Background paper on the modalities of the Technology Executive Committee

Summary

➢ In Cancun, Mexico, the Conference of the Parties (COP) decided that the Technology Executive Committee (TEC) shall prepare its modalities and procedures for consideration by the COP at its seventeenth session;

➢ This background paper is prepared drawing on the working paper of the Expert Group on Technology Transfer on "preparing for the implementation of the proposed Technology Mechanism" as its basis, with a view to assisting the TEC in conducting its work on elaboration of the modalities;

➢ The paper presents a conceptual framework to assist the elaboration of possible modalities based on the functions of the TEC and relevant provisions mandated by the COP, which include six key elements:

(i) Analysis and synthesis;

(ii) Policy recommendations;

(iii) Facilitation and catalysing;

(iv) Linkage with other relevant institutional arrangements under the Convention;

(v) Engagement of stakeholders; and

(vi) Information and knowledge sharing.

➢ Furthermore, the conceptual framework suggests that, to be effective, four key aspects could be defined when elaborating on modalities, which are:

(i) Outputs;

(ii) Stakeholder identification and role;

(iii) Information streams and institutional interfaces; and

(iv) Planning and prioritizing.

➢ The paper also presents a preliminary analysis of the possible elements of the modalities around these key aspects.

➢ The TEC may wish to consider the conceptual approach presented in this paper in conducting its elaboration on the operation modalities.

➢ The TEC may also wish to draw upon information contained in this paper in elaborating on its modalities as deemed appropriate.

I. Background and mandate

1. At the sixteenth session of Conference of the Parties (COP) held in Cancun, Mexico, Parties agreed to establish a Technology Mechanism, which will consist of:

    (a) A Technology Executive Committee (TEC) to undertake the functions contained in the decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 121;

    (b) A Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN) to undertake the functions contained in the decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 123.

2. Parties also agreed on the mandate and composition of the TEC contained in appendix IV to decision 1/CP.16.

3. Parties decided that the TEC shall further implement the technology transfer framework,[1] with its five key themes and areas for meaningful and effective action, namely: technology needs and needs assessments, technology information, enabling environments, capacity-building and mechanisms for technology transfer.

4. Parties further decided that the TEC shall elaborate its modalities and procedures for consideration by COP 17 (decision 1/CP.16, para. 125), taking into account the need to achieve coherence and maintain interactions with other relevant institutional arrangements under and outside of the Convention. Parties also decided that the CTCN and the TEC shall relate so as to promote coherence and synergy (decision 1/CP.16, para. 127).

5. It should be noted that a relationship between the TEC and the CTCN and linkage between the Technology Mechanism and the financial mechanism are still under negotiation. The TEC might need to revise its modalities in light of an agreed outcome in this regard at COP 17, which will to some extent determine what type of body the TEC will be, i.e. whether it will be a policy or implementation oversight body, or an advisory expert body.

II. Scope of the paper

6. This paper is not intended to propose draft modalities for consideration by the TEC, but rather to propose a conceptual framework detailing the possible elements of the modalities to be elaborated on that could be of assistance for the TEC in conducting its work.

7. It should be noted that prior to COP 16, at the thirty-second session of the UNFCCC subsidiary bodies, the Expert Group on Technology Transfer (EGTT) was requested to undertake preliminary work to elaborate on options for the operational modalities of the proposed TEC and CTCN. The aim of the work of the EGTT was to advance the current thought on operational modalities so as to help inform subsequent tasks that Parties may mandate upon the establishment of the Technology Mechanism by the COP.

8. A working paper on "Preparing for the implementation of the proposed Technology Mechanism" was elaborated on by the EGTT at its sixth regular meeting in Bonn from 19 to 20 November 2010. The paper set forth a broad spectrum of possible operational modalities, and governance and organizational modalities and procedures for each of the functions of the TEC and the CTCN. In view of its usefulness as a resource for Parties, the EGTT decided to make the document publicly available on the technology information clearing house (TT:CLEAR) prior to COP 16 in Cancun.[2] This paper draws on the working paper by the EGTT, however, it can be read without reference to the EGTT paper.

