation of their NDCs. This was focusing on carbon finance, technology transfer and capacity-building, and for mitigation by promoting an enabling environment at the national level for regulatory mechanisms and carbon markets, including the CDM.

94. Nairobi Framework partners, in cooperation with other organizations, support the organization of regional climate weeks and events. During the reporting period, the 11th Africa Climate Week was held in March 2019 and gathered more than 3,000 participants from the public and private sector; under the Nairobi Framework Partnership and in collaboration with the Development Bank of Latin America, the Inter-American Development Bank and the Latin American Energy Organization, the Latin America and Caribbean Climate Week was held in September 2018; and the Asia-Pacific Climate Week was held in July 2018 in collaboration with UNDP, the UNEP DTU Partnership, the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank.

95. In addition, the secretariat delivered, through the RCCs and their partnerships, a series of capacity-building and engagement events involving approximately 2,500 stakeholders.

96. Through the RCCs, the secretariat continues to provide support directly to project participants and developers for establishing new CDM projects and standardized baselines. The RCCs are operated in respective partnership with the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (Bangkok), Windward Islands Research and Education Foundation – St. George’s University (St. George’s), the West African Development Bank (Lomé), the East African Development Bank (Kampala) and the Development Bank of Latin America (Panama). At the seventh session of the World Government Summit, in February 2019, Saeed Mohammed Al Tayer, Chairman of the World Green Economy Organization, signed an MOU with James Grabert, Director of the UNFCCC Sustainable Development Mechanisms Programme, to establish an RCC in Dubai with a view to enhancing activities in the Middle East and North Africa. This collaboration will enable support to be provided to governments and other stakeholders in the Middle East and North Africa and South Asia regions for stepping up their climate action and ambition and implementing their NDCs under the Paris Agreement.

G. Transparency

1. Technical support and advice

97. During the reporting period, the CGE, with the support of the secretariat and in collaboration with United Nations and other international agencies,⁷¹ organized four regional

⁷⁰ See <https://unfccc.int/process/the-paris-agreement/nairobi-framework-partnership>.

⁷¹ The Alliance for Global Water Adaptation, Deltares, FAO, the National Adaptation Plan Global Support Programme, the WHO Regional Office for Africa, the IPCC and the Development Bank of Latin America.

hands-on training workshops and webinars on different subjects covered in NCs and BURs: three on identifying adaptation actions and reporting them in NCs,⁷² and one on preparing and reporting information on mitigation actions in NCs and BURs.⁷³

98. The workshops were aimed at enhancing the capacity of national experts from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention to use reporting guidelines for preparing their NCs and BURs. A total of 162 national experts from 99 developing countries were trained.

99. Further, the CGE, with the assistance of the secretariat and in collaboration with other agencies,⁷⁴ organized 11 webinars, attended by 488 experts from around the world, which covered the following broad areas:

- (a) Institutional arrangements;
- (b) Showcasing climate mitigation and adaptation action in NCs and BURs;
- (c) Methodologies used and tools available for mitigation assessment, adaptation and vulnerability assessment, and preparing national GHG inventories;
- (d) Lessons learned and best practices in relation to developing countries preparing NCs and BURs.

100. The CGE collaborated with the secretariat and the UNDP–UNEP Global Support Programme for Preparation of National Communications and Biennial Update Reports by non-Annex I Parties on the translation into Portuguese of the training materials on the *2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories*.

101. The secretariat is also collaborating with the above-mentioned Global Support Programme to develop a workbook for national GHG inventories, aimed at helping countries with limited technical capacity to use the *2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories* by providing concise instructions and essential information on practical procedures.

102. In addition, the secretariat and the IPCC co-organized two regional workshops⁷⁵ to support Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention in preparing their national GHG inventories using, inter alia, the *2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories*, including the inventory software, and available tools for establishing suitable national institutional arrangements to support the regular submission of national GHG inventories. The CGE contributed resource persons to the workshops.

2. Strategic engagement

103. The Initiative for Climate Action Transparency is a multi-stakeholder trust fund managed by the United Nations Office for Project Services. It offers specific guidance tools and in-country capacity-building programmes to support developing countries in strengthening the implementation of transparency and MRV provisions. The secretariat hosts the coordinator of the Initiative and helps to ensure the alignment of activities related to MRV and transparency with the Convention and the Paris Agreement. It participates in the annual strategic meetings of the Initiative's steering committee and advisory committee, which guide and facilitate the planning and implementation of the Initiative's work programme.⁷⁶

3. Methodological issues

(a) Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

104. The secretariat supported the IPCC task force on national GHG inventories in elaborating the *2019 Refinement to the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas*

⁷² See document FCCC/SBI/2018/21.

⁷³ See document FCCC/SBI/2018/14.

⁷⁴ The Adaptation Centre for Climate Change in Korea, FAO, GIZ, the National Adaptation Centre in Hungary, UNDP, WHO and Winrock International.

⁷⁵ See document FCCC/SBI/2017/INF.9.

⁷⁶ See <https://climateactiontransparency.org/transparency-as-a-key-to-ambitious-climate-action-icat-strategy-workshop-in-rome-italy>.

Inventories. It followed the scientific and technical discussions by participating in expert meetings and leading author meetings and provided input on the draft chapters of the guidelines. In addition, it has supported the organization of a special event thereon to be held at SB 50.

(b) European Environment Agency

105. Cooperation between the secretariat and the European Environment Agency on transparency matters focuses on methodological work to support the reporting and review of climate change policies and the assessment of progress towards targets. At expert meetings hosted by the European Environment Agency,⁷⁷ the secretariat has contributed to discussions on the reporting and evaluation of policies and measures and the effectiveness of climate and energy reporting and communication after 2020. Evaluating the impacts of policies and measures is one of the critical challenges faced by all Parties reporting under the UNFCCC. Since reporting under the EU is substantively similar, sharing lessons learned and best practices helps to improve the efficiency of MRV under the UNFCCC.

