



## **Submission by the Kingdom of Bhutan on behalf of the Least Developed Countries Group regarding the agenda for the 7th in-session Dialogue on Action for Climate Empowerment**

Education, Training, Awareness Raising, Public Participation, Access to Information, International Cooperation

The LDC Group welcomes the opportunity to provide its views regarding the agenda of the upcoming 7th in-session Dialogue on Action for Climate Empowerment to be organized in June 2019 in Bonn.

The LDC Group believes that all six elements of Article 6 are equally essential to support ambitious and effective climate actions. Parties have recognised the importance of ensuring that the Doha Work Programme enhances the implementation of all elements of Article 6 of the Convention: climate education, training, awareness raising, and public access to information, public participation and, as a crosscutting theme, international cooperation.

The LDC Group appreciates the organization of the 6th in-session Dialogue held in Bonn May 2018 and encourages the Secretariat to build on the success of such a participatory format with such inspiring discussions.

As an outcome of the intermediate review of the Doha Work Programme, Parties have agreed that the in-session dialogues must focus on good practices and lessons learned on integrating the six elements of Article 6 in relation to specific areas of implementation of the Convention.

Furthermore, the Parties specifically emphasized the importance for them to continue to promote the systematic integration of gender-sensitive and participatory education, training, public awareness, public participation and public access to information into all mitigation and adaptation activities implemented under the Convention, as well as under the Paris Agreement, including into the implementation of their nationally determined contributions (NDCs) and the formulation of long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies.

According to the biennial structure of the Doha Work Programme, the 7th Dialogue will focus on three of the elements highlighted in Article 6: climate change education, training and international cooperation on these matters.

LDCs believe that the 7th Dialogue will contribute most effectively to this objective if discussions address:

- The integration of education and training into existing climate policies and programmes, at both the national and local level
- The integration of climate education and training in NDCs and long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies
- Education and training as a means to strengthen climate adaptation and address loss and damage, including in relation to the preparation or revision of National Adaptation Plans (NAPs)
- Possible partnership with institutions of the United Nations Alliance on Climate Change Education, training and public awareness, GCF, Adaptation Fund, etc. to create or allocate sustainable funds for implementing all six elements of ACE
- The important role of the education sector at the national and sub-national levels, including especially the role of universities, in building endogenous capacity and long-term capacity-building systems.
- Ways of empowering women, youth, local communities and indigenous people through training on green entrepreneurship, and particularly how this could contribute to eradicating poverty and attaining sustainable development
- Ways of promoting innovation through knowledge and skills transfer and experience sharing between countries.
- Ways of promoting education and learning by capturing best practices and increasing institutional memory, including through the use of universities and other academic institutions
- The Secretariat could do a presentation on how climate change-related education and training have been integrated in the context of national communications
- Practical ways of improving climate change-related education in all its forms (formal, non-formal and informal) for all groups of the society.

In order to begin operationalising some of the above considerations the LDC Group has established an LDC Universities Consortium on Climate Change. This initiative aims to strengthen South-South, South-North and South-North-South learning primarily through universities in LDCs. Recognizing the central role that universities play in society in nurturing discourse and generating solutions to local and global issues, the LDC Group believes that enhancing the capacity of universities to strengthen endogenous capacity with a long-term outlook is essential to addressing climate change at all levels. The LDC Group further believes that promoting local education and training and developing stronger links between universities in different countries will empower more people and more institutions to address the climate crisis.

The LDC Group looks forward to the 7th ACE Dialogue and stand ready to engage in the enhancement of the implementation of education, training, public awareness, public participation and public access to information so as to enhance actions under the Paris Agreement.