9. To set up a conceptual framework for further elaborating the modalities of the TEC, in the following chapter, this paper explores the potential scope of individual functions and identifies a set of possible elements of modalities as well as the key aspects that could be further addressed when further elaborating the modalities. Chapter IV further examines those elements as well as the key aspects following the approach proposed in chapter III.

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[1] Established by decision 4/CP.7.
[2] <http://unfccc.int/ttclear/jsp/EGTTDoc/EGTT_Modalities_draft_working_paper_4%20November.pdf>.

III. Conceptual framework for elaborating the modalities

A. Functions of the Technology Executive Committee and relationship to its modalities

10. The Cancun Agreement established a Technology Mechanism with the expectation that action on technology development and transfer under the Convention will increase in impact, pace and quality. The Technology Mechanism has a role that extends from providing policy advice and recommendations with regard to technology development and transfer to catalysing the delivery of international technology support for mitigation and adaptation actions at the national level. The TEC, as the strategy and policy arm of the Technology Mechanism is mandated by the COP to perform a range of functions to facilitate the implementation the Technology Mechanism towards this end.

Box 1. Paragraph 121 of the decision 1/CP.16

The Conference of the Parties,

Also decides that the functions of the Technology Executive Committee shall be to:

(a)   Provide an overview of technological needs and analysis of policy and technical issues related to the development and transfer of technology for mitigation and adaptation;

(b)   Consider and recommend actions to promote technology development and transfer, in order to accelerate action on mitigation and adaptation;

(c)   Recommend guidance on policies and programme priorities related to technology development and transfer, with special consideration given to the least developed country Parties;

(d)   Promote and facilitate collaboration on the development and transfer of technologies for mitigation and adaptation between governments, the private sector, non-profit organizations and academic and research communities;

(e)   Recommend actions to address the barriers to technology development and transfer in order to enable enhanced action on mitigation and adaptation;

(f)   Seek cooperation with relevant international technology initiatives, stakeholders and organizations, and promote coherence and cooperation across technology activities, including activities under and outside of the Convention;

(g)   Catalyse the development and use of technology road maps or action plans at the international, regional and national levels through cooperation between relevant stakeholders, particularly governments and relevant organizations or bodies, including the development of best practice guidelines as facilitative tools for action on mitigation and adaptation.

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11. Modalities are usually defined as the means and actions to implement and operationalize the functions. To elaborate on the modalities of the TEC, there is a clear demand to firstly examine the functions of the TEC, not only separately but also in a systematic manner, as these functions are closely interlinked and complement one another. Some of functions are also of a similar nature. Following the approach adopted in the working paper of the EGTT as mentioned above, the functions of the TEC could be approached by the following three general groups as shown in figure 1 below:

(a)   **Analysis and synthesis function,** which includes function 121(a). This group of functions underpins the performance of all other functions of the TEC, in particular those related to policy-making as discussed below. It may compromise a range of products targeting a wider audience. Considering the range of issues to be targeted and the resource implication of this, the TEC might need to rely on collaborations with relevant organizations to conduct some analysis and synthesis work, which would touch upon the performance of the facilitating and catalysing function as discussed below.
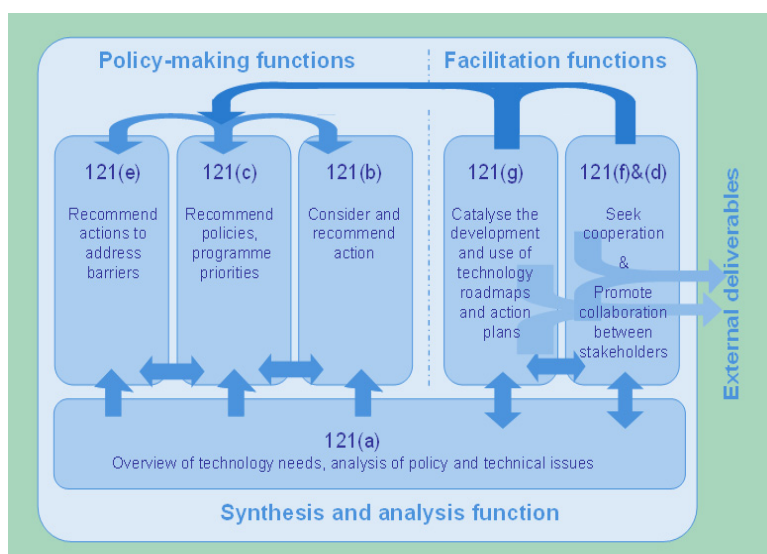
(b)   **Policy-making functions,** which include functions 121(b), (c) and (e). This group of functions relates to providing guidance and recommendations to accelerate the pace of technology development and transfer at the international level, which are key functions of the TEC. The work of the TEC in this area would benefit from the analysis of technical and policy issues undertaken

