

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

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

08 May 2017, Bonn, Germany

**Mr. Chair, distinguished delegates,**

1. I have the honour to speak on behalf of the Least Developed Countries Group. I would like to associate myself with the statement made by Ecuador on behalf of the G77 and China.
2. From the outset, I would like to thank you for the various reports, analysis and compilation of information you have made available on different agenda items under the SBI.

Mr. Chair,

3. Let me start with the issues that are the most important to our Group.
4. On matters relating to LDCs, there is a need to broaden the scope of the LDC work programme in line with the evolving needs of LDCs as we implement the Paris Agreement. The LDC Expert Group (LEG) is mandated to make relevant recommendations for updating the LDC work programme with a view to adopting them at COP 24. The LEG is also mandated to provide technical guidance and advice on needs related to adaptation arising from the Paris Agreement and decisions adopted at COP 21. We request the SBI to call for submissions by this summer to inform this work of the LEG and request the LEG to report on this at SBI 47.
5. We are very disappointed with the cancellation of the NAP Expo that was planned for April of this year. 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 event before the end of the year. We also recognize the need for additional resources for the LEG's work programme for 2017-2018 including for regional NAP Expos and NAP regional collaboration nodes.
6. With respect to the LDC Fund, there is an urgent need to adequately replenish the LDCF to fully implement the LDC work programme, including NAPAs, and the formulation of NAPs, yet the LDCF remains unresourced.

7. We also need to ensure that funds from the GCF are actually accessible and flowing to LDCs, including for formulating and implementing NAPs. Since last November, no NAP formulation activity has been approved and no funding has been disbursed by the GCF. We look forward to addressing the root cause of these delays at this session and urge the GCF and relevant agencies to promptly overcome any technical challenges in view of the urgency of adaptation for the most vulnerable.
8. Still on matters related to implementation in our countries, we are struggling to get our requests for readiness and project funding approved or our NIEs accredited by the GCF. Recognising the additional capacity and resource constraints in LDCs, the GCF should prioritise more direct engagement and information sharing with LDCs to streamline and expedite the process of accrediting NIEs in our countries. Also, for LDCs to be able to access funding through NIEs, we request the LEG to prioritize providing technical guidance and support to the LDCs on accessing readiness support including for NAP formulation.

Mr. Chair,

9. We have made a submission on the Review of the Functions of the SCF in which we have identified the need to strengthen the SCF by focussing on its mandate of mobilising and scaling up resources, including for activities related to loss and damage, and by increasing its efficiency while improving the coherence and coordination of the delivery of climate change financing in general.

Mr. Chair,

10. Technology plays an important role in the implementation of climate action under the Paris Agreement so the Technology Mechanism needs to be more functional and practical. The LDC Group has made a submission on this matter.
11. We note with concern that in relation to the periodic review of the Technology Mechanism, only the scope and modalities in supporting the implementation of the Paris Agreement will be discussed during this session. Implementation of technology need assessments and issues related to the availability and access to finances for environmentally sound technologies should also be discussed. We request space to enable us to discuss these crucial issues.
12. On matters related to capacity-building, we look forward to engaging during the first meeting of the PCCB and the 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Durban Forum. We have made submissions on both of these and would like to highlight the need to allocate adequate time in both fora to discuss important capacity-building issues more fully.

Mr. Chair,

13. In relation to the periodic review of the long-term global goal, it is important to have further progress on defining the scope of the next periodic review in accordance with relevant past decisions. It would be useful to have an in-session workshop on the scope of the next periodic review.

14. Much progress need to be made on public registry. We understand that this is linked with the discussions on features of NDCs. The aim must be to have a common reporting format related to transparency with flexibility for LDCs and SIDS.

Mr. Chair,

15. We believe that gender discussions have evolved well and that there is need to ensure that Parties start implementing the provisions and mandates in the gender related decisions to ensure coherence and adequate tracking of actions. We look forward to productive engagement during the workshop as we aim to elaborate on the contents of the gender action plan, particularly on how the plan provides the space for implementing gender actions within the Convention as well as the Paris Agreement.

Mr. Chair

16. In conclusion, our Group believes that the SBI can reach substantive outcomes on a number of issues here in Bonn while paving the way for important decisions to be adopted at the COP in November.

17. With regard to the Technical Expert Meetings (TEMs) on both mitigation and adaptation, we are grateful that our concern regarding the absence of representatives of the Operating Entities of the Financial Mechanism of the Convention from the initial TEM agendas has been addressed. The engagement of representatives of the Operating Entities is important so that participants can be informed of their contribution to facilitating progress in the implementation of policies, practices and actions identified during the technical examination process.

18. We look forward to working with you and providing our full support.

I thank you.