



Technology Executive Committee

29 August 2017

Fifteenth meeting

Bonn, Germany, 12–15 September 2017

Main outcomes of the Bonn climate change conference of May 2017

Background note

I. Introduction

A. Background

1. On 8 to 18 May 2017, the UNFCCC held the 2017 Bonn climate change conference in Bonn, Germany. At the conference, the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) and the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) held their forty-sixth sessions. The Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement (APA) held the third part of its first session. In addition to these sessions, other events also took place.

B. Scope of the note

2. This note summarizes the main outcomes of the Bonn climate change conference May 2017 regarding the technology development and transfer, which may be relevant to the work of the Technology Executive Committee (TEC). It also highlights events and meetings in which the TEC Chair, Vice-Chair, or members of the TEC participated on behalf of the TEC.

C. Possible action by the Technology Executive Committee

3. The TEC will be invited to take note of the information provided in this note.

II. Relevant outcomes from SBI 46 and SBSTA 46

A. Scope and modalities for the periodic assessment of the Technology Mechanism in relation to supporting the implementation of the Paris Agreement

4. Under its agenda item 10, the SBI continued its elaboration of the scope and modalities for the periodic assessment of the Technology Mechanism in relation to supporting the implementation of the Paris Agreement.

5. As part of the SBI conclusions on the item, the SBI requested the secretariat to prepare a technical paper on the experience, lessons learned and best practices in conducting reviews of various arrangements under the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol that are relevant for the periodic assessment, including a list of such reviews, by SBI 47 (November 2017) with a view to informing the deliberations of the SBI on elaborating the scope of and modalities for the periodic assessment.

6. The next SBI deliberations on this item will be at SBI 48 (April–May 2018).

7. SBI conclusions for this item may be found here:

<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2017/sbi/eng/07.pdf>

B. Technology framework under Article 10, paragraph 4, of the Paris Agreement

8. Under its agenda item 4, the SBSTA continued its elaboration of the technology framework established under Article 10, paragraph 4, of the Paris Agreement.

9. As part of the SBSTA conclusions on the item, the SBSTA agreed that the principles of the technology framework, which are coherence, inclusiveness, result-oriented approach, transformational approach and transparency, should guide the Technology Mechanism in implementing the Paris Agreement. It also agreed that the possible headings of the technology framework include, inter alia, purpose, principles and key themes.

10. The SBSTA invited the TEC and the CTCN to provide at SBSTA 47 (November 2017) information on the following:

(a) Activities that have been or are currently being undertaken, which are relevant for the implementation of the Paris Agreement, taking into account the key themes and their relation to the technology cycle;

(b) Additional activities that the TEC and the CTCN, subject to available resources, could undertake within their respective mandates and functions, individually or jointly, to implement the Paris Agreement.

11. SBSTA conclusions for this item may be found here:

<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2017/sbsta/eng/04.pdf>

III. Other outcomes and events relevant to the work of the TEC

A. TEC Special event on innovation and nationally determined contributions ¹

12. During the Bonn climate conference, the TEC organised a special event titled “How innovation can support implementation of nationally determined contributions (NDCs) and mid-century strategies” on 12 May 2017. The event brought together high-level experts to showcase key innovation policies and innovative technologies for enhancing climate action. It was attended by participants representing countries, academia, private sector, non-governmental organisations, and other relevant stakeholders. The Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC, Ms. Patricia Espinosa and HE. Ms. Segolene Royal of France gave the opening remarks.

13. During the event, participants discussed how technological innovation help to address climate change, explored how national actors stimulate technological innovation for addressing climate change, and shared innovative technologies for reducing greenhouse gases and building resilience to climate change.

B. Thematic session on innovative policy and technology solutions for sustainable urban development

14. The TEC hosted a thematic session on “Innovative policy and technology solutions for sustainable urban development” on 9 May 2017, as part of the technical expert meetings on mitigation (TEM-M).² The session showcased innovative approaches to urban planning, policies and technology solutions to deliver emission reductions and generate sustainable development benefits in cities, and moderated by a TEC member.

15. During the session participants discussed how countries can undertake successful technology leapfrogging and apply innovative approaches in the context of their sustainable urban development, and how to enhance the scalability and replicability of urban sustainable development solutions across different developing countries and regions.

¹ http://unfccc.int/tclear/events/2017_event2.

² <https://goo.gl/wwav1X>;
http://unfccc.int/files/focus/mitigation/technical_expert_meetings/application/pdf/tems-mitigation-report-2017.pdf

C. Catalyzing NDC implementation in the context 2030 Agenda through South-South cooperation

16. This event was organized by the secretariat in collaboration with the UN Secretary general office on south-south cooperation on 10 May 2017, looking at how cooperation amongst the global south could complement traditional cooperation approaches and discussed ways to promoting these efforts. In this event, the TEC showcased and soft-launched the new TEC Brief #9 on "South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation in technologies for adaptation for water and agriculture".

D. Technical expert meeting on mitigation

17. The purpose of TEM-M is to facilitate the identification of policy options, practices and technologies with high mitigation potential. The meetings bring together experts from national and subnational governments, private sector, financial institutions, leading international organizations and other stakeholders to examine in-depth opportunities to promote the implementation and increase in support for climate action.

18. In 2017, the TEM-M was held from 8-12 May 2017 covering a series of thematic sessions related to topics of "Cross-cutting issues in urban environment and Land-Use". The selection of these topics was based on the recommendations submitted by the TEC in 2016 to the High-level Champion's and the Chairs of SBI and SBSTA. Further information including the agenda and summaries of these TEMs are available on the UNFCCC website.³

E. Technical expert meeting on adaptation

19. The technical examination process on adaptation (TEP-A) was established at COP 21 as part of the enhanced action prior to 2020 in the decision adopting the Paris Agreement. The TEP-A seeks to identify concrete opportunities for strengthening resilience, reducing vulnerabilities, and increasing the understanding and implementation of adaptation actions. The process is organized by the SBSTA and SBI and conducted by the Adaptation Committee (AC). The TEC contributed to the process for developing the TEP-A work programme through the participation of a TEC representative in the AC working group on TEP-A.

20. In 2017, the TEM-A was held from 17-18 May 2017 on "Integrating climate change adaptation with the Sustainable Development Goals and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction". Further information including the agenda and summaries of these TEMs are available on the UNFCCC website.⁴

F. Participation of the TEC in other events

21. The TEC Chair, Vice-Chair, or members of the TEC was invited to make presentations or participated in the following events during the Bonn climate change conference May 2017:

- (a) First meeting of Paris Committee on Capacity-building (PCCB);⁵
- (b) SBSTA research dialogue;⁶
- (c) Meeting with the High-Level Champions on inputs to the work programme of Marrakesh Partnership for Global Climate Action;
- (d) GEF event on Poznan Strategic Programme on Technology Transfer.

³ <http://unfccc.int/resource/climateaction2020/tep/technical-expert-meetings/>

⁴ <http://tep-a.org/technical-expert-meetings-on-adaptation/>

⁵ http://unfccc.int/cooperation_and_support/capacity_building/items/10251.php

⁶ <http://unfccc.int/science/workstreams/research/items/10154.php>