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Cooperation with other international organizations

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

Note by the secretariat

Summary

The secretariat engages in collaborative activities, initiatives and programmes with United Nations entities, convention secretariats and intergovernmental organizations that enhance and contribute to the work under the Convention. The key objective of the secretariat in its work with international organizations is to support the implementation of the Convention and to support the UNFCCC process in an efficient and effective manner. This report includes information on relevant activities in which the secretariat has been involved with other intergovernmental organizations since the thirty-fourth session of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice.

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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. Article 7, paragraph 2(l), of 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”. The goal is to ensure that Parties to the Convention have the relevant scientific and technical information on all issues relevant to climate change, in order to support the decision-making process as well as the implementation of the Convention, including support that is coherent with the UNFCCC process by other international organizations. Cooperation among international organizations, United Nations entities, other convention secretariats and intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) is an important aspect of working towards an effective response to climate change.

3. As the secretariat is the entity responsible for supporting the policy formulation process and for entering into cooperative arrangements to further the implementation of decisions taken by the COP, it has worked with other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, including the specialized agencies, to advance implementation in their respective areas of expertise, responding to the needs of and decisions taken by Parties, and taking into account the potential linkages and synergies.

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 report. It may wish to invite Parties to comment on the activities summarized below in chapters II and III and provide guidance on the scope and direction of these and other cooperative activities so that they further contribute to the effective implementation of decisions adopted under the Convention.

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

5. The United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) is the main instrument for supporting and reinforcing the coordinating role of United Nations intergovernmental bodies on social, economic and related matters. The CEB aligns the strengths of a decentralized system of specialized organizations into a cohesive and functioning whole. It ensures that the United Nations system delivers as one at the global,

¹ FCCC/SBSTA/2009/3, paragraph 128.

regional and country levels on the broad range of commitments made by the international community, including on climate change.

6. The United Nations system, through the CEB and under the leadership of the Secretary-General, has been making action-oriented and coordinated efforts to support the international community in addressing climate change.

7. Together, United Nations system organizations have established the CEB Climate Change Action Framework, with nine targeted priority areas under the umbrella of the CEB. Each agency contributes to this joint effort on the basis of its area of expertise, intergovernmental mandate and available resources. The overall objective of the framework is to maximize existing synergies, eliminate duplication and overlap, and optimize the impact of the collective efforts of the United Nations system in supporting countries implementing strategies to address climate change. The framework comprises the following focus and cross-cutting areas:

- (a) Focus areas:
 - Adaptation;
 - Technology transfer;
 - Forestry and agriculture;
 - Financing, mitigation and adaptation action;
 - Capacity-building;
- (b) Cross-cutting areas:
 - Climate knowledge: science, assessment, monitoring and early warning;
 - Supporting global, regional and national action;
 - Public awareness and education;
 - Social dimensions of climate change.

8. The working group on climate change under the High-level Committee on Programmes revised its plan of activities and priorities for 2011, which continued under the Climate Change Action Framework, aligning its focus with the ongoing UNFCCC negotiation process. Activities in 2011 focused on translating global policy approaches to climate change to the country level. Activities include, but are not limited to: working closely with the United Nations Development Group Task Team on Environmental Sustainability, Climate Change and Rio+20, within its climate-related mandate, as well as the United Nations regional commissions; and establishing a directory of United Nations climate change experts to support local, national and regional activities (contact information for experts in country and regional offices).

9. At the United Nations Climate Change Conference held in Durban, South Africa, in 2011, the United Nations system presented its joint work by highlighting concrete examples of how it supports the implementation of climate change action. A total of 17 joint United Nations system side events were convened, in which information on joint United Nations system activities in a number of thematic areas was presented.

Secretary-General's Climate Change Support Team

10. The secretariat seeks to strengthen the coordination and collaboration with the Executive Office of the Secretary-General of the United Nations. To this end, a Senior Liaison Officer of the secretariat has been posted to the Climate Change Support Team of

the Secretary-General, providing support on relevant policy issues and processes to organizations based in New York, United States of America, and liaising, as appropriate, with Permanent Missions to the United Nations Headquarters in New York.