(c) World Health Organization

106. A project to promote MRV of action in the assessment and reporting of climate change and health impacts has been rolled out under an MOU between the secretariat and WHO. Its objectives are to help developing countries to:

- (a) Effectively implement MRV arrangements for preparing NCs and BURs, including health and climate change assessments using the latest methodologies developed by WHO;
- (b) Update their country health profiles in collaboration with WHO;
- (c) Understand their needs in relation to integrating health impacts into their climate action.

107. WHO contributed resource persons to two regional hands-on training workshops and webinar organized by the CGE.

4. United Nations Statistics Division

108. The secretariat is the official depository for climate change data. As such, it cooperates with key international organizations in the area of data exchange and regularly updates the data stored on the UNdata portal⁷⁸ for dissemination within and outside the United Nations system. The secretariat is supporting the Inter-agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators and UN DESA in developing a global indicator framework for measuring and reporting progress in the implementation of the SDGs, and provides data for the preparation of the Secretary-General's annual reports on the implementation of the SDGs.

109. The secretariat was involved in preparing the report of the Secretary-General on climate change statistics⁷⁹ and continues its long-standing cooperation with UNSD. At the forty-ninth session of the Statistical Commission, Parties requested UNSD and the secretariat to strengthen the link between statistics and policy, for example by undertaking joint initiatives to develop climate change statistics and indicators, encouraging joint capacity-building efforts and training with other partners, and exploring ways to encourage national statistical offices to be more involved in preparing data for submission to the secretariat to support the implementation of the Paris Agreement. Parties also reiterated the importance of enhancing collaboration between national statistical offices and the national authorities responsible for reporting climate change related information to the secretariat.

110. In response, UNSD conducted a workshop on environment statistics and information for sustainable development in the Arab region in November 2018 as part of a series of meetings bringing together the community of practitioners in environmental data and

⁷⁷ See <https://forum.eionet.europa.eu/nrc-energy/library/eionet-workshops/2018-joint-nrc-eionet-meetings-energy-and-climate-change-mitigation>.

⁷⁸ <http://data.un.org/>.

⁷⁹ Economic and Social Council report E/CN.3/2018/14.

statistics, including representatives of United Nations and other organizations and government representatives from almost all countries in the Arab region. The workshop stimulated discussion and cooperation on data matters and data exchange and dissemination. In particular, it strengthened the link between UNSD, FAO, UNEP and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for West Asia and showcased the role of the secretariat as the worldwide authoritative source of climate change data. Moreover, it provided government representatives with extremely useful first-hand information on environmental statistics, in particular on environmental SDG indicators and climate change statistics.

5. Enabling environment

111. The secretariat, in collaboration with the UNDP-UNEP Global Support Programme referred to in paragraph 100 above, supports an informal network of entities known as the Group of Friends on MRV and Transparency. The Group consists of around 60 members from 12 international organizations and 14 bilateral agencies involved in supporting developing countries in implementing the existing MRV arrangements under the Convention and preparing to participate in the enhanced transparency framework under the Paris Agreement.

(a) Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency

112. The Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency was established by decision 1/CP.21 to strengthen the institutional and technical capacity of developing countries to meet the enhanced transparency requirements under the Paris Agreement. The initiative became operational in 2016 and some developing countries have submitted project proposals for accessing funds under it, in particular for strengthening their institutional and technical capacity to implement the existing MRV arrangements and the enhanced transparency framework.

(b) Initiative for promoting transparency in small island developing States

113. The Caribbean Cooperative MRV Hub was established in August 2018 to enable English-speaking Caribbean Community countries to efficiently prepare GHG inventories, conduct mitigation assessments and track the progress of their NDCs. The UNFCCC and its partner, the Windward Islands Research and Education Foundation, host the MRV Hub at the RCC office in St George's, Grenada. The Hub is funded by the Government of Germany and supported by other partners from the Greenhouse Gas Management Institute and the UNDP-UNEP Global Support Programme. It is a sustainable and country-driven partnership that enables Caribbean countries to cooperate on addressing the technical challenges underlying climate change mitigation. The Hub is expected to foster regional technical excellence and ensure stronger policy-relevant carbon accounting.

114. Work is under way to establish an East and Southern African regional South–South network on MRV and transparency. The aim is to establish and maintain a country-driven regional MRV hub to provide support for preparing and submitting NCs and BURs, establishing and maintaining effective and sustainable institutional arrangements and facilitating proper tracking of NDCs in line with the enhanced transparency framework under the Paris Agreement.

115. Through RCC Lomé, the secretariat supports the South–South MRV network on NCs and BURs, the West African Alliance for Carbon Markets and Climate Finance and the Collaborative Instruments for Ambitious Climate Action initiative.

116. In November 2018, RCC Panama, in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment of Panama, held the first national workshop on the implementation of a voluntary national registry of GHG emissions and mitigation actions under the Collaborative Instruments for Ambitious Climate Action initiative, which is being implemented through the RCCs to support countries in identifying and using carbon-pricing instruments.

6. Koronivia joint work on agriculture

117. The secretariat continues its long-term collaboration with FAO, providing joint technical support and expertise to countries on matters relating to the Koronivia joint work

on agriculture. FAO, as an implementing agency, makes a technical contribution to the UNFCCC policymaking process on the basis of its experience of working directly with member countries. The secretariat contributes to the work of FAO on climate change by providing guidance on the UNFCCC policymaking process and collaborating at the technical level, including by sharing data and information submitted by Parties. Such collaboration will facilitate the implementation of the enhanced transparency framework under the Paris Agreement.

118. The secretariat collaborates with other organizations to enhance countries' capacity to report on their agricultural activities. It is a member of the NDC Partnership technical working group on agriculture, food security and land use, and is also represented in the advisory group on guidance for activity data compilation in advanced livestock GHG inventories established by the Global Research Alliance on Agricultural Greenhouse Gases.

7. REDD-plus

119. The secretariat contributes in a number of ways to enhancing the coordination and consistency of MRV for REDD-plus. It is part of the FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment Advisory Group, whose aim is to ensure coherent and consistent reporting by countries under international processes, particularly of forest-related data and information reported to the UNFCCC. The secretariat is an observer on the Policy Board of the United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries and collaborates closely with its partner agencies. Furthermore, the secretariat follows, as an observer, the work related to REDD-plus of the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility of the World Bank and the GCF. The secretariat is represented in the methods and guidance document advisory group of the Global Forest Observation Initiative.

