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Item 11 of the provisional agenda

Cooperation with relevant international organizations

**Summary of cooperative activities with United Nations entities
and intergovernmental organizations to contribute to
work under the Convention**

Note by the secretariat

Summary

This report provides an overview of some of the collaborative activities, initiatives and programmes that the secretariat is engaged in with United Nations entities, convention secretariats and intergovernmental organizations in order to facilitate an effective international response to climate change. The report covers the collaborative activities that the secretariat has been involved in since the thirtieth session of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice. The report addresses: (1) activities initiated by the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination; (2) specific areas of cooperation by thematic area; and (3) collaborative initiatives and programmes. Supporting the implementation of the Convention is a key objective of the secretariat's work with international organizations.

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I. Introduction

A. Mandate

1. The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA), at its thirtieth session, requested the secretariat to prepare, before sessions at which the agenda item on cooperation with relevant international organizations is taken up, an information paper summarizing relevant cooperative activities.¹

B. Background

2. Cooperation among international organizations, United Nations entities, other convention secretariats and intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) is very important for an effective international response to climate change. The Convention states that the Conference of the Parties (COP) shall “seek and utilize...the services and cooperation of, and information provided by, competent international organizations and intergovernmental and non-governmental bodies” (Article 7, para.2 (l)). The aim is to ensure that the UNFCCC process has the best scientific and other relevant information available. The COP and its subsidiary bodies seek to ensure that the climate change related activities of other international organizations are coherent with the UNFCCC process and respond to the needs of the Parties, taking into account the potential linkages and synergies that may exist.

3. At the twenty-sixth, twenty-eighth and thirtieth sessions of the SBSTA, the Executive Secretary provided an oral report on the cooperative activities and efforts by United Nations entities and IGOs to address climate change and to contribute to the work under the Convention.

C. Possible action by the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice

4. The SBSTA may wish to take note of the information provided in this document. It may wish to invite Parties to comment on the activities summarized below in chapters 2, 3 and 4.

II. Activities initiated by the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination

5. The United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) furthers coordination and cooperation on a range of substantive and management issues facing organizations of the United Nations system. Under the leadership of the Secretary-General, the CEB has undertaken an extensive exercise in coordination to align the strengths, capacities and expertise of the organizations of the United Nations system in order to “deliver as one” on climate change.²

6. The CEB is supported by three high-level committees, including the High-Level Committee on Programmes, which promotes global policy coherence, including the development of common policy tools.

7. A number of activities and initiatives have been undertaken by the CEB since SBSTA 30. This work uses a framework for action based on the basic principles of the ongoing climate negotiations. The framework comprises the following areas:

- (a) Focus areas:
- Adaptation;
 - Technology transfer;

¹ FCCC/SBSTA/2009/3, paragraph 128.

² <<http://www.un.org/climatechange/pdfs/Acting%20on%20Climate%20Change.pdf>>.

- Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries (REDD);
 - Financing mitigation and adaptation;
 - Capacity-building;
- (b) Cross-cutting areas:
- Climate knowledge: science, assessment, monitoring and early warning;
 - Support to global, regional and national action;
 - Public awareness;
 - Climate-neutral United Nations.

8. All organizations of the United Nations system are engaged individually and through collaborative and innovative projects and programmes in the areas referred to in paragraph 7 above. Several specific activities have been launched, providing an effective support platform for the efforts of Parties to fight climate change through both domestic action and international cooperation. Such initiatives include:

- **A One UN Training Service Platform on Climate Change** (UN CC:Learn) with a searchable inventory of United Nations training and learning material online, a One UN Climate Change Training Package and provision of support to country-driven processes to strengthen human resources, learning and skills development on climate change;
- **Capacity development for national policymakers** through regional and subregional preparatory workshops for climate change negotiators from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties), technical and policy support to non-Annex I Parties for preparing their national communications and strengthening the capacity of developing countries to assess climate change policy options across different sectors and economic activities;
- **A Climate Financing Platform** that will help match developers of projects with donors;
- **A United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (UN-REDD)** in support of nine UN-REDD partner countries as they build capacity on REDD, and of country and global level capacity-building, especially for negotiators on REDD;
- **An Adaptation Policy Brief** bringing together good practices and available resources in the United Nations system in support of action on adaptation;
- **An Adaptation Learning Mechanism**, a global inter-agency knowledge platform available online, to support growth in climate change adaptation learning, featuring practical guidance and good practice on climate change adaptation from practitioners in the field (<<http://www.adaptationlearning.net/>>);
- **A Global Framework for Climate Services**, endorsed by the World Climate Conference-3, which is to be elaborated further in the coming months. The framework aims to link science-based climate predictions and information with the management of climate-related risks and opportunities and to support adaptation to climate variability and change;