by the TEC and other relevant bodies under the Convention and the enhanced understanding of developing country Parties' needs and priorities as well as lesson learned from the implementation level, for instance, the CTCN.

(c)   **Facilitation and catalysing functions,** which include function 121(d), (f) and (g). Increasing collaboration at different levels and between different technology actors on the development and transfer of technologies is one of the main objectives of the Technology Mechanism, in which both the TEC and the CTCN have a role to play. For the TEC, the performance of this group of functions is not just an end but also the effective means to an end in that it is involved in strengthening the interaction of the TEC with technology practitioners at the implementation level, which will allow TEC to be in a better position to bridge the implementation and policy-making communities.

Figure 1

The functions of the Technology Executive Committee organized into three groups

12. In addition to these functions as referred to in paragraph 121 of decision 1/CP.16, Parties also decided that the TEC shall further implement the technology transfer framework, which could be integrated into these three general groups of functions. For instance:

(a)   Technology needs and needs assessment could be integrated into functions 121(a) and (g);

(b)   Technology information would be related to functions 121(d) and (f) of the TEC and generally to all other functions;

(c)   Enabling environments and capacity-building, which are recognized as cross-cutting themes and have a bearing on all functions of the TEC, but in particular on function 121(e) on barriers, as well as on function 121(g) on technology road maps and action plans;

(d)   Other topics under the theme of mechanisms for technology transfer including innovative finance, possible ways and means to enhance cooperation with relevant conventions and intergovernmental processes, promotion of the endogenous development of technology and transfer and collaborative research and development are also essential elements to be considered under most functions of the TEC.

13. Furthermore, the COP also decided that, in elaborating on its modalities and procedures, the TEC shall take into account the need to achieve coherence and to maintain interactions with other relevant institutional arrangements under and outside of the Convention and in performing its functions, the TEC should draw upon outside expertise, including the UNFCCC roster of experts and the Climate Technology Centre and Network, to provide advice, including as expert advisers at its meetings. The TEC should also seek input from intergovernmental and international organizations and the private sector and may seek input from civil society in undertaking its work. It may invite advisers drawn from relevant intergovernmental and international organizations as

well as the private sector and civil society to participate in its meetings as expert advisers on specific issues as they arise.

14. In this regard, the **linkage with institutional arrangements under the Convention and engagement of stakeholders** might need to be considered as individual elements when elaborating on the modalities, in order to maintain coherence and consistency as they would encounter all key functions of the TEC.

15. From the operational perspective, how to facilitate **information and knowledge sharing** among various stakeholders and across different functions would be a crucial underpinning element for all functions of the TEC. It will directly concern high-quality performance of all functions. Substantively, it also directly links to the technology information theme under the technology transfer framework that is expected to be further implemented by the TEC.

16. Based on the consideration above, it would be suggested that the modalities could be elaborated on around the following six main elements:

  (a)   Analysis and synthesis;

  (b)   Policy recommendations;

  (c)   Facilitation and catalysing;

  (d)   Linkage with institutional arrangements under the Convention;

  (e)   Engagement of stakeholders;

  (f)   Information and knowledge sharing.

B.   Key aspects of the modalities

17. If the functions could be referred to as 'what to do', the modalities would define 'how to do'. In this context, the first aspect that the modalities would need to address would be what types of tangible outcomes and activities the TEC would deliver in performing its functions. It could be referred to as the '**output**' aspect. Consequently, the second aspect which needs to be addressed could be generally referred to as the organizational aspect that will enable the delivery of the output. The organizational aspect of the modalities could be further specified by the following components:

  (a)   The **stakeholders**, a broad term covering the organizations, entities and bodies with which the TEC will engage, whose expertise and support it will harness, and whom it could receive requests from and address its recommendations to;

  (b)   The **information streams** and inputs that the TEC will need, receive and utilize, and the **institutional interfaces** the TEC will need to interact with these stakeholders;

  (c)   The approach the TEC adopts in **planning and prioritizing** its activities and outputs.