120. The secretariat participates in and contributes to forest-related activities as a member of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests.⁸⁰ In particular, it contributed to a joint initiative of the Partnership to develop a global core set of forest-related indicators aiming to simplify and harmonize concepts and terminology related to forest reporting and monitoring, streamline reporting and reduce the reporting burden on countries by prioritizing data collection on topics identified by various high-level forums, such as the UNFCCC, and focusing country efforts towards policy of highest importance.

121. The secretariat supports the activities of all Parties by maintaining the REDD-plus web platform,⁸¹ containing information from Parties, relevant organizations and stakeholders.⁸² The platform encompasses the Lima REDD-plus information hub, with information on REDD-plus results, including those for which payments were received.⁸³

H. Response measures

122. The secretariat and ILO collaborate on matters related to just transition of the workforce and the creation of decent work, one of the areas of work of the improved forum on the impact of the implementation of response measures.⁸⁴ In October 2018, the secretariat and ILO held a nexus dialogue "Greening with Jobs: A Just Transition to Sustainability",⁸⁵ and in September 2018 an awareness-raising workshop for the African region on maximizing the positive and minimizing the negative impacts of climate change responses measures.

123. ILO planned the workshop agenda, and delivered presentations. ILO also provided financial support for climate change negotiators on response measures to participate in a

⁸⁰ The other partner organizations are the Center for International Forestry Research, the 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 secretariat, UNDP, UNEP, the United Nations Forum on Forests, the World Agroforestry Centre and the World Bank.

⁸¹ See <http://redd.unfccc.int>.

⁸² See decision 2/CP.13, para. 10.

⁸³ See decision 9/CP.19, para. 19.

⁸⁴ See the annex to decision 7/CMA.1.

⁸⁵ See https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/green-jobs/news/WCMS_648804/lang--en/index.htm.

training session in April 2018 on promoting a just transition to low-carbon and climate-resilient development organized by the ILO International Training Centre.

124. The secretariat and ILO contribute regularly to each other's work that has common objectives, including capacity-building and sharing information and expertise on just transition of the workforce and the creation of decent work, and economic diversification.

I. Climate knowledge: science, research and systematic observation

125. The secretariat recognizes the importance of the scientific community and its efforts to facilitate understanding of the state of the climate, and future pathways, options and transformative solutions for successfully implementing the Paris Agreement. In the reporting period, the secretariat collaborated with many United Nations, international and regional scientific programmes, agencies and organizations to strengthen the science–policy interface under the Convention.⁸⁶

126. The secretariat collaborated with the IPCC, the primary provider of scientific information to the UNFCCC, throughout the reporting period. The secretariat held a joint SBSTA–IPCC event at COP 24⁸⁷ on the IPCC Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5 °C,⁸⁸ published in October 2018.

127. Other IPCC products in preparation during the sixth assessment cycle include Special Reports on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate⁸⁹ and on Climate Change and Land⁹⁰ and the *2019 Refinement to the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories*.⁹¹ The secretariat closely follows the work of the IPCC and participates in its meetings as an observer.

128. At COP 24, WMO made a statement on the state of the climate to the SBSTA⁹² and provided the WMO Greenhouse Gas Bulletin⁹³ (as mandated under the SBSTA).⁹⁴

129. The secretariat liaises with the Global Climate Observing System secretariat and the wider observation community, including the Working Group on Climate jointly set up by the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites and the Coordination Group for Meteorological Satellites to support implementation of the GCOS 2016 Implementation Plan,⁹⁵ such as in the development of climate indicators and the conduct of regional workshops, and to support the implementation of the architecture for climate monitoring from space.⁹⁶ The Global Climate Observing System, Copernicus, the WMO Integrated Global Observing System and the Global Framework for Climate Services, in collaboration with the UNFCCC secretariat, ran a joint workshop on improving the value chain, from observation to climate services, to support climate policy, adaptation and mitigation in East Africa in 2018, the outcomes of which include a set of key messages and a regional plan to be presented to the SBSTA in 2019.

⁸⁶ See <https://unfccc.int/topics/science/resources/partners-and-relevant-organizations-0>.

⁸⁷ See <https://unfccc.int/event/sbsta-ipcc-special-event-unpacking-the-new-scientific-knowledge-and-key-findings-in-the-ipcc-special>.

⁸⁸ IPCC. 2018. *Global Warming of 1.5 °C: An IPCC Special Report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development, and efforts to eradicate poverty*. Geneva: IPCC. Available at <http://ipcc.ch/report/sr15/>.

⁸⁹ See <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/srocc>.

⁹⁰ See <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/srcc1>.

⁹¹ See <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/2019-refinement-to-the-2006-ipcc-guidelines-for-national-greenhouse-gas-inventories>.

⁹² See <https://public.wmo.int/en/our-mandate/climate/wmo-statement-state-of-global-climate> and <https://public.wmo.int/en/media/news/climate-science-and-action-showcased-cop24>.

⁹³ Available at <https://public.wmo.int/en/resources/library/wmo-greenhouse-gas-bulletin>.

⁹⁴ FCCC/SBSTA/2016/4, para. 43.

⁹⁵ See <https://gcos.wmo.int/en/gcos-implementation-plan>.

⁹⁶ See http://ceos.org/document_management/Meetings/COP-21/COP-21_2015/Strategy-Towards-Architecture-for-Climate-Monitoring-from-Space.pdf.

