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**Submission by Ethiopia on Behalf of the Least Developed Country Group on APA agenda item 4 on Adaptation Communication with focus on proposals for elements and skeleton outlines contained in the Informal Note<sup>1</sup>**

The Group of Least Developed Countries (LDC Group) welcomes the opportunity to submit its views on the adaptation communication with focus on the proposals for elements and skeleton outlines as contained in the informal note prepared by the Co-Facilitators. The Group appreciates the effort made by the Co-Facilitators during the third part of the first session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement in facilitating discussions on the adaptation communication and providing space for Parties to reflect their views on the Purpose, Elements and Linkages. The sessions served as a tool for Parties to exchange their views and advance on the work under this agenda item.

**National Circumstances, including Institutional arrangements**

Adaptation communications are an important tool for countries to communicate their adaptation needs and priorities, plans and actions as well as required indicative levels of support for developed countries. Through this, the LDC Group believes that it would enhance support for adaptation action and support, and inform to the overall progress towards the Global Goal for Adaptation. The communication by Parties will ensure parity of adaptation with that of mitigation as these are not mutually exclusive. The communication will also assist countries in raising and mobilizing adequate support for adaptation action implementation based on developing countries' adaptation needs.

**Impacts, Vulnerabilities and Risk Assessments (including future Scenarios)**

Under common elements countries should communicate current and future impacts, vulnerability and risk assessments along with national circumstances, and institutional arrangements. Building on their vulnerability assessments and national development plans and actions, countries should indicate their adaptation priorities, including prioritized sectors associated costs and geographies in their adaptation communications as well as options for climate adaptation response.

**Priorities, Policies, Plans, actions, strategies and/or programmes as appropriate**

Countries need to communicate their national adaptation priorities, plans and development priorities in the context of sustainable development. This could include planning objectives for adaptation in the context of national development priorities and country programmes towards

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<sup>1</sup> The final iteration of the Informal Note by the Co-Facilitators dated 17 Sept 2017  
[http://unfccc.int/files/meetings/bonn\\_may\\_2017/in-session/application/pdf/apa\\_4\\_informal\\_note\\_final.pdf](http://unfccc.int/files/meetings/bonn_may_2017/in-session/application/pdf/apa_4_informal_note_final.pdf)

building resilience national and sub-national policies, institutional frameworks as well as programs and projects, including those targeted at specific sectors.

### **Adaptation support needs of developing country parties**

Developed country Parties shall biennially communicate indicative quantitative and qualitative information on the projected levels of public financial resources to be provided to developing country Parties as per Article 9.5 of the Paris Agreement. Developing countries should communicate their needs, including on capacity-building, technology development and transfer and finance, along with associated costs for adaptation. However, it should be recognized that most developing countries particularly LDCs don't have the capacity to cost their adaptation financial needs. Therefore, the provision of support for developing countries is critical for this purpose. Adaptation communications should also recognize the adaptation efforts of developing countries and will enhance sharing of experiences and lesson learned. This will bring good adaptation practices to light while recognizing the adaptation efforts of developing countries.

### **Biennial communication**

In light of the biennial communication, some information related to adaptation are long term and will not change in the course of the reporting cycle. But developed countries could communicate biennially the indicative support for developing countries including finance, technology and capacity building.

### **Reflection on Skeleton Outlines**

The LDC Group welcomes the different skeleton outlines proposed in the informal note that was prepared by the Co-Facilitators. Based on the skeleton outline as proposed by the G77 and China, the LDC Group provides some suggestions for the further elaboration of the skeleton outline in the annex to this submission. The Group is looking forward to engaging in a fruitful discussion on the elements and skeleton during the APA 1.4 in Bonn.

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## Annex

### LDC Group Proposal for the Skeleton Outline

#### *(1) Preamble/Introductory remark*

- Recalling relevant provisions of the Paris Agreement
- Noting that the Adaptation Communication is an important tool for achieving the mitigation and adaptation goals of the Paris Agreement

#### *(2) Guiding Principles/Guidance*

- Recognizing the special circumstances to LDCs and SIDs
- Recognizing the flexibility with reporting vehicles
- The need for adaptation communication to be country driven

#### *(3) Purpose*

- Contribute and inform progress towards the global goal for adaptation
- Enhancing support for adaptation actions and plans/catalyze support to implement communicated adaptation action
- Better understanding of adaptation needs of developing country for action and support
- Assist the multilateral process in the review of adequacy and effectiveness of action and support
- Means to share lessons among countries to enhance implementation of adaptation action

#### *(4) Elements*

##### *1.1. (a) Common elements*

- Vulnerabilities and risk assessments, including future scenarios and risks faced in the short-, medium- and long-term
- Plans, priorities and actions including policies, strategies, and programmes
- Adaptation support needs by developing countries Including cost of meeting those adaptation needs
- Biennial information on indicative levels of financial support by developed countries

1.2. *(b) Additional/Opt in Opt out/Optional*

- Legal and institutional frameworks
- Monitoring and Evaluation of adaptation actions

*(5) Vehicles*

- Acknowledge the flexibility on Vehicles for Adaptation communication.
- Building up on existing vehicles

*(6) Linkages*

- Enhanced Transparency Framework that is the backward looking element
- The global stocktake to assess and aggregate the overall progress towards the global goal

*(7) Support for developing country Parties (including in the preparation, submission and implementation of adaptation communications)*

- Means of implementation Support (including capacity Building, technology transfer and Finance) provided by developed countries
- Means of implementation Support (including capacity Building, technology transfer and Finance) required to meet adaptation needs by developing countries and obtained support.

*(8) Other matters*

- Cross cutting issues such as gender should also be considered in developing effective adaptation communications