- A **Gateway to the UN System's Work on Climate Change** serves as the central portal for all climate change related activities of organizations of the United Nations system (<<http://www.un.org/climatechange>>), complemented by a searchable online inventory of activities within the United Nations system on climate change (<<http://www.un.org/climatechange/projectsearch>>);
- A **Green Economy Initiative**, which builds on mutually beneficial synergies in the response of the international community to the challenges of climate change and the global financial and economic crisis, focusing on 'green growth' and 'green job creation'.

9. The secretariat participated in all the activities mentioned in paragraph 8 above and, where applicable, used the collaborative efforts to further the implementation of decisions taken under the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol.

III. Specific areas of cooperation

10. This chapter provides an overview of areas of cooperation by thematic area. It is not intended to be a comprehensive account of all activities, initiatives and programmes undertaken. It should be noted that some thematic areas, such as adaptation, are not covered in this section. Adaptation has been addressed in chapter IV, where the work undertaken under the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change is highlighted.

A. Technology

11. The secretariat continues to collaborate with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in the preparation and widespread distribution of the revised UNDP Handbook for Conducting Technology Needs Assessments for Climate Change.³ Active cooperation also exists with the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in relation to the implementation of the Poznan strategic programme on technology transfer.

12. A series of regional workshops have been organized to assist non-Annex I Parties in preparing technology transfer projects for financing in partnership with the Climate Technology Initiative, the GEF, UNEP and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). The African regional workshop was held in Gaborone, Botswana, in September 2009. The workshops for the Latin America and the Caribbean region and the Asia and the Pacific region are scheduled for 2010.

13. Moreover, many of the operational activities of the Expert Group on Technology Transfer involve collaboration between the secretariat and other organizations of the United Nations system such as UNDP, UNEP, the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, UNIDO and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), including the organization of regional workshops on technology needs assessments and expert workshops.

B. Biodiversity, land-use and forest-related issues

14. The secretariat continues to collaborate with the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) on biodiversity, land-use and forest-related issues by contributing to documents and participating in meetings and online forums. There was also an exchange of scientific information between the secretariats, and submissions were made by the CBD and the UNCCD under the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention (AWG-LCA). Further work between the secretariats was undertaken in the context of mandates given by the Conferences of the Parties to the respective conventions.

³ United Nations Development Programme. 2009. *Handbook for Conducting Technology Needs Assessments for Climate Change*. Available at <http://unfccc.int/ttclear/pdf/TNAHandbook_9-15-2009.pdf>.

15. The secretariats of the CBD, the UNCCD and the UNFCCC are members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF). They collaborate with other members in various activities to promote the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forest and strengthen long-term political commitment to this end. All members of the CPF contributed to the *Strategic Framework for Forests and Climate Change*,⁴ a document that was published with the aim of enhancing a coordinated response from the forestry sector to climate change. CPF members are also supporting the preparations for sessions of the United Nations Forum on Forests and their activities in relation to the International Year of Forests in 2011.

16. In addition, the secretariat participated in a CPF initiative on forest degradation, established in 2009. The initiative published a technical paper on a comparative analysis of existing definitions of forest degradation and country case studies entitled *Towards Defining Forest Degradation: Comparative Analysis of Existing Definitions*.⁵ Outcomes of the work have been presented at several forestry-related conferences and events and at relevant United Nations sessions. The initiative will continue its work in 2010.

17. The secretariat participated in a technical advisory group on sustainable forest management led by the GEF in 2009. The technical advisory group drafted a strategy paper for the sustainable forest management focal area that would enable the GEF to secure a substantial amount for the fifth replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund and to fulfil its mandate to promote multiple global environmental benefits from sustainable management of all types of forest.

18. The secretariat is also following closely as an observer the work of the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility and the Forest Investment Program under the Strategic Climate Fund of the World Bank; both initiatives support activities in relation to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries. The secretariat is also an observer on the board of the UN-REDD programme, and provides updates at meetings of the board on progress in the negotiations on relevant issues.

19. The secretariat of the UNCCD organized Land Day on the margins of the thirtieth sessions of the subsidiary bodies to highlight the important linkage between the UNCCD and the UNFCCC, and it plans to convene a similar event on the margins of the thirty-second sessions of the subsidiary bodies.

