

## **Closing statement by Ethiopia on behalf of the Least Developed Countries Group**

Forty-sixth session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI 46)

18 May 2017, Bonn, Germany

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Mr. Chair, distinguished delegates,

1. I have the honour of speaking on behalf of the Least Developed Countries Group. I would like to associate myself with the statements made by Ecuador on behalf of the G77 and China, Maldives on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States and Mali on behalf of the Africa Group.
2. From the outset, I would like to thank you, the co-facilitators and the Secretariat for the hard work during this session in a limited time.
3. Mr. Chair, significant impacts of climate change are being felt in every corner of the world and most severely in our countries. The window of opportunity to address climate change before it locks in even more disastrous impacts is closing quickly. We strongly urge all Parties to make significant progress in both these negotiations and in the implementation of action on the ground.

On implementation, let me start with matters related to finance.

4. On the review of the functions of the Standing Committee on Finance (SCF), the LDC group welcome the draft conclusions adopted at this session and look forward to finalizing the work at COP23. The LDCs would like to see the work of the SCF strengthened in fulfilling its mandate and delivering the work on MRV as well as the mobilization of financial resources. We emphasize that we must give a mandate to the SCF to provide a working definition of climate finance.
5. The LDCs welcome the conclusion on the third review of the Adaptation Fund. The Group emphasizes that we should not link the discussion on the third review with that under APA agenda item 8 in relation to the Adaptation Fund serving the Paris Agreement.
6. We are concerned that the Co-Chairs' text on 'Provision of financial and technical support' does not reflect the concerns raised by developing country Parties on issues around accessing GEF resources. We recommend the GEF to put in place expedited procedures to enable LDCs and SIDS to access funding for technical support in their efforts to cope with climate change.
7. The LDCs is extremely concerned about the lack of resources in the Least Developed Countries Fund. There are 23 NAPA proposals technically cleared and waiting to be funded. We are also expecting funding for NAP formulation and implementation of the LDC work programme. We urge Developed Country Parties to provide financial resources to the LDC Fund

8. On budget discussions we are concerned that some of the priority activities for LDCs are in the supplementary budget, which is subject to voluntary contributions, compromising its implementation. The NAP Expo was one such victim this year.
9. With NAPs being the primary vehicle for our countries for adaptation communications under the Paris Agreement, the NAP Expo is even more important for LDCs so we still hope that the Secretariat can raise funds and hold the NAP Expo before the end of the year.
10. We also request the LDC Expert Group to extend its regional NAP training workshop program and regional NAP-Expo to cover capacity building for the LDCs in addressing direct access for the GCF.
11. With regards to agenda item 5 on the public registry under Article 4.12 of the Paris Agreement, we believe it is important that the registry is accessible and user-friendly. We look forward to further technical discussions on this matter based on the submissions from parties and the existing interim registry.
12. With regards to agenda item 10 - Scope and modalities for periodic assessment of the Technology Mechanism, we welcome the discussions at this session and call for Parties to make financial resources available, so that LDCs can receive tangible support on technology development and transfer. The LDC Group looks forward to continuing the elaboration of the scope and modalities of the periodic assessment at SBI 48.
13. The LDCs appreciate the efforts of the CTCN in providing technical support for technology development and transfer in the form of software. However, we are concerned that that the CTCN does not have sufficient financial resources to provide hardware technology support that is crucial to LDCs. We therefore request an enhanced mandate and financial support to the CTCN to address this glaring need.
14. With regards to agenda item 15, we look forward to having the opportunity to express our views on non-Party stakeholder engagement with a view to considering how such engagement can be enhanced, while ensuring the integrity of the UNFCCC process so that it is consistent with the objectives of the Paris Agreement and the Convention.
15. The LDCs welcome the rich and constructive exchange of views that Parties and observers had at the two-day workshop on gender and climate change. We look forward to completing and adopting the gender action plan at COP 23. We believe the action plan will enhance the implementation of existing gender-related mandates under the Convention and the Paris Agreement in a coherent manner to promote gender balance, women empowerment, gender-responsive policies and climate actions. We are grateful to the Parties which are voluntarily supporting this process with financial resources.

16. We welcome the conclusions of the first meeting of the Paris Committee on Capacity Building to identify capacity gaps and needs in the implementation of adaptation and mitigation actions in developing countries and to recommend ways of addressing them. The group calls for financial support to PCCB to implement their 2017 – 2019 work plan for capacity development in developing countries, in particular, countries with least capacity such as the LDCs and the SIDS.

The Group wishes to express disappointment at lack of progress made on matters related to capacity building. To ensure progress going forward, we do not believe that the annual monitoring and evaluation of the capacity building framework for developing countries should be considered together with the fourth review of the framework for countries with economies in transition. These two issues are distinct from each other, and therefore they should be discussed separately and form separate conclusions and decisions.

17. We also want to thank all Parties engaged on the Multilateral Assessment and Facilitative Sharing of Views at this session. We look forward to the implementation of the outcomes from the Technical Experts Meetings on Mitigation and Adaptation.

18. Finally, we wish to reiterate our concern that observers were excluded from some of our deliberations. We hope this will change and observers will have access in the future.

I thank you Chair.