130. The tenth meeting of the research dialogue,⁹⁷ at SBSTA 48, included a discussion with 13 panellists at the science–policy interface on supporting adaptation and mitigation action under the Paris Agreement on the basis of the best available science, with 40 posters. The themes of the dialogue included science for understanding, science for action and science on renewable energy and the carbon cycle. It was identified that fundamental science and research are still needed, and that communication at the science–policy interface and exploring the best ways to meet that need are equally important and should be supported by Parties.⁹⁸

131. The annual meeting of the SBSTA–IPCC Joint Working Group was held in December 2018 to ensure coordination and exchange information on their mutually relevant activities. The Joint Working Group is composed of the Chairs of the SBSTA and the IPCC, other presiding officers of Convention bodies and the IPCC, and members of the UNFCCC and IPCC secretariats. Members of UNFCCC constituted bodies were also invited to the meeting.

132. The secretariat is stepping up its collaboration with WMO through an MOU and five collaboration projects. In 2018, the outcomes from the projects: enabled the WMO statement on the state of the climate to be widely recognized and utilized in the UNFCCC process and to underline key climate indicators; integrated the Global Framework for Climate Services with the requirements of the Paris Agreement to support adaptation ambition; and highlighted the WMO Integrated Global Greenhouse Gas Information System⁹⁹ as a framework for developing and standardizing the observation-based tools needed to support mitigation ambition.

133. The ocean plays an important role in the climate and hence climate change, mitigation and adaptation. The secretariat has been working with stakeholders in ocean-related observation and research and the wider ocean community to support collaboration across communities of practice and promote increased ambition. To help increase collaboration with the ocean community, the secretariat became a member of UN-Oceans in 2018.¹⁰⁰

134. At the third part of its first session, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement adopted the modalities and sources of input for the global stocktake under the Paris Agreement.¹⁰¹ This outcome laid the groundwork for, among other things, extensive collaboration with other IGOs through their participation in activities related to the global stocktake. To facilitate effective collaboration with the IPCC on the global stocktake, the secretariat has participated in meetings of, and made a written submission in January 2019 to, the IPCC task group¹⁰² responsible for identifying options for organizing and scheduling the future work of the IPCC in the light of the global stocktake starting from the seventh assessment cycle. The UNFCCC secretariat also summarized the outcomes of the 2018 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Katowice relevant for the work of IPCC and presented them to the IPCC Plenary held in Kyoto.

J. Gender

135. The secretariat is strengthening its collaboration with IGOs in order to mainstream gender considerations in various climate change thematic areas, raise awareness of the importance of gender considerations and celebrate women’s leadership in climate action. The secretariat is an active participant in relation to the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women and the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality. Activities focused on gender and climate change that involved the secretariat during the reporting period include:

⁹⁷ See <https://unfccc.int/event/tenth-meeting-of-the-research-dialogue-rd-10>.

⁹⁸ See the report at <https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/RD10%20Summary%20report.pdf>.

⁹⁹ See <https://public.wmo.int/en/resources/bulletin/integrated-global-greenhouse-gas-information-system-ig3is>.

¹⁰⁰ See <http://www.unoceans.org>.

¹⁰¹ Decision 19/CMA.1.

¹⁰² See <https://archive.ipcc.ch/organization/gst.shtml>.

(a) The workshop held at SBI 48 on the differentiated impacts of climate change on women and men, gender-responsive climate policy and action, and progress in enhancing gender balance in national delegations, which included technical contributions from the Center for International Forestry Research, FAO, IPU, the International Union for Conservation of Nature, UNDP and UN Women;¹⁰³

(b) The Gender Day held at COP 24, which highlighted actions supporting the implementation of the UNFCCC gender action plan¹⁰⁴ and provided an opportunity for Parties and observers to participate in the Gender Day action hub and marketplace. A number of IGOs, including UN Women and UNDP, collaborated with the secretariat in organizing the Gender Day and contributed to the events;

(c) The secretariat's engagement with the GEF Gender Partnership, an inter-agency working group on gender, including in the finalization and launch of an online training programme on gender and the environment¹⁰⁵ in collaboration with, among others, UNITAR, the GEF Small Grants Programme, FAO, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, UNEP and the secretariats of the GEF and other multilateral environmental agreements;

(d) The secretariat's provision of technical support for events organized by IGOs, including an event with FAO on gender-responsive climate change related policy, planning and management in the agriculture sector during the forty-fifth session of the Committee on World Security, and with UNDP on integrating gender considerations into the NDC dialogues referred to in paragraph 74 above.

136. RCC Kampala participated in the Women in Energy awards and conference series in March 2019, which was organized by Epicenter Africa and geared towards facilitating the development of an authentic community of women to influence the landscape of the energy sector in Africa.

137. A representative of RCC Panama and a high-level representative of UNEP participated in the fourth Amazon Regional Summit in June 2018, involving Amazonian indigenous peoples and national organizations from nine countries.¹⁰⁶ The Summit included a dialogue with various social, State and private entities. The high-level presentation delivered by a representative of the secretariat covered topics related to the Paris Agreement, in particular climate ambition in connection with indigenous peoples and the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform, and matters related to adaptation and indigenous women, NDCs and the Talanoa Dialogue.

K. Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform

138. COP 21 established the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform. The Platform's overall purpose is to strengthen the knowledge, technologies, practices, and efforts of local communities and indigenous peoples related to addressing and responding to climate change, to facilitate the exchange of experience and the sharing of best practices and lessons learned on mitigation and adaptation in a holistic and integrated manner and to enhance the engagement of local communities and indigenous peoples in the UNFCCC process.¹⁰⁷

139. An incremental approach is taken to ensure its effective operationalization, as per the mandate from COP 22.¹⁰⁸ The platform's functions provide good opportunities for

¹⁰³ See <https://unfccc.int/topics/gender/events-meetings/workshops-dialogues/workshop-on-gender-and-climate-change-may-2018#eq-4>.

¹⁰⁴ See decision 3/CP.23.

¹⁰⁵ See <https://unccelearn.org/course/view.php?id=39&page=overview>.

¹⁰⁶ Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, France (French Guiana), Guyana, Peru, Suriname and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

¹⁰⁷ Decision 1/CP.21, para. 135.