Stakeholder identification, role and engagement

18. For each of the functions and in each activity, the TEC will have to interact with stakeholders, relevant organizations, expert centres, international programmes and bodies under and outside of the Convention, including the CTCN. The possible roles of stakeholders need to be examined, and possible modalities identified for engaging with: the recipients of its recommendations, the experts and expert institutes it will draw upon, and the organizations it may collaborate with in working towards particular outcomes.

19. When a relevant new body or institution is established, the TEC may have to take steps to establish links, which may require a procedure that allows the TEC to create a communication channel and an institutional interface.

20. Since the TEC has no authority over the international organizations and stakeholders with technology activities it would seek to collaborate with, the TEC could consider engaging with key organizations and relevant bodies under the Convention early in the process of developing its

modalities. This would ensure that opportunities for cooperation and collaboration are fully reflected in the modalities of the TEC.

Information streams and institutional interfaces

21. In formulating its recommendations, in facilitating actions, and in promoting coherence and cooperation, the information and input streams of the TEC have to be considered. Key questions include: which requests and inputs can the TEC expect? What are the available information streams, and what would the TEC require in terms of information flows, reviews, analyses, evaluations, and inputs to inform its recommendations and overviews, and to guide its activities? Which information sources does it need to generate itself? These questions need to be examined in detail for each of the functions. A procedure may need to be adopted for Parties and organizations, and entities under and outside of the Convention to bring issues to the TEC for its consideration and action.

22. With the information streams identified, creation of suitable institutional interfaces and communication channels will be needed to interact with key stakeholders in a structured manner at different levels, to maximize effectiveness and impact. Various modalities could be used: the participation of the TEC in relevant processes of stakeholder organizations, and the participation of stakeholders in TEC meetings, high-level segments, forums, consultative groups, task forces, joint meetings and workshops. A combination of institutionalized and ad-hoc arrangements may be required. Procedural modalities enabling TEC to establish the necessary interfaces and communication channels would have to be in place.
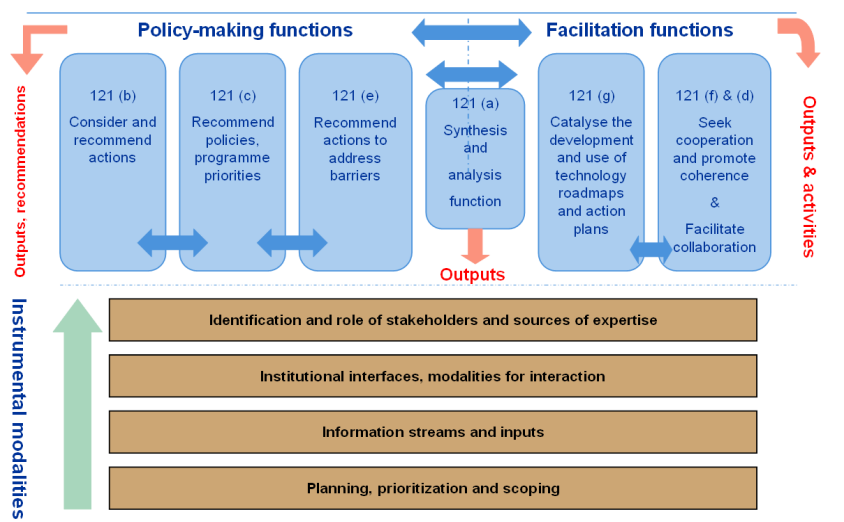
Planning and prioritizing

23. In view of the effectiveness and efficiency, the wide scope of its functions and the subject areas under its consideration, and the multiple demands it may receive, the TEC will have to be strategic in its focus, and would have to prioritize and plan its work. The TEC may consider adopting criteria and setting parameters for the scope of its work. Key modalities and outputs will have to be selected, and a strategy developed to mobilize resources.