III. Specific areas of cooperation

11. This chapter provides an overview of cooperative activities by thematic areas. It is not intended to be a comprehensive account of all activities, initiatives and programmes undertaken and it should be noted that further information on some activities and thematic areas can be found in documentation under relevant agenda items of the SBSTA as well as other subsidiary bodies under the Convention, as appropriate.

A. Technology

12. The COP, by decision 1/CP.16, established a Technology Mechanism, comprising a Technology Executive Committee (TEC) and a Climate Technology Centre and Network, to facilitate the implementation of action on mitigation and adaptation to climate change. An effective delivery of the Technology Mechanism would largely depend on its ability to harness the engagement of key actors outside of the UNFCCC process to support the ultimate objective of the Convention.

13. The COP, by decision 4/CP.17, stressed the importance of engaging a broad range of stakeholders at the international, regional, national and subnational levels, including public institutions, the business community, academia and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), in conducting the work of the TEC; it also stressed that its work may require the establishment of institutional interfaces and communication channels at different levels, which would allow the TEC to mobilize and leverage a wider range of expertise and resources. In response to this decision, a stakeholder dialogue was organized by the TEC, with the assistance of the secretariat, at its second meeting, held on 15–17 February 2012 in Bonn, Germany, with the participation of representatives of the International Energy Agency, the World Resources Institute, the World Business Council for Sustainable Development, the International Chamber of Commerce, the International Renewable Energy Agency, the Latin America Energy Organization, the Climate Technology Initiative (CTI) and the South Centre. The above-mentioned dialogue generated rich information resulting in an agreement by the TEC to include the thematic dialogues with relevant stakeholders in its rolling workplan for 2012–2013.

14. The secretariat continues to cooperate with the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in providing support to developing country Parties in their efforts to conduct and implement the results of their technology needs assessments (TNAs) through the Poznan strategic programme on technology transfer.²

15. In June 2011, a workshop on TNAs was organized by the secretariat, in collaboration with the GEF, UNDP, UNEP and the CTI. The workshop provided an opportunity for participants to share good practices and lessons learned from conducting TNAs with Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention, and to identify specific needs and practical actions that could assist Parties in implementing the results of their TNAs. It also provided an opportunity to exchange views with representatives of the private sector and the financial community on possible ways to enhance access to funding for the

² Decision 2/CP.14.

implementation of the results of TNAs, and to discuss possible roles of TNAs in the context of the implementation of the Technology Mechanism.

B. Finance

1. Green Climate Fund

16. A Technical Support Unit (TSU) to the Transitional Committee of the Green Climate Fund (GCF) was set up in 2011, comprising a resident team based in Bonn and an extended non-resident team. The TSU comprised staff from the secretariat and staff seconded from various relevant organizations, including the World Bank, UNEP, UNDP, the European Investment Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau, the Agence Française de Développement, the International Finance Corporation, the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB).

17. Following completion of the work of the Transitional Committee and the launch of the GCF at the seventeenth session of the COP, the secretariat continues to collaborate with various organizations. In particular, the secretariat continues working closely with the GEF and the World Bank, as the interim trustee of the GCF, on the initial arrangements for the GCF, including the establishment of the Board of the fund and the set-up of the interim secretariat of the GCF, administered jointly by the secretariat and the GEF.

2. Adaptation Fund

18. The secretariat organized regional workshops for Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean in 2011, in consultation with the Adaptation Fund Board and in collaboration with UNDP and UNEP and with a number of national governments that are providing financial contributions. The secretariat is organizing two more regional workshops to assist developing countries in the accreditation process of their national implementing entities, planned for Asia and Eastern Europe, and the Pacific during the first half of 2012.

19. Upon invitation from Parties, the GEF provides secretariat services to the Adaptation Fund Board and the World Bank serves as the trustee of the Adaptation Fund on an interim basis. The secretariat collaborates with these organizations in relation to their respective roles regarding the Adaptation Fund, and to the review of the interim institutional arrangements of the Adaptation Fund.

