

Statement by the Democratic Republic of Ethiopia on behalf of the Least Developed Countries Group at the joint closing session of APA1.5, SBI48 and SBSTA48

10 May 2018. Bonn, Germany

Distinguished Chairs and Co-Chairs of the APA, SBI and SBSTA, Excellencies and colleagues,

I have the privilege to speak on behalf of the Least Developed Countries Group.

I would like to thank you for the continued engagement you have shown during this 48th Session of the SBI and SBSTA and fifth part of the resumed first session of the APA, to advance the discussions on various agenda items. The LDC Group acknowledges the progress made, and renews its engagement to further the work conducted so far here at this session.

We would like to present our views on the outcomes of the sessions conducted under the APA, SBI and SBSTA.

Under the APA, intercessional work that you and the Chairs of the SBI and SBSTA will undertake between now and the additional session in Bangkok is crucial. We need it to bring greater focus to our work under each element of the Paris Agreement Work Programme.

When we leave Bangkok in September we must have a clear basis for negotiations in the form of decision text to consider before and during COP 24. Therefore, the Bangkok session needs to be carefully planned to get us to that important milestone before COP 24.

There are also clear linkages across the body of work under the Paris Agreement Work Programme. We look forward to the pre-session roundtables in Bangkok to advance these cross-cutting linkages that are important to advance the work of PAWP.

In relation to **APA agenda item 3**, the group is pleased that Parties engaged constructively, although we recognise that a lot of work still needs to be done. We would like to thank the co-facilitators for the tool that streamlined the informal document, which we think will help Parties move forward. We look forward to seeing the tool from the APA Co-Chairs in August and hope to engage on clear options in Bangkok with the view of moving towards an agreed basis of negotiation text.

On **APA agenda item 4**, the work has been relatively slow but progress has been made. We appreciate the work of all Parties and the co-Facilitators for the final iteration that will serve as the basis for Bangkok session and the intercessional work by the Co-Chairs. Parties need to progress into more substantive discussion to bring more clarity to the guidance beginning in Bangkok.

On **APA agenda item 5**, the LDC group welcomes progress made at the session but notes that the pace of work needs to accelerate in Bangkok as work in this session has only covered a small part of the elements in the informal note. We did not have time to engage in substantive discussions and need to find the time to complete this work in Bangkok.

On **APA agenda item 6**, the Group welcomes the outcome document and would like to mandate the Co-Chairs to streamline the text to convert it into decision language that can be used as the basis for negotiations. We would like to have space to discuss the timing and process of the global stocktake framework. We are pleased to see loss and damage reflected and look forward to ensuring it is properly institutionalised in the global stocktake. We also look forward to the operationalisation of equity, which is expressed in Article 2.2 of the Paris Agreement to mean responsibility, capability and national circumstances.

On **APA agenda item 7**, we have made some progress on a few elements of the informal note and look forward to continuing discussions in Bangkok, with the Co-Chairs' tool and informal note from this session being the basis of progressing towards negotiations text.

We look forward to advance the work on issues under **Agenda item 8** of the APA during the resumed Bangkok session. We should prioritize our work for the next sessions particularly on decisions that we have to take this year on the Adaptation Fund.

In addition to our work related to the the Paris Agreement Work Programme, we especially appreciated the opportunity to engage in the **Talanoas and the Suva expert dialogue** on loss and damage here in Bonn.

With COP 24 just over the horizon, we hope to build on these fruitful exchanges to ensure the Talanoa Dialogue process delivers the increase in ambition needed to keep global temperatures from rising more than 1.5 degrees above pre-industrial levels. This goes hand in hand with significantly increasing our efforts to effectively address loss and damage that is devastating many of our countries and our communities, first and foremost the poorest and most vulnerable among us.

The 1.5 degrees goal has to be our baseline for ambition and success. And we not only have to believe that the 1.5 degrees goal is possible but actually do everything in our power to achieve it. The countless millions on the front lines of climate change impacts that the LDCs represent deserve nothing less if they are to have any chance of rising out of poverty, living in dignity, shaping their futures to prosper.

Regarding work under the **subsidiary bodies**,

For the **National Adaptation Plans**, we appreciate the progress made during SBI48. The Group reiterates the significance of adaptation and recognizes that Parties are progressively engaged in formulating their national adaptation plans. It's important to note here that while many developing countries have initiated the NAPs process, the LDCs still face difficulties in accessing support from various sources, including the GCF for the formulation of NAPs. Furthermore, we are also still waiting to hear from the GCF on how it will support the implementation of the NAPs as was decided by COP in Decision 1/CP21 in Paris.

On **Adaptation Committee**

We recognize some progress during the SB48 and would like to continue in this spirit to close this issue in Bangkok. We would like to reiterate that G77 and China submitted specific and critical proposals of adjustments to the AC and LEG recommendations in the AC Report and we believe that resumed session in Bangkok should be the moment to engage with colleagues

on those proposals and avoid to delay this discussion to COP 24. Therefore, the LDC Group would like to invite and encourage all Parties to get involved constructively in this conversation as this represents an integral and indispensable part of the implementation of adaptation provisions under the Paris Agreement.

On matters relating to the LDCs,

We welcome the updated LDC Work Programme and the proposed Draft Decision to the COP. However, we note, with concern, that not much work has been done in addressing the issue of those Least Developed Countries which are in the process of smooth graduation. It is important that the transition of these countries is smooth to ensure that programmes are not abruptly disrupted. We expect Parties to do their necessary consultations so that we conclude on this matter at SBI 50.