Figure 2 shows a schematic presentation of the functions of the TEC and four key aspects of the modalities.

Figure 2

TEC functions and key aspects of the modalities

IV. Possible elements of the modalities

A. Analysis and synthesis

<u>Outputs</u>

24. Various products could be considered as the outputs for this function, which may include the following:

(a) A periodic technology outlook, collating, collecting and synthesizing a range of information on technology research and development, technology needs, and technology road maps, and examining the policy implications and opportunities for advancing international support for technology development and transfer;

(b) A series of technical papers on specific policy and technical issues for a wider audience;

(c) Overview of existing technology development and transfer initiatives, activities and programmes including lessons learned;

(d) Dialogue on selected technical issues modelled on the existing subsidiary body research dialogue;

<u>Stakeholder identification and role</u>

25. The CTCN, relevant international organizations, national designated institutions and expert non-governmental organizations (NGOs) could be considered to play active roles in collaboration with the TEC to implement this function.

26. These organizations could be invited to deliver specific components of the work programme, and to contribute to specific analytical and synthesis products. The TEC may also consider to co-produce specific analysis and synthesis reports with expert organizations. The approach would allow the TEC to mobilize and leverage a wider range of expertise and resources. Stakeholder engagement would be work programme and issue-based, and may require the establishment of institutional interfaces and communication channels at different levels.

<u>Information streams and institutional interfaces</u>

27. Three types of information streams might be involved:

(a) The input steam of the issues to be discussed;

(b) The input stream of raw information from the implementation level;

(c) The output stream, i.e. distribution of final products to the target audience.

28. General options could be considered as institutional interfaces in carrying out this function and could include workshops, dialogues, ad-hoc working groups and the website. It could also take advantage of existing institutional interfaces with the CTCN, and other thematic bodies under the Convention.

<u>Planning and prioritizing</u>

29. To a great extent the selection of issues will be driven by the need for a better understanding and information on specific issues. However, on the other hand, the TEC might also need to play a proactive role in identifying issues that will shape the technology agenda and provide strategic direction for the Technology Mechanism. Furthermore, the TEC may consider the need for a balance between a global technology perspective versus a bottom-up, endogenous technologies perspective on developing country Parties.

30. Another consideration would be the resources required for some products and services, versus their impact and relevance. The TEC would draw on the best available expertise, tap into existing networks, including the CTCN and other adaptation networks, and produce analysis that is broad-based to ensure its credibility and legitimacy.

B. Policy recommendations

<u>Output</u>

31. The outputs of the TEC in carrying out this type of function would include:

(a) Recommendations to the COP or other relevant bodies under the Convention with regard to actions to promote technology development and transfer, and to address barriers;

(b) Recommendations on the guidance regarding policies and programme priorities related to technology development and transfer with special consideration given to the least developed country Parties.

<u>Stakeholder identification and role</u>

32. The direct stakeholders would include the originators of requests for actions and recipients of recommendations. They might include Parties, the COP, other relevant bodies/entities including the CTCN, operating entities of financial mechanism, etc. Stakeholders could also include a range of individual entities that will be affected by the implementation of the recommendations. The TEC may wish to liaise with the originators of requests for actions and recipients of recommendations and to engage stakeholders in formulating its recommendations for actions, which may in some cases require further work or guidance.

<u>Information streams and institutional interfaces</u>

33. Three types of information streams might be concerned:

(a) **Input stream of requests**, which could be those from Parties, from the COP, or from other bodies under the Convention, and other possible sources.

(b) **Input stream of information for formulating the recommendations**. Recommendations could be formulated based on assessments, reviews of needs and gaps, and also other sources such as the CTCN reports and reviews, reports of the Adaptation Committee, etc. It would also involve the possible inputs and consultation process with a broad range of stakeholders.

(c) **Output stream of recommendations to targeted entities**.