3. Finance Portal for Climate Change

20. The secretariat officially launched the fast-start finance module of the Finance Portal for Climate Change at COP 17. The portal was developed by the secretariat in response to a mandate³ from the COP requesting the secretariat to collect information from multilateral and regional financial institutions on activities funded in developing countries to implement Article 4, paragraph 1, of the Convention. The secretariat has collaborated with the World Bank, the GEF and UNDP on this portal. The module on fast-start finance provides user-friendly access to data from the information submitted by developed country Parties on the resources provided in order to achieve their fast-start finance commitments.

4. Global Environment Facility

21. The COP provides regular guidance to the GEF, as an entity entrusted with the financial mechanism of the Convention, on policies, programme priorities and eligibility criteria for funding. In this regard, and in addition to the collaboration with the GEF on the

³ Decision 11/CP.1, paragraph 2.

issues outlined in paragraphs 16–20 above, the secretariat is continuously and actively engaged with the GEF on a number of financial aspects under the Convention. In particular, it is engaged on issues related to the operation of the GEF Trust Fund, the Special Climate Change Fund and the Least Developed Countries Fund. The secretariat participates in meetings of the GEF Council as an observer and takes part in discussions of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel of the GEF.

5. Collaboration with multilateral development banks

22. Since SBSTA 34, collaboration with a number of multilateral development banks, such as the AfDB, the IADB and the ADB, has been enhanced, given the extent of work and tasks in relation to the Green Climate Fund. Additionally, the secretariat participates as an observer in meetings of the committees and subcommittees of the climate investment funds. The secretariat also participates in relevant meetings of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

6. Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

23. The secretariat has been collaborating with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, actively participating in and providing inputs to meetings of the Climate Change Expert Group (CCXG) and of the Development Co-operation Directorate, the latter as it relates to climate finance. The secretariat has provided inputs into the work of the CCXG concerning, *inter alia*, the measurement, reporting and verification of support for greenhouse gas mitigation actions, carbon markets and the tracking of climate finance from the private sector and multilateral development banks.

C. Capacity-building

1. Technical support to the least developed countries

24. The secretariat continues to work with the GEF and its implementing agencies on capacity-building in the least developed countries (LDCs) under the work programme of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG). The LEG regularly invites the GEF and its implementing agencies to its meetings, including its 20th meeting, which was organized by the secretariat in September 2011.

2. Review of the capacity-building framework

25. Twenty-one United Nations organizations provided detailed information on their respective activities, projects and programmes in the field of capacity-building for mitigation and adaptation actions, which directly contribute to the implementation of the framework for capacity-building in developing countries established under decision 2/CP.7. This information was included in the annual synthesis report⁴ prepared by the secretariat as part of background information for the second comprehensive review of the implementation of the capacity-building framework under the Convention and under the Kyoto Protocol, which was completed through decisions 13/CP.17 and 15/CMP.7.

⁴ FCCC/SBI/2011/15.

3. One UN Training Service Platform on Climate Change

26. The secretariat has continued to work with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) to develop the One UN Training Service Platform on Climate Change (UN CC:Learn), which involves more than 20 organizations.⁵

27. The secretariat continues to work with UNITAR on this initiative to deliver training on-site and online and to develop courses jointly. There has been additional collaboration with UNDP, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the World Food Programme and the United Nations Secretariat to identify and develop e-learning programmes, training materials and learning management systems.

4. United Nations Joint Framework Initiative on Children, Youth and Climate Change

28. The secretariat continues to coordinate the United Nations Joint Framework Initiative on Children, Youth and Climate Change to facilitate capacity-building outcomes in line with Article 6 of the Convention. This initiative involves collaboration with the secretariats of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), UNDP, the United Nations Division for Sustainable Development, UNEP, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund, UNITAR, the United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Service, the United Nations Programme on Youth, the United Nations Volunteers and the World Bank.

