

**Submission by the Arab Republic of Egypt on behalf of the African Group of
Negotiators on
Suggestions for consideration by the LEG in its response to the invitation from
the Conference of the Parties to consider the need to update the LDC work
programme**

05 March 2018

1. Background

The African Group of Negotiators (hereinafter African Group or AGN) welcomes the invitation by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) for suggestions for consideration by the LEG in its response to the invitation from the Conference of the Parties to consider the need to update the Least Developed Countries (LDC) work programme and to make recommendations for consideration by SBI 48.

The SBI, in its report FCCC/SBI/2017/7 paragraph 53, to the 46th session of the SBI, held in Bonn from 8 to 18 May 2017, invited Parties and relevant organizations to submit, by 2 February 2018, suggestions for consideration by the LEG in its response to the invitation from the Conference of Parties to consider the need to update the LDC work programme and to make recommendations for consideration by SBI 48 to be held in April – May 2018.

The African Group makes this submission in response to this call.

2. Rationale

The African Group contains the largest number of least developed countries. All the member states have ratified the UNFCCC, and the majority have also signed and ratified the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement. Some member states have engaged in the preparation of National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs), National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), Technology Needs Assessments (TNAs), and (Intended) Nationally Determined Contributions (I)NDCs), as well as in processes to access financial support from the Green Climate Fund (GCF), including under the Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme, the Project Preparation Facility and the formulation of funding proposals to access funding from the Fund.

3. Progress and developments

With the launch of the initial LDC work programme under decision 5/CP.7, the LEG aimed to address the following priorities:

- Strengthening existing and, where needed, establishing, national climate change secretariats and/or focal points to enable the effective implementation of the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol, in the LDC Parties;
- Providing training, on an ongoing basis, in negotiating skills and language, where needed, to develop the capacity of negotiators from the LDCs to participate effectively in the climate change process;
- Supporting the preparation of NAPAs;

- Promotion of public awareness programmes to ensure the dissemination of information on climate change issues;
- Development and transfer of technologies, particularly adaptation technology (in accordance with decision 4/CP.7);
- Strengthening of the capacity of meteorological and hydrological services to collect, analyse, interpret and disseminate weather and climate information to support implementation of NAPAs.

In general, the LEG successfully managed to achieve many of these priorities, particularly activities related to the preparation and implementation of NAPAs by LDCs. Since then, there have been various developments including the Cancun Adaptation Framework adopted at COP16 in Cancun, Mexico, where the international community agreed on the formulation and implementation of NAMAs and NAPs, as well as the adoption of the Paris Agreement at COP21, which includes a set of adaptation-related provisions, such the preparation of NDCs and implementation of activities contained therein.

4. Suggested activities to update the LDC work programme

The work of the LEG has been very beneficial to the member states of the AGN, particularly the technical support provided for developing and implementing national planning processes, including the NAPAs and the formulation of NAPs. However, the preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of NDCs, NAMAs and NAPs still require technical support from the LEG to support LDCs and other developing countries that are non-LDCs.

Further, the LEG has also been recently tasked with addressing some of the technical questions on adaptation-related processes under the Paris Agreement, which are still being negotiated. Therefore, the work of the LEG must also evolve to support the new needs and obligations of Parties under the Paris Agreement. 2018 is expected to bring forward a set of guidelines regarding the formulation, implementation and update of adaptation communications, including as a component of NDCs. Based on these outcomes, the LEG should support LDCs and other developing countries in providing the necessary information, through appropriate methodologies and approaches that enable the aggregation of such information for consideration at the global stocktake. This will allow the global stocktake to deliver on its functions in relation to adaptation as outlined in Article 7.14 of the Paris Agreement. As such, in updating its work programme, the LEG should allocate sufficient space and resources to allow for such technical support to be included in its work programme.

As such, the African Group believes that some of the key elements to be prioritized by the LEG as they consider revising the LDC work programme, are:

- Close collaboration with the CTCN in providing support for NAPs and technology development and transfer for adaptation, taking into account

opportunities to access financial support for technology development and transfer, such as through the GCF.

- Support national institutions in LDCs, including GCF NDAs/Focal Points, and accredited National Implementing Entities for direct access to make use of the different channels of funding available. As the Board of the GCF takes decisions that facilitate access to the GCF, particularly for LDCs, the LEG should work with the GCF Secretariat, through its existing arrangements, to reach out to LDCs and make information on such developments accessible to them.
- Collaborate with the Global Environment Facility to support LDCs in accessing funding for the formulation and implementation of priorities identified in their TNAs, the implementation of outstanding adaptation priorities in their NAPAs, and in accessing the support from the capacity building initiative for transparency (CBIT) under the Paris Agreement.
- Strengthen the capacity of meteorological and hydrological services in LDCs to collect, analyse, interpret and disseminate weather and climate information to support the implementation of NAPAs, NAPs and NDCs, in line with decision 5/CP.7, including through existing initiatives such as the Africa Adaptation Initiative and in collaboration with specialised agencies such as the WMO.
- With the expected adoption of the Paris Agreement Work Programme at COP24, which includes adaptation-related provisions, the LEG should allocate appropriate space and resources in its work programme to support LDCs and other developing countries, including in collaboration with the Adaptation Committee, in the implementation of such provisions. Such technical support should, above all, be in relation to communicating information to be contained in adaptation communications, including as a component of NDCs, through appropriate methodologies and approaches that enable the global stocktake to undertake its four functions as outlined in Article 7.14 of the Paris Agreement.
- On a similar note, as the Paris Agreement Work Programme is likely to adopt some guidance on the implementation of the adaptation-related provisions of the Paris Agreement and mandate further technical work to be undertaken, the LEG should also allocate sufficient space and resources to work with other bodies under the Convention, as well as other technical bodies such as the IPCC, in undertaking such technical work.