¹⁰⁸ See FCCC/CP/2016/10, para. 167.

collaboration. They relate to knowledge, capacity for engagement and climate change policies and actions.¹⁰⁹

140. Considerable cooperation has taken place under the Platform during and since SB 48. A multi-stakeholder workshop, the first activity under the Platform, held in May 2018, focused on implementing the functions of the Platform.¹¹⁰ In accordance with decision 2/CP.23, paragraph 9, the workshop was co-designed and co-moderated by the Chair of the SBSTA and a representative of local communities and indigenous peoples organizations. The one-day multi-stakeholder workshop brought together more than 100 participants, including representatives of UNESCO, the International Union for Conservation of Nature and the International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Climate Change.¹¹¹

141. Yet another milestone was COP 24 establishing a Facilitative Working Group to facilitate the implementation of the Platform's functions.¹¹² COP 24 also requested the secretariat to develop, as part of the incremental approach, activities related to the implementation of the functions of the Platform.¹¹³ It invited Parties, observers and other stakeholders to submit their views on possible activities via the submission portal by 28 February 2019. As at the date of this report, the secretariat had received a total of 14 submissions, including from United Nations entities and other IGOs.

142. The secretariat has participated in relevant activities organized by United Nations entities and intergovernmental agencies, such as the 2018 FAO high-level expert seminar on indigenous food systems, and the 4th global meeting of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum, organized by the International Fund for Agriculture Development. The secretariat, FAO and ILO also co-organized a side event held at the eighteenth session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

143. Many United Nations entities, convention secretariats and IGOs have expressed their commitment to the issues of local communities and indigenous peoples. They have also expressed their willingness to foster collaborative opportunities and contribute to enhancing engagement with local communities and indigenous peoples in processes that affect their lives.

144. The secretariat, through its work under the Platform, serves as a member of the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Issues, which supports and promotes the mandate of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues within the United Nations system. The secretariat provided input into the 2019 working paper on the knowledge of indigenous peoples and policies for sustainable development. Most recently, the secretariat co-hosted two side events, and made a statement, at the eighteenth session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

L. 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

145. The secretariat supports various activities for implementing the SDGs, with a focus on SDG 13, "Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts", and is also fully engaged in activities and with relevant agencies for the achievement of SDGs 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 11 and 15.¹¹⁴

146. SBSTA 45 and 46 requested the secretariat, in implementing its activities under the NWP, to explore opportunities for strengthening linkages between its activities and the SDGs.¹¹⁵ In response, the activities detailed in the table below took place under the NWP:

¹⁰⁹ See <https://unfccc.int/10475#eq-2>.

¹¹⁰ See <https://unfccc.int/node/66003>.

¹¹¹ Full list of participants available at https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/20181108_LCIPP%20Workshop%20Report_final%20version.pdf.

¹¹² Decision 2/CP.24.

¹¹³ Decision 2/CP.24, para. 23.

¹¹⁴ See <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment>.

¹¹⁵ FCCC/SBSTA/2016/4, para. 19, and FCCC/SBSTA/2017/4, para. 17.

Overview of Nairobi work programme activities towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals

| <i>Goal</i> | <i>Target</i> | <i>NWP activities</i> |
|---|---|---|
| Goal 2: zero hunger | Target 2.4: by 2030, ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems and that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change | The secretariat hosted a joint technical session with the LEG to assess the adaptation progress of vulnerable groups, communities and ecosystems. |
| Goal 5: gender equality | Target 5.5: ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life | Forty NWP partner organizations are working on gender-related climate adaptation. |
| Goal 6: clean water and sanitation | Target 6.A: by 2030, expand international cooperation and capacity-building support to developing countries in water- and sanitation-related activities and programmes | The adaptation knowledge portal has a dedicated thematic page on water resources. Examples of initiatives in that area include a groundbreaking project jointly launched by the University of Michigan School for Environment and Sustainability and the University of Seychelles James Michel Blue Economy Research Institute to close the priority knowledge gaps identified in Indian Ocean island countries. ^a |
| Goal 9: industry, innovation and infrastructure | Target 9.A: facilitate sustainable and resilient infrastructure development in developing countries through enhanced financial, technological and technical support to African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States | See Goal 6 above. |
| Goal 11: sustainable cities and communities | Target 11.B: by 2020, substantially increase the number of cities and human settlements adopting and implementing integrated policies and plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation and adaptation to climate change | Over 50 NWP partners, including the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability, Party delegates and other stakeholders discussed ways forward and opportunities for collaboration to close knowledge gaps related to human settlements and adaptation identified in a synthesis report ^b co-prepared with Parties and NWP partners at an NWP side event ^c at SBSTA 48. The outcomes of the discussion include an action pledge ^d by ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability. The adaptation knowledge portal continues to serve as a hub for knowledge on sustainable and resilient cities. |

^a See Xie D, Rice H, Rolf B, et al. 2019. *Evaluating the Impacts of Sea Level Rise and Storm Surges on Seychelles' Critical Infrastructure*. Available at <https://deepblue.lib.umich.edu/handle/2027.42/148836>. The key outputs of the project are available at <https://arcg.is/1rW1uD>. See also <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/nwpstaging/Pages/LAKI-IOI.aspx>.

^b FCCC/SBSTA/2018/3.

^c See <https://unfccc.int/human-settlements-and-adaptation-NWP-side-event>.

^d See <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/nwpstaging/Pages/item.aspx?ListItemId=28633&ListUrl=/sites/NWPStaging/Lists/MainDB>.

147. The Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform, given its overall purposes¹¹⁶ and functions,¹¹⁷ and the principles to be taken into account,¹¹⁸ can help to advance achievement of the SDGs. The Platform is particularly relevant to SDG 13. Indeed, by facilitating knowledge-sharing and capacity-building, the platform is addressing target

¹¹⁶ See decision 2/CP.23, para. 5.

¹¹⁷ See decision 2/CP.23, para. 6.

¹¹⁸ See decision 2/CP.23, para. 8.

13.B, namely promoting mechanisms for building capacity for effective climate change related planning and management for local and marginalized communities.