34. The communication and engagement needs under this type of function could be served by existing institutional links with other bodies under the Convention: the COP, the CTCN and the financial mechanism. However, a procedure would be needed to enable the TEC to receive requests for its consideration. The TEC could use its meetings and forums, and its existing institutional interfaces to communicate and engage with stakeholders in the implementation of this function. Depending on the processes from which the recommendations arise, the nature of the actions to be considered, the target of the recommendations, and where these contribute to, different engagement modalities may be necessary.

<u>Planning and prioritizing</u>

35. The function requires a process to consider issues that may require action. To a large extent, the issues and recommendations will be demand-driven and will arise from the activities of the TEC under other functions. Emerging issues that may require action may be more challenging to address, because the actors may not be ready to act on such recommendations. A longer process and engagement on the issue may be required in this case. The impact and effectiveness of the recommendations for action of the TEC may have to be considered. In this regard, the timing and nature of recommendations is important, and to what extent strategies and operations can be adapted to take on board recommendations. The TEC will have to adopt procedures to ensure the credibility and legitimacy of its recommendations.

36. The TEC may also consider the need to establish working groups or panels composed of relevant specialists on certain matters in advising the committee to formulate its recommendations.

C. Facilitation and catalysing

<u>Outputs</u>

37. There are a range of activities which could be considered to promote technology collaboration in general, such as:

    (a)   A forum organized jointly with relevant entities, including the CTCN, as a platform to increase the opportunities of collaboration;

    (b)   A series of workshops on specific issues with target audiences

    (c)   An inventory of existing collaboration and a regular review process with a view to sharing experiences and promoting good practices.

    (d)   Recommendations to the COP on actions to promote collaboration.

38. For catalysing the development and use of technology road maps or action plans, a range of outputs could be envisaged, such as:

    (a)   Guidance on best practices and relevant tools to develop technology road maps and action plans;

    (b)   Inventory of technology roadmaps and actions plans;

    (c)   Workshops and forums for training and sharing experience with developing and implementing technology road maps and action plans;

    (d)   Recommendations on concrete actions such as an international process for the development and use of technology road maps and action plans as well as support required to enhance the development and use of these items, and in particular capacity-building programmes that may be appropriate.

<u>Stakeholder identification and role</u>

39. Each of the three functions under this category might have a slightly different group of stakeholders and partner organizations. The functions 121(d) and (f) are cover facilitating general collaboration among different actors while 121(g) has a specific mission, which is to facilitate cooperation on technology road maps and action plans.

40. The relevant actors and stakeholders would be dispersed and situated at the national, regional and international level. They would have to be identified for each technology area. The CTCN, intergovernmental organizations and other technology actors at national level would be important partners in undertaking the function of developing technology road maps, while general technology cooperation would be an area where the private sector, NGOs, and research communities could have an important role to play.

<u>Information streams and institutional interfaces</u>

41. Information streams would be complicated due to the wide range of stakeholders. In general, the information streams might include the following:

    (a)   Input stream of information with regard to cooperation activities including experiences and lessons learned;

    (b)   Input stream of information with regard to opportunities for collaboration in specific issues, which could come from various stakeholders but also from national communications, nationally appropriate mitigation actions (NAMAs) and national adaptation plans (NAPs);

    (c)   Output stream of recommendations from the TEC to relevant bodies;

    (d)   Output stream of advices and supports from the TEC to relevant stakeholders.

42. Because of the wide range of stakeholders, the institutional interfaces with stakeholders and partner organizations for this function would be mostly ad-hoc and issue-based. In the case of organizations with important technology collaboration programmes, for example the International Energy Agency, International Renewable Energy Agency and the CTCN, a more permanent interface may be more effective. Certain activities and programmes under this function may

warrant the establishment of an ad-hoc working group in the TEC, comprising invited experts and resource persons. An interface to the general stakeholders would also need to be established to cover the wide range of stakeholders such as through a website.

<u>Planning and prioritizing</u>

43. The functions of this category are open-ended to some extent. The TEC might need to clearly identify its role in carrying out this function. A key role for the TEC to play might be to provide the enabling platform for relevant stakeholders to undertake concrete collaborative action on specific issues. Although the concrete collaborative actions must be promoted driven by real needs on the ground, the TEC would need to be proactive in identifying potential needs as well as corresponding means to address such requirements, which are likely to be highly anticipated due to unique position of the TEC at international level.