C. Finance and economic development

20. The secretariat engages with the GEF on an ongoing basis, as the GEF is an operating entity of the financial mechanism. The secretariat also collaborates closely with the International Energy Agency, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), UNDP, UNEP (especially the United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative) and the World Bank in the context of its work on financial flows to address climate change. During 2009, these institutions also contributed to the work of the AWG-LCA on issues of institutional arrangements and delivery channels, especially to enhance private-sector participation, for both mitigation and adaptation.

1. Finance Portal for Climate Change

21. The Finance Portal for Climate Change was initiated at COP 15 by the secretariat in response to a mandate⁶ from the COP, instructing the secretariat to collect information from multilateral and regional financial institutions on activities funded in developing countries to implement the Convention. The Finance Portal for Climate Change will serve as a central point for bringing together information on available climate financing resources and identified climate financing needs. The information is

⁴ <<http://www.fao.org/forestry/16639-1-0.pdf>>.

⁵ <<http://www.fao.org/forestry/cpf/degradation/en/>>.

⁶ Decision 11/CP.1, paragraph 2.

expected to be used by Parties as a way of better informing the intergovernmental process on availability of financial resources and identified resource needs.

22. One of the initiatives of the CEB mentioned in chapter II above is a Climate Financing Platform to help match developers of projects with donors. The secretariat has worked in close collaboration with UNDP and the World Bank Group (WBG) on this initiative. UNDP and WBG are developing a complementary portal that will support addressing information needs on the multitude of funds available for climate action in developing countries. The UNDP/WBG portal aims to provide relevant examples of how an enabling policy environment can leverage public and private funds for climate change. Based on experiences documented in project portfolios, the portal highlights successful cases of combining different types of finance such as grant, concessional and commercial funds.

23. An informal working group comprised of a number of Parties was convened to advise the initial development of the finance portal in August 2009 in Bonn, Germany. A prototype of the Finance Portal for Climate Change and a test version of the UNDP/WBG portal were jointly presented for feedback from Parties at a side event at the Barcelona Climate Change Talks held in Barcelona, Spain, in November 2009. The secretariat and UNDP and WBG are planning another joint side event at the thirty-second sessions of the subsidiary bodies with a view to ensuring continued engagement of Parties in the development of the portal.

2. The National Economic, Environment and Development Studies project

24. The Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI), at its twenty-eighth session, in its consideration of the fourth review of the financial mechanism, requested the secretariat to provide, upon request, information to non-Annex I Parties on the assessment of financing needs to implement mitigation and adaptation measures.⁷ In response to this mandate, 11 Parties requested assistance from the secretariat in conducting financial needs assessments. The project involved close collaboration with UNDP and the World Bank to ensure complementarity in the implementation of the project and in identifying follow-up activities at the national level. The participating Parties are expected to complete the assessments during the first half of 2010. A final report will be made available for consideration by the SBI at its thirty-second session.

25. The secretariat is engaged in the discussions of the UNEP-led Issue Management Group on a Green Economy and is contributing to the work based on the results of the National Economic, Environment and Development Studies project. The group was established at the fifteenth senior officials meeting of the Environmental Management Group (EMG), held on 23 September 2009 in New York, United States of America, to assess how the United Nations system could more coherently support countries in making the transition to a 'green economy' and to work on communicating the common understanding of the green economy in a consistent manner and on measures needed to support the transition. The group is tasked with preparing a focused and forward-looking inter-agency assessment report on the United Nations system and a green economy, building on and complementing relevant initiatives, reports and country studies. The report is expected to be completed in mid-2011.

D. Technical assistance to developing countries

1. Review of capacity-building

26. There was collaboration with UNCCD, UNDP, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), UNITAR and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) on the annual review process of the implementation of the framework for capacity-building in developing countries established under decision 2/CP.7 in September and October 2009.

⁷ FCCC/SBI/2008/8, paragraph 30.

2. The One UN Training Service Platform on Climate Change

27. UN CC:Learn under the CEB is a collaboration of more than 20 United Nations agencies, which seeks to foster knowledge sharing and strengthening of climate change learning and skills development in Member States. UN CC:Learn was developed in a step-by-step manner and includes three activity areas that are linked: (1) knowledge management; (2) development of a One UN Climate Change Training Package; and (3) support of country-driven learning and skills development strategies on climate change.