148. As an observer agency, the secretariat is supporting the work of the Inter-agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators¹¹⁹ to develop the global indicator framework for monitoring and reporting progress towards achieving the SDGs. The secretariat is the custodian agency for various indicators under SDG 13 and works in close collaboration with FAO, IEA, OECD, UN DESA, UNDRR, UNEP, UNESCO, WMO and WHO to support the expert group, prepare workplans for developing indicators and provide input into the Secretary-General's annual SDG reports.¹²⁰

149. The secretariat will contribute to the in-depth review of SDG 13 at the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development under the auspices of the United Nations Economic and Social Council, to be held in July 2019,¹²¹ in collaboration with UN DESA, UNSD, WMO, UNDRR and other United Nations organizations. In preparation for this, the secretariat partnered with UN DESA in the organization of the climate and SDG synergies conference¹²² held from 1 to 3 April 2019. In cooperation with the International Renewable Energy Agency, IEA, the European Commission, UNEP and WMO, the secretariat contributed to an updated version of the SDG 7 policy brief on interlinkages between energy and climate change. The development of the brief was coordinated under the aegis of the ad hoc informal multi-stakeholder technical group of advisers on SDG 7.

150. The secretariat is supporting work related to the SDGs through the RCCs, in particular by participating in the regional meeting organized by United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Asia-Pacific Regional Coordination Mechanism, which aims to strengthen the policy and programme coherence of the United Nations at the regional level, foster and enhance inter-agency collaboration and provide a platform for exchanging views on major strategic developments and challenges facing the region. Additionally, the RCCs supported the regional forum held by Sustainable Energy for All and UNIDO at the East African Centre of Excellence for Renewable Energy and Efficiency in March 2018, focusing on SDGs 7 and 13 as well as the promotion of green employment as part of SDG 8 in December 2018.

151. The Regional Coordination Mechanism operates through six thematic working groups focusing on specific operational programmatic issues that could benefit from improved regional cooperation. RCC staff have participated in three of the thematic working groups related to climate change issues. This forum provides an opportunity to partake in the strategic planning of interventions with other United Nations agencies. Through the technical working groups, RCC Bangkok is participating in the annual SDG progress reviews and regional conferences at the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and making contributions to the SDG help desk knowledge platform. The RCC is linking regional activities to the substantive programmes of the secretariat (e.g. regional conferences) and technical working group work programmes. Other RCCs are replicating this practice in other regions, while also participating in United Nations inter-agency committees and task forces.

M. Global Climate Action Agenda

152. Decision 1/CP.21 is the foundation for the work on global climate action in the formal UNFCCC process and includes several mandates, building on the Lima–Paris Action Agenda, for engaging Parties and non-Party stakeholders in scaling up climate action.

153. The serving and incoming Presidents of the COP appoint high-level champions, namely Inia Seruiratu (Fiji) and Tomasz Chruszczow (Poland) in 2018. The secretariat has reinforced the interim team to support their work and the work on global climate action.

¹¹⁹ See <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/iaeg-sdgs>.

¹²⁰ See <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2018/>.

¹²¹ See <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2019#preparation>.

¹²² See <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/climate-sdgs-synergies2019>.

154. The high-level champions mobilize non-Party stakeholders within the framework of the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action,¹²³ which promotes the engagement of non-Party stakeholders, in particular with United Nations agencies and IGOs.

155. In 2018, work was conducted under the Marrakech Partnership to promote and enhance climate action across the non-Party stakeholder community. In 2019, besides the thematic areas of energy, transport, industry, land use, human settlements, oceans and coastal zones, forests and water, focus areas (finance, resilience, and SDGs 8, 9 and 12) and thematic interlinkages (oceans and coastal zones and transport, and energy, land use and water) are being considered.

156. The high-level champions' work and non-Party stakeholders' efforts to further global climate action were highlighted in the publications *Yearbook of Global Climate Action 2018*¹²⁴ and *Climate Action Now: Summary for Policymakers 2018*¹²⁵ and at global climate action events at COP 24, including a high-level event chaired by the President of COP 24 and attended by the Secretary-General, among other prominent speakers. Many United Nations and other international organizations and the Executive Office of the Secretary-General played an active role in this global climate action work.

157. The Marrakech Partnership and the high-level champions also played a key role in the Talanoa Dialogue. The process brought together more than 90 non-Party stakeholders for round tables on the margins of SB 48 and around 40 for the ministerial round tables at COP 24. Stakeholders represented United Nations entities, IGOs, the private sector, local and subnational governments and civil society, among others.

158. As part of an overarching effort to broaden participation in the Marrakech Partnership, engagement activities were undertaken at the three regional climate weeks, where regional and international stakeholders organized and participated in dialogues on ways to enhance and implement NDCs in regional contexts. United Nations entities and IGOs supported the Marrakech Partnership in organizing some of these focused regional climate action events throughout the year.

159. The September 2018 Global Climate Action Summit secured over 5,000 new commitments from stakeholders. The UNFCCC Executive Secretary, in her capacity as one of the co-chairs of the Summit, supported the coordination of the core United Nations Communications Group, which includes the Department of Public Information, UNEP, the GEF, the United Nations Foundation, the World Bank and the UNFCCC, for establishing and amplifying outcomes and aligning messaging across the United Nations system. The secretariat helped the Fijian Presidency and the Government of California to convene a leadership Talanoa Dialogue, which included the United Nations Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth. The Executive Secretary also took note of the final outcomes and call to action of the Summit on behalf of the United Nations at the closing plenary.

160. The Non-State Actor Zone for Climate Action portal, which consolidates and raises the profile of climate action taken by cities, regions, companies and civil society organizations and for which the United Nations Global Compact and UNEP act as data providers, was relaunched at the Global Climate Action Summit. The relaunch included the introduction of an interactive map-based interface that showcases the geographical coverage of non-Party stakeholders taking climate action around the globe. Enhanced functionalities were also added to the stakeholder pages, allowing contextualization of information and better tracking of progress and understanding of commitments. The portal now features over 20,000 commitments and engages 10,000 stakeholders.

161. As part of the secretariat's outreach efforts under Global Climate Action, 14 international organizations jointly announced a commitment to making their operations climate neutral. The organizations will measure their GHG emissions, reduce them as much as possible and compensate for currently unavoidable emissions using credible carbon credits. Accounting for over 2 million t carbon dioxide emissions per year and engaging more than

¹²³ See http://unfccc.int/files/paris_agreement/application/pdf/marrakech_partnership_for_global_climate_action.pdf.