D.   Linkage with institutional arrangements under the Convention

44. Relevant institutional arrangements under the Convention with which the TEC may need to interact could include the following:

(a)   **The Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention** with regard to national communications from non-Annex I Parties which would be one of the input streams for the TEC;

(b)   **The Least Developed Countries Expert Group** with regard to the requirement for special consideration for the least developing country Parties in function 121(c) in the context of recommending guidance on policies and programme priorities;

(c)   **The Adaptation Committee** with regard to enhanced action on development and transfer of technologies for adaptation;

(d)   **The institutional arrangements for mitigation (Monitoring, reporting and verifying, and the Registry)** with regard to providing finance, technology and capacity-building support for mitigation actions;

(e)   **The financial mechanism** with regard to provision of financial support for enhanced action on technology development and transfer, in particular regarding the function of the TEC to provide guidance on policies and programme priorities;

(f)   **The CTCN** with regard to promoting coherence and synergy in facilitating the implementation of the Technology Mechanism, specifically regarding the relationship and reporting lines.

45. Although some relationships are subject to negotiation under the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention, broadly speaking, a number of possible linking modalities could be considered, including the following:

(a)   Framework for information sharing including inviting comments and inputs on reports, guidance and recommendations;

(b)   Cross participation in meetings and processes such as participation of Chairs in the meetings of other Bodies;

(c)   Reciprocal membership;

(d)   Joint meetings or workshop;

(e)   Joint recommendations and reports;

(f)   Joint working groups, panels or work programmes.

46. The type of linking modalities adopted should be contingent with the degree of synergy and overlap between the functions or activities of two or more bodies, and the importance of coordinating activities, advice or decisions in order to achieve coherence and effectiveness. Resource implications of participation in the meetings of other bodies may need to be considered.

Also, establishing effective linkages usually requires interaction at different levels, including at the level of the secretariat.

E. Engagement of stakeholders

47. As analysed above, the ability of the TEC to influence and catalyse policy and implementation through its actions, recommendations and analysis will depend on effective engagement with key actors in technology development and transfer. In addition to those stakeholders under the UNFCCC process as mentioned above, there are also a broad range of stakeholders at international, regional and national level including public institutions, the business community, academia and NGOs.

48. The general types of engagement models which could be considered, include the following:

(a) Participation of the TEC meeting as observers or expert advisers where applicable;

(b) Engaged through the institutional interface between the TEC and CTCN for the stakeholders who are members of the CTCN;

(c) Engaged through other models that the TEC may consider to establish such as consultative groups, stakeholder forums, technical task forces, etc.

F. Information and knowledge sharing

49. The Technology Mechanism would need a well-functioning information platform that responds to the information and knowledge service requirements of its potential users, including Parties, CTC Network members, and wide range of technology actors and stakeholders.

50. Aside from its information service function, the platform would be a tool for promoting the collaboration between various actors, and for seeking cooperation with relevant international organizations and initiatives. It would support the Technology Mechanism's efforts in exploring opportunities for information sharing, establishing links with existing knowledge platforms, and implementing joint initiatives and programmes. Finally, it would serve as a public interface for the Technology Mechanism.

51. The platform for the Technology Mechanism could sever both the TEC and the CTCN, which could further promote the coherence and synergy between the two components and connect the information and knowledge management services of the policy and implementation arms of the Technology Mechanism, to ensure an efficient use of resources.

52. The information platform could be an upgraded version of TT:CLEAR with an expanded and more strategic focus, tailored to the functions of the Technology Mechanism, and building on existing technology information networks. It would present the Technology Mechanism as a coherent institutional arrangement comprising the TEC and the CTCN. In addition, the information platform could also complement the Registry to be established for which the linkage between them should be considered.

53. To accelerate the development of the concept, and drawing on the experience with TT:CLEAR, the TEC, with the support of the secretariat, could undertake a functional analysis to determine what the Technology Mechanism will need from an information platform, identify current technology information initiatives and elaborate on a possible approach to create effective information and knowledge sharing mechanisms among partners. It is proposed that a detailed concept and business plan for the joint information platform would be developed in collaboration with the CTCN, once the host of the CTCN has been selected.