28. Training on climate change in the United Nations system, in collaboration with UNDP, UNEP and UNITAR, is ongoing. UNITAR and UNESCO assisted with the regional workshop on Article 6 of the Convention for the Asia and the Pacific region, which was convened in Bali, Indonesia, in October 2009. At the workshop, UNITAR made presentations on UN CC:Learn.

3. Technical support to least developed countries

29. Collaboration to build capacity in least developed countries (LDCs) is ongoing. The secretariat is working with the GEF and its implementing agencies to provide technical support and training to LDCs under the work programme of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG). A training package is available which includes the *Step-By-Step Guide for Implementing National Adaptation Programmes of Action*, presentation materials, case studies and a CD-ROM resource kit. The package has been produced in three languages – English, French and Portuguese. These materials are distributed in hard copy as well as electronically through the LDC web portal.⁸

30. Regional training workshops have been convened in three regions and two more are planned in the near future. In addition, the GEF and its agencies participated in the sixteenth and seventeenth meetings of the LEG, organized by the secretariat, in September 2009 and April 2010, respectively.

31. The secretariat is cooperating with the United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States in preparing a progress report on the implementation of the Brussels Declaration and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010 under the theme of climate change. A meeting is planned in the second half of 2010 to finalize the report for submission to United Nations Headquarters. The secretariat will undertake this task in close collaboration with a number of United Nations organizations and other stakeholder groups.

4. National communications from non-Annex I Parties

32. The secretariat is collaborating closely with the National Communications Support Programme (NCSP) of UNDP and UNEP in the provision of technical support to non-Annex I Parties in the preparation of their national communications. UNDP and UNEP participate in the deliberations of the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (CGE) as experts representing international organizations. To ensure that activities relating to technical support for non-Annex I Parties are well coordinated, the secretariat and the Chair of the CGE participate in the discussions of the technical advisory group of NCSP. NCSP, through the GEF, provides regular reports to the SBI on the status of preparation of national communications.

5. Outreach efforts involving youth

33. Engagement of the youth on the issue of climate change continues. In July 2009, there was an international seminar on climate change education in collaboration with UNESCO and a Children's Climate Forum during COP 15 in collaboration with the United Nations Children's Fund. There was also collaboration among a number of partners in the implementation of the Joint Framework Initiative on Children, Youth and Climate Change. Some activities included the inter-agency meeting on youth, which was organized by the secretariat on 4 September 2009, the launch of the publication *Growing*

⁸ <http://unfccc.int/cooperation_support/least_developed_countries_portal/items/4751.php>.

Together in a Changing Climate,⁹ the Youth Booth at COP 15 where participating United Nations agencies and youth organizations presented their initiatives on climate change and youth, an inter-agency conference call organized by the United Nations Programme on Youth (UNPY) at the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs on 14 January 2010 and a meeting of the Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development organized by UNPY and UNESCO on 18–19 February 2010 in Paris, France.

E. Mitigation

1. Climate neutrality

34. The secretariat collaborated with agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system to implement a decision of the CEB on moving towards a climate-neutral United Nations. In this context, the secretariat contributed to the preparation by the EMG of the first common greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory for the United Nations for 2008 and provided relevant advice. This work entailed defining common boundaries and methodologies for reporting for all United Nations organizations, as well as activities in relation to emission reductions and offsetting. The United Nations 2008 GHG footprint, including the footprint from the operations of the secretariat, is contained in a publication entitled *Moving Towards a Climate Neutral UN*,¹⁰ which was presented during COP 15.¹¹

35. In 2010 the secretariat is continuing to collaborate within the framework of the EMG on activities relating to preparing the 2009 GHG inventories of organizations of the United Nations system such as improving emission reduction activities (including the development of relevant policies and guidelines) and seeking to establish a common approach for offsetting emissions across the United Nations system.

2. Cooperation with the International Civil Aviation Organization and the International Maritime Organization

36. Cooperation with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the International Maritime Organization (IMO) continued during 2009. During the year the issue of reducing and limiting GHG emissions from international aviation and maritime transport was addressed under each organization. ICAO and IMO will report separately to the SBSTA at its thirty-second session on their work relevant to GHG emissions from fuel used for international aviation and maritime transport (see FCCC/SBSTA/2010/MISC.5).