¹²⁴ Available at http://unfccc.int/tools/GCA_Yearbook/GCA_Yearbook2017.pdf.

¹²⁵ Available at <http://unfccc.int/resource/climateaction2020/spm/introduction>.

50,000 staff, the aggregate action taken by these organizations sets an inspiring example. The international organizations that announced their commitment to climate neutrality are the OECD secretariat, the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa secretariat, the East African Development Bank, the West African Development Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the Pacific Community, ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability, the European Investment Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the Southern African Development Community secretariat, the Inter-American Development Bank, the International Paralympic Committee, the Latin American Energy Organization and the World Travel & Tourism Council.

162. For their part, United Nations agencies adopted a strategy and road map in 2007 to reach climate neutrality by 2020. Over half of all United Nations system entities are now climate neutral, representing 39 per cent of total United Nations emissions as per the *Greening the Blue Report 2018*.¹²⁶ The United Nations Headquarters achieved climate neutrality for the first time in 2018.

163. In July 2018, a webinar co-organized by RCC Panama, RCC St. George's and the Latin American regional platform on low-emission resilient development strategies provided participants with an overview of blockchain, including cryptocurrencies and smart contracts, as tools for financing, developing, monitoring, reporting and verifying climate change projects.

N. Cross-cutting areas of cooperation

1. Capacity-building for climate-related law- and policymaking

164. The secretariat collaborates with many IGOs, in particular through dialogue and discussion, to enhance synergies and promote capacity-building in relation to legal and policy issues arising from the implementation of the Paris Agreement, including in respect of its impact on matters of international law.

165. The secretariat continues to develop the Law and Climate Change Toolkit,¹²⁷ a joint initiative with UNEP and the Commonwealth Secretariat as key partners, in close collaboration with a number of international organizations, development banks and specialized agencies and in consultation with national experts and research institutions, including the World Bank, UNHCR, FAO, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, IEA, the World Resources Institute, IPU, the London School of Economics and University College London. As an online and interactive database and global resource, the Toolkit can help countries to put in place the legal and policy frameworks necessary for effective national implementation of the Paris Agreement and the guidance adopted in Katowice, and their NDCs. The Toolkit has been designed with a broad range of potential users in mind, including government policymakers and officials who wish to use it as a resource for technical and legal drafting, and for experts from implementing agencies and organizations that provide assistance with legislation, as well as academic institutions, including researchers who analyse climate laws and related developments and trends. It offers a variety of functionalities under three main components, supported by a back-end climate legislation database and is intended to eventually become an open access platform, including: a search function, which provides access to the text of climate change related legal provisions, within overarching climate change laws and sectoral legislation, from across the world; an assessment component, which, through guided questions, allows the user to undertake a review of a selected country's legislation in order to identify potential areas for improvement and possible legislative or regulatory reform; and a future component aimed at sharing lessons learned and experience from implementation through legislative and regulatory measures.

166. The secretariat is working closely with IPU and UNEP on capacity-building for legislators and policymakers in developing countries and regions to provide support for integrating the Paris Agreement and the guidance for its implementation into domestic and

¹²⁶ Available at <http://greeningtheblue.org/gtbreport/2018>.

¹²⁷ Available at <https://climatelawtoolkit.org>.

regional policies and law. In this regard, the secretariat has participated in several workshops with IPU and UNEP in Africa and the Middle East and is creating a short manual for legislators and policymakers.

2. Partnership for effective international rule-making

167. In January 2018, the secretariat joined the OECD-led partnership for effective international rule-making.¹²⁸ The cross-sectoral partnership serves a variety of organizations involved in international rule-making, notwithstanding their nature or mandate (a list of the partners is available on the partnership website). The secretariats of several conventions, such as the CBD, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora and the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and its Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, were already members of the partnership. Transparent and inclusive rules and institutions and effective implementation are more essential than ever at the international and domestic level to rebuild confidence in public action and in the multilateral system. In this context, the partnership provides a platform for some 50 peer organizations to share information and lessons learned. Its chief aim is to make international rules more relevant, with better coordination across international organizations to maximize comparative advantages; more effective, through better monitoring and evaluation of international organizations' instruments; and more inclusive, through more transparency and consultation of stakeholders. In April 2018, the secretariat participated in the 5th annual meeting of the partnership and helped to finalize the questions contained in the 2018 survey to international organizations on their rule-making practices. The secretariat also responded to the 2018 survey, the results of which were gathered and reviewed by OECD and presented at the 6th annual meeting of the partnership in April 2019 in a brochure.¹²⁹

3. Partnerships with non-Party stakeholders

168. In addition to working with Parties, United Nations system and other international organizations, the secretariat has been working more closely with regional governments, private businesses, investors and individual citizens worldwide to strengthen collaborative action between State and non-State actors to maximize the chance of limiting global average temperature rise to 1.5 °C.¹³⁰

169. In 2018, over 12 innovative new partnerships¹³¹ were initiated, including joint projects with businesses in sectors such as climate-friendly transportation and mobility, renewable energy generation, sustainable consumption, climate finance, and digital communication tools to inform the public about climate change. A call for partnerships is ongoing¹³² in accordance with the partnership guidelines.¹³³

170. Highlights included the People's Seat campaign, which brought the voices of millions of citizens from around the world to COP 24. With a potential reach of 1.35 billion people via social, broadcast and online media, the campaign was the result of a collaboration with the network of worldwide advertising agencies WPP.

4. Caring for Climate initiative

171. The private sector has proven its potential to contribute, through technology and finance, to the fight against climate change. The secretariat continues its engagement with the United Nations Global Compact and UNEP in the Caring for Climate initiative, the aim of which is to advance the role of business in addressing climate change. The secretariat is involved in organizing the Caring for Climate Business Forum, where business and investors

¹²⁸ See <http://www.oecd.org/gov/regulatory-policy/a-partnership-for-effective-international-rule-making.htm>.

