Twelfth meeting of the Technology Executive Committee

United Nations Campus (AHH building), Bonn, Germany
5-8 April 2016

Background note

Possible activities for further work on enabling environments and barriers

I. Mandate

1.   At its 11th meeting (September 2015), the Technology Executive Committee (TEC) requested the task force on enabling environments and barriers to identify possible activities for further work on enabling environments and barriers for the TEC's new rolling workplan starting in 2016. It further requested the task force to present these possible activities for the TEC's consideration at its next meeting (TEC 12, April 2016).

II. Background

2.   In the TEC's 2014-2015 rolling workplan, the TEC noted that it would initiate consideration on further work on enablers and barriers, taking into account the outcomes of the workshop on national systems of innovation. The TEC initiated this work at TEC 11.

3.   Over the past two years, as part of its work on enabling environments and barriers, the TEC has undertaken a series of activities on the area of national systems of innovation:

(a)   In 2014, the TEC held a two-day workshop on the topic. In this workshop, participants discussed the importance of national systems of innovation in fostering innovation of climate technologies and explored how such systems may be strengthened in developing countries;

(b)   In 2015, the TEC produced a TEC Brief on national systems of innovation. In the brief the TEC built upon the workshop by highlighting how international cooperation may support developing countries to strengthen their innovation systems and accelerate technology development, transfer and diffusion;

(c)   Also in 2015, the TEC produced a series of key messages and recommendations to the COP on the issue, highlighting to Parties key steps that may be taken to enhance climate technology development and transfer through the strengthening of national systems of innovation.

4.   Previously, as part of its 2012-2013 rolling workplan, the TEC undertook other work on enabling environments and barriers:

(a)   In 2013, the TEC held a thematic dialogue on research, development and demonstration;

(b)   In 2012, the TEC held two thematic dialogues on enabling environments and barriers to technology development and transfer. The TEC also held a call for inputs on this topic.

5.   Looking forwards, at TEC 12 the TEC will hold a thematic dialogue on enablers and barriers to South–South cooperation on technologies for adaptation.

United Nations
Framework Convention on
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III.   Scope of the note

6.   The annex to this note contains possible activities on further work on enabling environments and barriers, as proposed by the task force on enabling environments and barriers. In response to the TEC 11 mandate, the task force worked intersessionally in 2016 to prepare this input for TEC 12.

IV.   Expected action by the Technology Executive Committee

7.   The TEC will be invited to take note of the task force's proposal. The further consideration of this proposal will continue in the context of the next rolling workplan, under item 7 of the TEC 12 agenda.

Annex

Possible activities for further work on enabling environments and barriers as part of TEC's future workplan

Activity	Elements
Encouraging smart innovation	**Description** TEC explores how developing countries, with support of international community, can focus their innovation efforts on specific sectors which build on national endowments and priorities (*strategic innovation*). TEC examines real examples to understand what is working in cultivating these endogenous capacities in developing countries and how the international community is supporting them. **Desired outcomes** • TEC identifies key policies, institutional arrangements and policy frameworks that both developed and developing countries can adopt to (i) advance the strategic innovation capabilities of developing countries and (ii) enhance the implementation of developing countries' technology needs (i.e., TNAs, TAPs) and NDCs. • These policies support countries and the international community (including through south-south cooperation) to build national technology capacity and the enabling environment, support early commercial viability of technology, and enhance technology transfer, diffusion and access. **Builds upon previous TEC work on...** • National systems of innovation, RD&D, and enabling environments and barriers **Related mandates** • 1/CP.16, para 121(e), and Paris Agreement Art. 10, para 5 • 1/CP.21, para 35 and Paris Agreement Art. 4, para 19 (mid-century development strategies)
Accelerating NDC implementation by enhancing technology development and transfer, including through use of technology roadmaps	**Description** TEC explores how technology road maps may help developing countries to implement the technology-related elements of their NDCs. Key areas to be investigated may include market assessment and development, and how roadmap implementation can lead to enhanced technology development and transfer. **Desired outcomes** • TEC identifies possible ways for developing countries to accelerate the implementation of their technology needs (i.e., TNAs, TAPs) and NDCs, including through usage of roadmaps. • TEC provides information on how TNAs and TAPs can be used to inform future NDCs. • TEC promotes roadmaps and shares roadmap good practices to support developing countries in developing long-term technology roadmaps that strengthen enabling environments and overcome barriers to technology access and implementation. **Builds upon previous TEC work on...** • National systems of innovation, RD&D, and enabling environments and barriers • Technology roadmaps, especially background paper • Developing guidance for technology action plan implementation **Related mandates** • 1/CP.16, para 121(e), (g) • 1/CP.21, para 35 and Paris Agreement Art. 4, para 19 (mid-century development strategies)

Possible modalities for undertaking work on activities noted above

- Stakeholder forum, workshop, thematic dialogue
- TEC brief, technical paper
- Key messages,recommendations to COP
- Web portal/page/database

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