3. Cooperation under the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer

37. The secretariat continued to cooperate with the Secretariat for the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and for the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (the Ozone Secretariat), in particular on the accelerated phasing out of hydrochlorofluorocarbons and their possible replacement with hydrofluorocarbons, which are not ozone depleting substances (ODS) but have high global warming potentials.¹²

38. Representatives of the secretariat participated in the twenty-ninth meeting of the Open-ended Working Group of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol and two workshops that preceded the meeting¹³

⁹ <http://unfccc.int/files/cc_inet/information_pool/application/pdf/growingtogether.pdf>.

¹⁰ <http://www.unemg.org/sustainableun/Portals/41/documents/UNperformance/CNUN_report_scr.pdf>.

¹¹ <http://www.unemg.org/sustainableun/Portals/41/documents/UNperformance/CNUN_report_scr.pdf>.

¹² Report of the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel. Available at: <http://ozone.unep.org/Assessment_Panels/TEAP/Reports/TEAP_Reports/Teap_progress_report_May2009.pdf>.

¹³ Management and destruction of ozone-depleting substance banks and implications for climate change, available at <http://ozone.unep.org/Meeting_Documents/workshop_on_ODS_banks/index.shtml>, and a dialogue on high global warming potential alternatives for ozone-depleting substances, available at <http://ozone.unep.org/Meeting_Documents/dialogue_on_high_GWP/index.shtml>.

and provided comments on a document prepared for one of the workshops.¹⁴ Collaboration will continue with the Ozone Secretariat in implementing decision XXI/2 adopted by the Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol at its twenty-first session on environmentally sound management of banks of ODS.

F. Climate knowledge: science, research and systematic observation

39. The secretariat continued its cooperation and coordination on issues relevant to science, research and systematic observation in the context of climate change with a number of United Nations bodies and organizations that undertake work relevant to supporting the implementation of the Convention, such as WMO and its related programmes – the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the global observing systems (the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS), the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS) and the Global Terrestrial Observing System (GTOS)) – as well as relevant regional and international research programmes and organizations (e.g. the Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research, the Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research, the International Geosphere–Biosphere Programme, the International Human Dimensions Programme on Global Environmental Change and the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP)).

40. The research dialogue of the SBSTA with regional and international research programmes and organizations active in areas of climate change research, including the IPCC, provided a forum for enhancing communication between Parties and the research community on research needs and priorities related to the Convention.

41. The IPCC, as the primary provider of scientific information to the UNFCCC process, has responded to a number of mandates and invitations from the UNFCCC (e.g. under the SBSTA) and contributed information through a wide range of activities (e.g. events, statements, reports, etc.) on various issues under consideration in the UNFCCC process. Collaboration with the relevant global observing systems, such as GCOS, GOOS and GTOS, constituted a key element in the work of the secretariat in support of the work on climate observations.

42. The secretariat has collaborated with WMO on a number of activities, including the World Climate Conference-3, which was convened in Geneva, Switzerland, from 31 August to 4 September 2009. The COP, at its fifteenth session, noted with appreciation the outcome of the conference, in particular the decision to establish a Global Framework for Climate Services to strengthen the production, availability, delivery and application of science-based climate prediction and services.¹⁵

IV. Collaborative initiatives and programmes

A. Nairobi work programme

43. One of the objectives of the Nairobi work programme is to strive to engage a wide range of organizations, institutions, experts and communities in the implementation of the work programme. To date it has 173 partners, of which 29 are United Nations organizations and affiliated organizations and 22 are IGOs. The active and sustained engagement of these partners has helped to ensure the full and effective implementation of the work programme. A progress report on implementing activities under the Nairobi work programme can be found in document FCCC/SBSTA/2010/INF.2.

44. Collaboration with United Nations entities and IGOs has also catalysed a number of activities through the submission of action pledges. Action pledges are commitments to act, which are made by the partners in response to calls for action, the objectives of the Nairobi work programme, and/or needs

¹⁴ Report of the Ozone Secretariat on current control measures, limits and information reporting requirements for high global-warming-potential alternatives to ozone-depleting substances, available at <http://ozone.unep.org/Meeting_Documents/dialogue_on_high_GWP/WORKSHOP-4-2E.pdf>.

¹⁵ FCCC/CP/2009/11, paragraph 82.

identified through activities like workshops requested by the SBSTA. Of the 40 action pledges that have been submitted so far, 33 are from United Nations entities and IGOs.

45. A number of workshops under the Nairobi work programme have been held since June 2009. United Nations agencies and IGOs have provided substantive input to these workshops and representatives of these agencies and organizations have attended the workshops in large numbers. The technical workshop on advancing the integration of approaches to adaptation planning, held in Bangkok, Thailand, from 12 to 14 October 2009, had inputs from the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, OECD, the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme, UNDP, UNEP and the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR).