¹²⁹ OECD. 2019. *The Contribution of international organisations to a rule-based international system. Key Results from the partnership of international organisations for effective rulemaking*. Paris: OECD. Available at <http://www.oecd.org/gov/regulatory-policy/IO-Rule-Based%20System.pdf>.

¹³⁰ See <https://unfccc.int/about-us/un-climate-change-partnerships>.

¹³¹ See <https://unfccc.int/about-us/partnerships/unfccc-partners>.

¹³² See <https://unfccc.int/about-us/partnerships/current-calls-for-partnerships>.

¹³³ See https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/b_2017_1_unfccc_guidelines_for_partnership_final.pdf.

meet with representatives of government, civil society and the United Nations to advance the climate agenda.

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

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

172. 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 coordinating role of the intergovernmental bodies of the United Nations system in social, economic and related matters.

173. The secretariat participates in several working groups under the Chief Executives Board High-level Committee on Programmes, such as that on the United Nations System Strategic Approach on Climate Change Action, a unifying vision of collaborative United Nations action on climate change that serves as a driver and tool for the United Nations system to reinforce and operationalize the Chief Executives Board Common Core Principles for a United Nations System-wide Approach to Climate Action, to encourage and guide integrated action in the areas of climate change and sustainable development, to identify and foster action in key impact areas, and to ensure that coherent and, where possible, joint approaches are taken to United Nations country-level climate change action.

174. In 2019, as requested by the secretariat of the Chief Executives Board for Coordination, the UNFCCC secretariat also led and coordinated the preparation and production of a joint appeal from the United Nations System to the Secretary General's Climate Action Summit. The appeal asks Member States to step up ambition and take concrete action to limit global temperature increases to 1.5 °C. It urges them to come to New York with concrete, ambitious action plans on mitigation, adaptation, finance and innovation and to support the implementation of the SDGs.

175. The secretariat became a member of the Chief Executives Board for Coordination High-level Committee on Management on 1 January 2019. The Committee identifies and analyses administrative management reforms with the aim of improving efficiency and simplifying business practices. It is comprised of senior administrative managers from the member organizations of the United Nations system who meet twice a year. Since 1 January 2019, the UNFCCC secretariat has been involved in the work of the following four networks of the HLCM: digital and technology, finance and budget, human resources, and procurement.

B. Supporting the Secretary-General

176. The secretariat greatly values its close coordination and collaboration with the United Nations Secretariat, in particular with the Executive Office of the Secretary-General. The secretariat ensures sustained good communication and coordination with the Executive Office and provides input for climate-related engagements of the Secretary-General and the Deputy Secretary-General, including for their participation in sessions of the COP and the subsidiary bodies.

177. To boost ambition and accelerate action to implement the Paris Agreement, the Secretary-General will host a Climate Action Summit¹³⁴ on 23 September 2019. The Summit will showcase the leap in collective national political ambition and demonstrate the massive movement in the real economy in support of the climate agenda, which will send strong market and political signals and inject momentum into the 'race to the top' among countries, companies, cities and civil society needed to achieve the objectives of the Paris Agreement and the SDGs. The secretariat is working closely with the Executive Office of the Secretary-

¹³⁴ See <https://www.un.org/en/climatechange>.

General, the team of the Secretary-General's Special Envoy for the 2019 Climate Change Summit and various United Nations system organizations in this context.

178. As in previous years, the secretariat contributed in 2019 to the report of the Secretary-General on oceans and the law of the sea, prepared pursuant to United Nations General Assembly resolution 73/124.¹³⁵ The focus in 2019 was on ocean science and the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development[, in accordance with paragraph 358 of that resolution].

179. The secretariat also provided substantive input into the 2019 report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa, which highlighted the linkage between climate change and the causes of conflict in the Africa.

180. Furthermore, the secretariat provided input into the report of the Secretary-General on the 2019 Economic and Social Council theme, "Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality".¹³⁶

C. Joint Liaison Group of the Rio Conventions

181. Through the Joint Liaison Group of the Rio Conventions, the secretariat maintains close cooperation with the CBD and UNCCD secretariats. Since SBSTA 42, the secretariats have been in collaboration, highlighting the synergies in the implementation of the Conventions on the ground and at the national level.

182. While the goals and targets of the three Rio Conventions are different, the actions needed on the ground to achieve them are complementary. In this context the secretariats of the Conventions are encouraging transformative projects to be undertaken that integrate action on land degradation, biodiversity loss and climate change, are multisectoral (including land, water, biodiversity, energy), focus on large-scale impacts and have a comparative advantage in delivering multiple development benefits such as ecosystem services, climate protection and increased resilience.

D. Environment Management Group

183. The secretariat supports the United Nations system-wide coordination body on environment and human settlements, the Environment Management Group, in coordinating the implementation of the commitment of all United Nations organizations, funds and programmes to achieve climate neutrality by 2020. It also supports other United Nations organizations in compensating for their GHG emissions and provides guidance on relevant policy development. Moreover, it is supporting the development of the United Nations internal sustainability vision and strategy beyond 2020.

E. Senior Management Group

184. In the reporting period, the UNFCCC Executive Secretary remained a member of the Senior Management Group, a high-level body chaired by the Secretary-General that brings together leaders of United Nations departments, offices, funds and programmes. It is a forum for discussing policy-related matters, planning and information-sharing with respect to emerging challenges and cross-cutting issues.

F. Executive Committee

185. The Executive Committee is a principal -level committee established by the Secretary-General to assist him/her in taking decisions on issues of strategic consequence requiring

¹³⁵ United Nations General Assembly document A/RES/73/124.

¹³⁶ E/2019/65.

principal-level attention across all pillars of work of the United Nations, informed by relevant deliberations in United Nations intergovernmental bodies.

186. In the reporting period, the UNFCCC Executive Secretary was invited to participate in the Executive Committee retreat on climate and security and the discussion on climate-altering technologies. Following the discussion on climate-altering technologies, the Secretary-General requested the Executive Secretary to lead a process of assessment on this issue, conducted by the Environment Management Group.