D. Adaptation

1. Least Developed Countries Expert Group

29. Collaborative work of the secretariat in supporting the LEG on issues relevant to national adaptation programmes of action has continued since the thirty-fourth session of the SBSTA. Such work has included a technical paper on the identification and implementation of medium- and long-term adaptation activities in LDCs, and the publication *Best Practices and Lessons Learned in Addressing Adaptation in the Least Developed Countries through the National Adaptation Programme of Action Process*,⁶ as well as other outputs of the LEG in 2011.

30. At the 21st meeting of the LEG, held in Thimphu, Bhutan, from 9 to 13 March 2012, the expert group collaborated with ADB, FAO, UNEP, UNDP and the GEF. This collaboration assisted the LEG to plan its work programme for 2012/2013.

2. Adaptation Committee

31. At the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Durban, Parties agreed on the composition of, and modalities and procedures for, the Adaptation Committee. In addition, they defined linkages with other institutions under and outside of the Convention and agreed on an indicative list of activities for the Committee to consider when developing its workplan. These activities, which are substantially focused on collaboration opportunities, include the following:

⁵ A list of all UN CC:Learn partner organizations is available at <<http://www.uncclearn.org/focal-points>>.

⁶ Available at <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/publications/ldc_publication_bll_2011.pdf>.

(a) Engaging and developing linkages with all adaptation-related work programmes, bodies and institutions under the Convention, including the LEG, the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention, the TEC, the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change, the work programme on loss and damage and the operating entities of the financial mechanism;

(b) Engaging with, and drawing on the expertise of, relevant institutions, organizations, frameworks, networks and centres outside of the Convention, including those at the intergovernmental, regional and national levels and, through them, those at the subnational level, including defining the role of collaborative relationships, in particular with regional centres.

3. National adaptation plans

32. Collaboration under the agenda item on national adaptation plans (NAPs) was encouraged by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) at its thirty-fourth session. At the request of the SBI,⁷ an expert meeting was convened from 15 to 17 September 2011, in Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic, which included experts from Parties and relevant organizations, the LEG and relevant stakeholders, to identify and discuss elements and deliverables of the process to enable LDC Parties to formulate and implement NAPs and to elaborate elements of draft modalities and guidelines for NAPs. Input from partners at this meeting assisted in the NAP process, and the report⁸ on this meeting was considered by the SBI at its thirty-fifth session.

4. Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change

33. The main objectives of the Nairobi work programme are to assist Parties, in particular developing countries, including LDCs and small island developing States, to improve their understanding and assessment of impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change, and make informed decisions on practical adaptation actions and measures to respond to climate change on a sound scientific, technical and socio-economic basis, taking into account current and future climate change and variability.

34. The Nairobi work programme is implemented by a wide range of stakeholders, including IGOs and NGOs. Since its inception, the work programme has engaged over 245 partners, including a number of United Nations system organizations and other IGOs. The fifth Nairobi work programme Focal Point Forum was held in Durban on 29 November 2011, on the margins of the United Nations Climate Change Conference.

35. The Private Sector Initiative (PSI) of the Nairobi work programme aims at catalysing the involvement of the private sector in the wider adaptation community, providing a platform for businesses to contribute to a strong and effective response in terms of adaptation efforts. Over 15 IGOs have joined the PSI, covering a wide range of geographical regions and sectors.

36. The COP, at its seventeenth session, requested⁹ the secretariat to organize, in collaboration with Nairobi work programme partner organizations and other relevant organizations, a technical workshop, before the thirty-seventh session of the SBSTA, on water and climate change impacts and adaptation strategies, and a technical workshop on ecosystem-based approaches for adaptation to climate change, before the thirty-eighth

⁷ FCCC/SBI/2011/7, paragraph 98.

⁸ FCCC/SBI/2011/12.

⁹ Decision 6/CP.17, paragraph 4.

session of the SBSTA. Both workshops will focus on catalysing collaborative opportunities with relevant United Nations entities and IGOs.

37. The Nairobi work programme also collaborates with other work programmes of the UNFCCC that engage in adaptation-related activities, such as the programme to support NAPs and the work programme on loss and damage, in order to produce user-friendly tools for knowledge sharing.