With regards to Loss and damage,

The LDC Group engaged actively in the Suva Expert Dialogue. We look forward for a concrete outcome to translate the outcome of discussions into action contributing to the review of the WIM in 2019. The LDCs Group expects that the WIM to become much more robust mechanism following the review with provisions for channeling support to LDCs and other developing countries for addressing loss and damage. For the LDC Group it is critical that we now move beyond discussing the needs for addressing loss and damage to ensuring they are met. However, it's worth noting that, insurance was discussed with more emphasis here in Suva Expert Dialogue, but it needs to explore the financial entities and mechanisms to address loss and damage, in particular in LDCs.

On research and Systematic Observation

The LDC group acknowledge the draft conclusion proposed by the SBSTA chair for this agenda item. The LDC stresses the need for a formal space in advance of COP24 for experts to present findings of the IPCC's special report on Global warming of 1.5°C to Parties, and for Parties to consider and understand these findings. We are deeply concerned that the IPCC Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C has been relegated to a footnote in the draft conclusions. It is no way to show respect for the IPCC. The LDCs look forward to receiving this report in October, and welcome all of the IPCC's hard work on all of the reports under the sixth assessment cycle.

On market and non-market-based approaches,

LDC Group welcomes the revised informal notes by Co-chairs of the informal documents prepared by SBSTA Chair on cooperative approaches, market mechanism and on non market mechanisms. The draft conclusions adopted here at SBSTA 48 provides the minimum inputs for the way forward to the next session. Therefore, we are encouraging Parties to engage in fruitful discussions during the resumed session of SBSTA 48 in Bangkok and look forward to translating the informal notes into draft negotiation text

On matters relating to Climate Finance,

Deliberations were held during SBI 48 that adopted conclusion and agreed on updated informal note on identification of quantitative and qualitative information to be provided that Parties will build up on at the next session. Our group is ready to work on the informal note issued by the co-facilitators as a good basis to refine and finalize the work at the next session. It is important that Parties at the next session start textual negotiations on this matter.

On Accounting Modalities,

The LDC group acknowledges the advancements made during SBSTA 48 which agreed an informal note with elements on how to account and track financial resources provided and mobilized through public interventions. It is critical that we get into textual negotiations at the next session and finalize it as soon as possible. Furthermore, we would like to stress that the modalities that are to be developed should provide us with clarity on what counts as scaled-up, new and additional climate finance. It is also important that the progress on this agenda item is closely coordinated with the work in the APA in order to ensure coherence and coordination on the future modalities, procedures and guidelines for the transparency framework.

On Capacity-building,

The LDCs welcome draft conclusions on SBI agenda items 16 (a) and (b) and calls for support to the group to address emerging capacity gaps, needs and constraints with regard to the implementation of NDCs, NAPs and access to finance, among others. The group also wishes to encourage parties and other stakeholders to intensify their efforts and assist the LDCs to address the gaps.

On Budget, the LDCs Group would like to express concern about the level of outstanding contributions to the core budget. This compromises seriously the implementation of some important activities. We take note of the Secretariat regarding the possible approaches for prioritization and budgetary implications of decisions of governing bodies and conclusions of subsidiary bodies. The LDCs would like to stress that in choosing any budget approaches, it is important to take into account LDCs priorities, especially regarding adaptation activities.

On matters relating to Technology transfer and development,

We welcome the views of parties in their efforts to ensure that Technology Framework is operationalized and serves the Paris Agreement. There is need for further clarity on the structure/ arrangement that can and will cause effective operationalization of the Technology Framework, including linkage with and role of other stakeholders.

On the Review of the CTCN, we wish to point out that CTCN alone cannot deliver on its mandate. All other key stakeholders need to be supported or be brought on board. The NDEs, for instance are responsible for mobilizing requests from their respective countries, they require additional technical and financial support for the implementation of their mandate and collaboration with CTCN

On the scope and modalities of the periodic assessment of technology mechanism, as LDCs we believe that for the mechanism to effectively deliver on its mandate and functions it requires relevant technical and financial support. We wish to emphasize the need for periodic assessment to focus on adequacy of support and how this support can be accessed.

With regards to **Common time frames** for nationally determined contributions referred to in Article 4, paragraph 10, of the Paris Agreement. The group sees the importance of common time frames as it helps to aggregate and assess the collective progress of efforts contained in NDCs, for example in relation to the effectiveness of the global stock take process.

With regards to the Public registry (Article 7.12) the LDC Group appreciates the efforts made by Parties under the SBI agenda item 6 Development of modalities and procedures for the operation and use of a public registry referred to in Article 4, paragraph 12, of the Paris Agreement. The agreement on the Co-facilitators' Informal Note gave Parties assurance to continue deliberations on this item at the resumed session of the SBI.

The LDCs are pleased with the rich discussions and sharing of experience that Parties have had at **the in-session gender workshops as part of the Lima Work Programme on Gender and Gender action plan**, on differentiated impacts of climate change, integration of gender into national plans and on measures to achieve the goal of gender balance.

On these remarks, the LDC Group would like to thank you again for this opportunity to share outcomes and next steps of the process. As always, we have full confidence in your chairmanships, the process, and stand ready to work constructively with you to deliver the best outcomes on all the important issues during the next phases of this process at the resumed Bangkok session.

Thank you all for your engagement.