

Submission from the Arab Republic of Egypt on behalf of the African Group of Negotiators (AGN) on possible topics and considerations for the tenth meeting of the Research Dialogue to be held in conjunction with SBSTA 48

02 April 2018

The Government of Egypt on behalf of the African Group of Negotiators (hereafter the African Group) welcomes the opportunity to submit its views on possible topics and considerations on possible topics for the tenth meeting of the Research Dialogue to be held in conjunction with SBSTA-48 (30 April-10 May 2018) and beyond by 2 February 2018, as invited by SBSTA, taking into account the themes and presentations addressed at previous meetings as well as the themes suggested for future consideration as set out in document FCCC/SBSTA/2017/4 paragraph 49.

The African Group welcomes paragraph 49 on the call by SBSTA to take into account the themes and presentations already addressed at previous research dialogue meetings and the themes suggested for future meetings, as well as the topics referred to in paragraph 47 and topic listed as (a) Considering the human dimension, and indigenous peoples' and traditional knowledge; (b) Sustained funding for climate research and climate-relevant data, and advancing open access to climate-relevant public data, also noting the work of the Global Framework for Climate Services and other relevant organizations, particularly on capacity building; (c) Continued research on Earth system modelling in an effort to contribute to reducing projection uncertainty in support of the Paris Agreement; (d) Communicating climate change science, which could be considered as a topic at the research dialogue; and (e) The outputs from downscaling techniques for global climate reanalysis and models, which could be considered as a topic at the research dialogue.

SBSTA also invited Parties, in their submissions, to take into account the report back from the consultations of the Presidencies of COP 22 and COP 23 on the preparations of the 2018 facilitative dialogue, in particular any aspects relating to scientific information.

The African group, while acknowledging the work of the scientific community, research institutions and centers of excellence, also acknowledges the fact that in the UNFCCC, best available science resides with the IPCC. Therefore, the African Group welcomes SBSTA's acknowledgement on the importance of the work of the scientific community and the IPCC in support of strengthening the global response to climate change.

Considerations for SB 48:

As the 2018 facilitative dialogue will take stock of the collective efforts of Parties in relation to progress towards the long-term goal referred to in Article 4, paragraph 1 and the 2018 10th Research Dialogue offers an opportunity for scientists to use themes as guided by the COP 22

and COP 23 Presidencies such as: where are we?, where do we want to go? and how do we get there? to advance discussions on scientific information. The above guiding questions of the 2018 facilitative dialogue could be possible topics for the 2018 Research Dialogue.

Furthermore, the African Group wishes to propose that the Research Dialogue at SB 48 and beyond looks into the following:

- Strengthen research on indigenous knowledge in Africa pertaining to climate change adaptation and resilience building by organizing sub-regional workshops or consultations for data collection and the link to scientific knowledge;
- Build the capacity of young African researchers for climate modeling in Africa by awarding research grants with the support of international organizations and institutions such as OMM, IPCC, universities, etc.;
- Training in modelling as well as downscaling and upgrading of African countries' systems;
- Develop products specific to Africa's diverse ecosystem and climatic habitat such as determination of climatic thresholds for disease and disaster for adequate future planning;
- Conduct applied research and development on mitigation and adaptation technologies necessary for achievement of NDC targets of its member states;
- Strengthen the implementation of the global climate services framework at the national level with strong involvement of meteorological and climate managers in the UNFCCC SAR process;
- Request and support institutions such as ACMAD, AGRHYMET and others to strengthen and improve seasonal and short-term forecasting products as well as decision support tools;
- Strengthen the automated meteorological data collection networks; and
- Strengthen the archiving of climate data and documents that constitute a World Heritage and references for the long-term.

The African Group looks forward to active Research Dialogues during SBSTA 48 and beyond, as it considers that the interaction and exchange of scientific findings are helpful tools to combat climate change. The Research Dialogue is a good opportunity to interact with regional and international organizations, science experts and other Parties, and to exchange knowledge and lessons learnt as well as creating opportunities for African researchers and implementers of research outcomes to team up with their developed country counterparts in scaling up research and its practical application in addressing climate change.