

Fourteenth meeting of the Technology Executive Committee

United Nations Campus (AHH building), Bonn, Germany
28–31 March 2017

Background note

Outcomes of the Marrakech climate change conference

I. Introduction

A. Background

1. The UNFCCC Marrakech climate change conference was held in Marrakech, Morocco, from 7 to 18 November 2016. At that meeting, the Conference of the Parties (COP) held its twenty-second session (COP22), the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) held their forty-fifth sessions (SBSTA 45 and SBI 45), and the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement (APA) held the second part of its first session. In addition, the first part of the first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA) was convened in Marrakech.

B. Scope of the note

2. This note summarizes the main outcomes of the Marrakesh climate change conference 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 or Vice-Chair participated.

C. Possible action by the Technology Executive Committee

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

II. Overview of relevant outcomes regarding technology development and transfer

A. Linkages between the Technology Mechanism and the Financial Mechanism of the Convention

4. Under its agenda item 8 (b), the COP considered the findings from the ongoing consultations among the TEC, the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN) and the operating entities of the Financial Mechanisms to further elaborate the linkages between the Technology Mechanism and the Financial Mechanism, including through an in-session workshop at SBSTA44.

5. As part of the COP decisions on the item, the COP welcomed with appreciation the progress made by the TEC, the CTCN and the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism in further elaborating the linkages, and encouraged the Board of the Green Climate Fund (GCF) to continue to invite the Chairs of the TEC and the Advisory Board of the CTCN to future meetings of the Board of the GCF on issues of common interest in order to strengthen the existing linkages between the Technology Mechanism and the Financial Mechanism.



6. The COP also encouraged the TEC, the CTCN and the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism to enhance the involvement of relevant stakeholders as they undertake actions to strengthen the linkages. It invited the TEC, the CTCN and the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism to provide information on their actions in strengthening the linkages in their annual reports to the COP for guidance on further actions if needed.
7. The COP agreed to continue its consideration of this matter at COP24 (December 2018).
8. COP decision for this item may be found here:
<<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2016/cop22/eng/10a02.pdf#page=3>>.

B. Joint annual report of the Technology Executive Committee and the Climate Technology Centre and Network for 2016

9. Under its agenda item 6 (a) of the SBSTA and 12 (a) of the SBI, the SBSTA and the SBI considered the joint annual report of the TEC and the CTCN and recommended a draft decision on enhancing climate technology development and transfer through the Technology Mechanism for consideration and adoption by COP22.
10. As part of the COP decisions on agenda item 8 (a), the COP encouraged the TEC and the CTCN to continue collaborating in order to enhance coherence and synergy in the work of the Technology Mechanism.
11. The COP also encouraged the TEC and the Advisory Board of the CTCN to continue updating the procedures for preparing the joint chapter of their joint annual report in accordance with decision 12/CP.21, paragraph 2, and to report on the outcome of this work in their joint annual report to the COP23 (November 2017).
12. The COP invited the TEC and the CTCN to include information in the respective chapters of their future joint annual reports on challenges and lessons learned in implementing their respective mandates.
13. COP decision for this item may be found here:
<<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2016/cop22/eng/10a02.pdf#page=5>>.

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

14. Under its agenda item 6 (b), the SBSTA continued its consideration on this matter, taking into account the information note on mapping climate technology development and transfer activities and initiatives under and outside the Convention relevant to the implementation of the Paris Agreement prepared by the secretariat and submissions from Parties.
15. As part of the SBSTA conclusions on the item, the SBSTA agreed that the technology framework should be short, concise, balanced and comprehensive and allow flexibility to respond to changes over time. It also agreed that the purpose of the technology framework is as stipulated in Article 10, paragraph 4, of the Paris Agreement. It noted that the technology framework can play a strategic role in improving the effectiveness and efficiency of the work of the Technology Mechanism by addressing the transformational changes envisioned in the Paris Agreement, consistent with its Article 10, paragraph 4, and the long-term vision for technology development and transfer, referred to in its Article 10, paragraph 1.
16. The SBSTA further agreed that the initial key themes for the technology framework are: innovation; implementation; enabling environments and capacity-building; collaboration and stakeholder engagement; and support.
17. The SBSTA invited Parties, observers and other stakeholders to submit, by 10 April 2017, their views on the principles and structure of the technology framework.
18. SBSTA conclusions for this item may be found here:
<<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2016/sbsta/eng/04.pdf#page=10>>.

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

19. Under its agenda item 12 (b), the SBI agreed to continue its consideration of this matter at SBI 46.

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

<<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2016/sbi/eng/20.pdf#page=20>>.

E. Poznan strategic programme on technology transfer

21. Under its agenda item 12 (c), the SBI considered the relevant information in the report of the Global Environment Facility to the COP.

22. As part of the SBI conclusions on the sub-item, the SBI noted the importance of implementing the TNA results and encouraged Parties to consider ways to use their System for Transparent Allocation of Resources allocation for piloting the implementation of the TNA results.

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

<<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2016/sbi/eng/20.pdf#page=21>>.

III. Other outcomes relevant to the work of the TEC

24. This section presents other Marrakesh outcomes which may be of relevance to the work of the TEC and Technology Mechanism.

A. Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action

25. At COP 21, the COP decided in the context of pre-2020 climate action that two High-Level Champions shall be appointed to act on behalf of the President of the COP to facilitate through strengthened high-level engagement in the period 2016-2020 the successful execution of existing efforts and the scaling-up and introduction of new or strengthened voluntary efforts, initiatives and coalitions.

26. At COP 22, the High-Level Champions¹ launched the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action, to provide a structured and coherent framework to catalyse and support ambitious climate action among Parties and non-Party stakeholders in the period from 2017-2020. The Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action will enable and facilitate the:

- Convening of Party and non-Party stakeholders on an ongoing basis to enhance collaboration and catalyze the scaling up of efforts to collectively identify and address barriers to enhanced implementation, including through the technical examination processes (TEPs) on pre-2020 climate action and multi stakeholder high-level dialogues;
- Showcasing of successes and providing a platform for new initiatives and greater ambition through events, including those held in conjunction with sessions of UNFCCC bodies as well as other relevant forums, culminating in the annual High-level Event on Climate Action to be held in conjunction with each session of the COP;
- Tracking of progress, through NAZCA², achieved by those actors and initiatives, aligned towards the achievement of the purpose and goals of the Paris Agreement, and supporting the delivery of NDCs and the SDGs;
- Reporting of achievements and options to enhance action to the COP.

27. Through the operation of the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action, the outcomes of all climate action events will identify specific priorities, proposals and actions that need to be addressed to

¹ H.E. Hakima El Haite, Minister Delegate to the Minister of Energy, Mines, Water and Environment of Morocco and H.E. Laurence Tubiana, Ambassador for climate change negotiations and the special representative for COP 21 of France.

² <<http://climateaction.unfccc.int/>>.

scale up climate action. These would be advanced in the TEPs in the year ahead, which should draw not only on the in-session Technical Experts Meetings (TEMs) but also on the outcomes of relevant regional and thematic meetings outside of the formal sessions of the UNFCCC. These meetings would be held in conjunction with existing events wherever possible. It is suggested that the events of the existing UNFCCC bodies and institutions, such as the TEC, the CTCN, the GCF, the Adaptation Committee (AC) and the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG) may be aligned with the relevant regional and thematic meetings above.

28. The High-Level Champions will also provide guidance to the UNFCCC on the TEMs to assist in aligning them with the specific policy options and barriers being identified through the operation of the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action. They consider that the in-session TEMs must be significantly more narrow in their focus to address highly specific policy options. The Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action should enable a greater connection and coherence between individual TEMs and ongoing regional activities to support and accelerate implementation.

29. The Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action document may be found here:
<http://unfccc.int/files/paris_agreement/application/pdf/marrakech_partnership_for_global_climate_action.pdf>.

B. Paris Committee on Capacity-Building

30. COP 21 established the Paris Committee on Capacity-building (PCCB), whose aim will be to address gaps and needs, both current and emerging, in implementing capacity-building in developing country Parties and further enhancing capacity-building efforts, including with regard to coherence and coordination in capacity-building activities under the Convention.

31. According to the terms of reference of the PCCB adopted as part of the COP decisions on its agenda item 13 at COP 22, six representatives from bodies established under the Convention and from the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism will be invited to participate in all the meetings of the PCCB in line with the annual theme of the PCCB.

32. As part of the SBI conclusions on agenda item 14 (c), the SBI agreed that in 2017 the first focus area or theme for the PCCB will be on capacity-building activities for the implementation of nationally determined contributions in the context of the Paris Agreement. It also agreed that representatives of the following operating entities of the Financial Mechanism and the constituted bodies established under the Convention will be invited to participate in the first meeting of the PCCB, which will be held in conjunction with SBI 46 and SBSTA 46 (May 2017): the GEF, the GCF, the AC, the LEG, the Standing Committee on Finance, and the TEC.

33. COP decision and SBI conclusions for this item may be found here:
<<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2016/cop22/eng/10a01.pdf#page=5>>
<<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2016/sbi/eng/20.pdf#page=22>>.

C. Gender and climate change

34. As part of the COP decision on agenda item 15, gender and climate change, the COP requested all constituted bodies under the UNFCCC process to include in their regular reports information on progress made towards integrating a gender perspective in their processes according to the entry points identified in the technical paper to be prepared by the secretariat for consideration at SBI 48 (April – May 2018).

35. COP decision for this item may be found here:
<<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2016/cop22/eng/10a02.pdf#page=17>>.

IV. Participation of the TEC Chair or Vice-Chair

36. The TEC Chair or Vice-Chair made presentations or interventions in the following events during the Marrakech climate change conference:

- (a) UNFCCC Technology Mechanism side event: enhancing climate technology development and transfer;³
 - (b) GCF first annual meeting with the thematic bodies of UNFCCC;⁴
 - (c) High-Level Champions' open-ended discussion on the technical examination processes;
 - (d) Meeting with the SCF co-chairs.
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³ <http://unfccc.int/tclear/events/2016_event3>.

⁴ <<http://www.greenclimate.fund/-/the-green-climate-fund-hosts-its-first-annual-meeting-with-the-thematic-bodies-of-the-unfccc-in-marrake-1>>.