46. The technical workshop on collaboration among regional centres and networks, held from 2 to 5 March 2010 in Apia, Samoa, had inputs from CCCCC, the Center for Environment and Development for the Arab Region and Europe, the GCOS secretariat, the IPCC Task Group on Data and Scenario Support for Impact and Climate Analysis, the Sahara and Sahel Observatory, UNDP, UNEP, UNISDR, the World Bank and WCRP. A third technical workshop is scheduled to be held in Madrid, Spain, from 22 to 24 June 2010, on costs and benefits of adaptation options, which will also engage a wide range of organizations and stakeholders, including IGOs and United Nations entities.

B. Nairobi Framework

47. The Nairobi Framework¹⁶ to support the participation of developing countries in the clean development mechanism (CDM) and to enhance the geographical distribution of CDM projects was launched in 2006 by the Secretary-General at COP 12 in Nairobi, Kenya, as a joint effort of the African Development Bank, UNDP, UNEP, UNFCCC and the World Bank. More recently, additional partners including UNCTAD, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa and UNITAR, have joined the Nairobi Framework. The Nairobi Framework has made substantial progress since its inception and represents a good example of successful inter-agency cooperation through promoting CDM activities, building capacity on CDM and increasing private-sector engagement.

48. The partner agencies continue to build capacity in developing CDM project activities on the basis of their respective areas of expertise and in a coordinated fashion to avoid overlaps and duplication of efforts. The partners are also involved in engaging and promoting private-sector investments in CDM projects and organizing regional carbon forums. One such collaborative effort coordinated by the secretariat was the organization of the second Africa Carbon Forum, held in Nairobi in March 2010. The forum was attended by more than 1,000 participants from the public and private sectors, which demonstrated the eagerness to get involved in the CDM and achieve a higher level of understanding.

49. Scaling up the coordinated activities of the Nairobi Framework is seen as priority for 2010 with a work programme currently under preparation with set benchmarks to improve access to CDM projects. The secretariat will continue, as requested by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol at its fifth session,¹⁷ to facilitate the coordination among the partner agencies and expand its support to designated national authorities, by providing training opportunities, facilitating exchange of information and best practices, and organizing regional and subregional meetings of the Designated National Authorities Forum.

¹⁶ <http://cdm.unfccc.int/Nairobi_Framework/index.html>.

¹⁷ Decision 2/CMP.5, paragraph 52.

C. Cooperation through the Joint Liaison Group

50. At its tenth session (June 1999), the SBSTA encouraged the UNFCCC secretariat to continue consultations with the UNCCD and the CBD in order to strengthen cooperation on issues of common interest.¹⁸ Since then, cooperation with other conventions has become an integral part of the work of the SBSTA. At its fourteenth session, the SBSTA endorsed the formation of a joint liaison group (JLG) between the secretariat and the secretariat of the CBD, and requested the secretariat to invite the secretariat of the UNCCD to participate, with the aim of enhancing coordination between the three conventions and exploring options for further cooperation.¹⁹

51. At the ninth meeting of the JLG, held on 14 May 2009 in New York, the group considered and discussed issues such as reports and updates of the work undertaken by the three secretariats, updates on activities that the Conference of the Parties to the CBD requested the CBD secretariat to undertake and the further work of the JLG under the different processes and mandates. Discussions are underway to convene JLG 10 in 2010.

52. Although there have been no formal meetings of the JLG since JLG 9, there has been ongoing collaboration among the conventions. For example, discussions are currently underway to produce the Rio Conventions calendar for 2011. Initial plans are also underway to develop an exhibit entitled "Rio Conventions' Ecosystems And Climate Change Pavilion: Promoting synergies between biodiversity, land management and climate change" aimed at providing a coordinated platform for awareness-raising and capacity-building with regard to the latest findings from science and practice on the linkages between ecosystem management, landscape restoration and climate change. It is envisaged that the pavilion will be set up at the Conferences of the Parties to the three conventions during the course of 2010 and 2011: the CBD in Nagoya, Japan, from 18 to 29 October 2010; the UNFCCC in Cancun, Mexico, from 29 November to 10 December 2010; and the UNCCD in the Republic of Korea in 2011.

¹⁸ FCCC/SBSTA/1999/6, paragraph 22 (b).

¹⁹ FCCC/SBSTA/2001/2, paragraph 42 (d).