E. Mitigation

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

38. Cooperation with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the International Maritime Organization (IMO) continued during 2011 and 2012. The secretariat continues to follow developments under these organizations on the issue of limiting and reducing greenhouse gas emissions from international aviation and maritime transport. The secretariat participates in meetings of the relevant bodies under ICAO and IMO in which issues relevant to climate change are addressed. These include meetings of the Committee on Aviation Environmental Protection under ICAO and the Marine Environment Protection Committee under IMO. The SBSTA, at its thirty-fifth session, invited the secretariats of ICAO and IMO to continue to report, at future sessions of the SBSTA, on their relevant work on climate change.¹⁰

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

39. Cooperation 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) continues to take place on a regular basis. The secretariat follows closely the relevant discussions and work under the Montreal Protocol on the environmentally sound management of banks of ozone-depleting substances, the proposed amendments to the Montreal Protocol to control hydrofluorocarbons, and the phase-out of hydrofluorocarbon-23 as a by-product emission of the production of hydrochlorofluorocarbon-22.

3. Collaboration with the International Energy Agency

40. The secretariat collaborates closely with the International Energy Agency on its annual publication of the *World Energy Outlook* report, revising and providing comments on relevant chapters of this publication.

4. The clean development mechanism and the Nairobi Framework

41. The Nairobi Framework¹¹ to support the participation of developing countries in the clean development mechanism (CDM) and to enhance the geographical distribution of CDM projects is a joint effort of the AfDB, UNDP, UNEP, the World Bank and the UNFCCC secretariat. Since its launch in 2006, additional partners have joined the Nairobi Framework, including the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the Economic Commission for Africa and UNITAR. The partners of the Nairobi Framework have supported the organization of the fourth Africa Carbon Forum, held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in April 2011.

¹⁰ FCCC/SBSTA/2011/5, paragraph 62.

¹¹ <http://cdm.unfccc.int/Nairobi_Framework/index.html>.

42. Also under the work related to the CDM, the secretariat organizes workshops and round tables. It processes requests for deviation from the approved methodologies and monitoring plans of registered project design documents, launches and compiles calls for public inputs, provides regulatory documents in all six United Nations languages and reviews and analyses the designated operational entities' (DOEs) annual activity reports and the outputs of DOE performance monitoring.

F. Climate knowledge: science, research and systematic observation

43. Cooperation with the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS) secretariat of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and other agencies participating with WMO on climate issues has been a major and key component of the further development and enhancement of scientific knowledge on climate change through research and systematic observation of the climate system around the world. The secretariat continues to collaborate closely with scientific programmes, agencies and organizations, including the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), WMO, UNESCO, GCOS, the Global Terrestrial Observing System, the Global Ocean Observing System and the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs, all of which support the provision of key scientific findings through their continuous research and systematic observation activities. The contributions from these entities are key to the implementation of the Convention.

44. The secretariat continues to keep close working relations with the IPCC, as the primary provider of scientific information to the UNFCCC process. The IPCC has continued to respond to a number of mandates and invitations arising from the UNFCCC process (e.g. by the COP and the SBSTA). The secretariat has also followed closely and participated as an observer in the meetings of the IPCC. The secretariat has also continued its collaboration with WMO on a number of activities, including on the ongoing development of the Global Framework for Climate Services.

G. Gender

45. The secretariat has been collaborating with other United Nations system organizations to integrate gender into the climate change thematic areas, including adaptation and mitigation. It has established a gender focal point to help to integrate the appropriate consideration of gender issues into the various workstreams of the UNFCCC process.

46. The secretariat has also engaged with other United Nations agencies, IGOs and NGOs on gender and climate change issues. The secretariat maintains continuous collaboration with the secretariats of the other Rio Conventions (CBD and UNCCD) in the context of the Joint Liaison Group (JLG) of the three Rio Conventions and with the GEF secretariat, to find opportunities for and identify lessons learned from the gender mainstreaming initiatives conducted by the secretariats of the other conventions. The three Rio Conventions secretariats are collaborating closely to increase awareness on gender and to identify opportunities to further strengthen the existing cooperation among the Rio Conventions. Gender will be one of the main themes presented at the Rio Conventions Pavilion noted in paragraph 48(b) below. In the context of the Rio Conventions Pavilion, the secretariat is working with the secretariats of the other Rio Conventions to prepare several outreach materials on gender that will be presented at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20).

H. Issues related to biodiversity, lands and desertification, and land-use and forest-related issues

47. Close cooperation with the secretariats of CBD and UNCCD continues through the JLG. Following up on the 11th meeting of the JLG in April 2011, the three Executive Secretaries met in September 2011 to discuss ways to improve collaboration between the secretariats, in particular on ways to promote and collaborate towards the promotion of synergies in the implementation of the conventions at the national, regional and local levels. Exchange of information among the three secretariats and participation in relevant workshops and meetings have continued during the past year on issues related to the links between biodiversity, land degradation and adaptation and REDD-plus (policy approaches and positive incentives on issues relating to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries; and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries).

48. During 2011 and the first half of 2012, the secretariats of CBD, UNCCD and the UNFCCC collaborated on a number of communication projects that help to highlight the synergies in the implementation of each convention on the ground and at the national level. These include the following:

(a) The 2012 Rio Conventions Calendar, marking the twentieth anniversary of the Rio Conventions with messages related to the green economy for sustainable development;

(b) The Rio Conventions' Ecosystems and Climate Change Pavilion, organized by the CBD secretariat in cooperation with UNCCD and the UNFCCC. A physical pavilion was present at the tenth conference of the Parties to UNCCD, held in Changwon, Republic of Korea, and at the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Durban. Additionally, a virtual online pavilion promoted linkages between biodiversity, land management and climate change to increase awareness, to enhance understanding, to build capacity and to maximize co-benefits and minimize negative interactions. The secretariat is engaged with the secretariats of the other Rio Conventions and the GEF in organizing the pavilion at Rio+20.

49. In support of the United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification (UNDDDD), the secretariat has designated a focal point to take part in the Inter-Agency Task Force on UNDDDD, which supports awareness-raising and communication. The secretariat is also an observer on the Policy Board of the United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (UN-REDD) and maintains close collaboration with UN-REDD partner agencies. Furthermore, the secretariat continues to follow, as an observer, the work related to REDD-plus of the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility and the Forest Investment Program under the Strategic Climate Fund of the World Bank.

I. Communications

50. The secretariat works closely with other organizations for the distribution of relevant messages on its work, on the UNFCCC process and on climate change in general. There is regular interaction with the United Nations Department of Public Information (UNDPI), including with UNDPPI at the United Nations Headquarters and in UNDPPI country offices where sessions or meetings of the UNFCCC take place. The secretariat also works with a number of organizations, such as UNEP, and the secretariats of the other Rio Conventions,

as noted above, on the development of joint messages and communication products as they relate to climate change.

J. Global Compact

51. In September 2011, the Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC signed an exchange of letters with the Executive Directors of UNEP and of the United Nations Global Compact, through which the UNFCCC joined Caring for Climate. Launched by the United Nations Secretary-General in 2007, Caring for Climate is endorsed by nearly 400 companies from 65 countries. Caring for Climate is an initiative led by the Global Compact and UNEP that aims at advancing the role of business in addressing climate change. The secretariat has enhanced its collaboration with UNEP, the Global Compact and the Caring for Climate signatories in order to seek better alignment of the initiative with the climate policy agenda.

K. Sustainable development

52. The secretariat has followed closely the preparations for and the discussions leading to the upcoming Rio+20. As one of the Rio Conventions, the secretariat is working with the secretariats of CBD and UNCCD on its participation in Rio+20, including through the Rio Conventions Pavilion.

53. The secretariat has also been engaged in the work of the United Nations system at large, led by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs and UNDP, on the elaboration of a report on the United Nations development agenda for the period post-2015. Additionally, the secretariat has provided substantive inputs and has been actively participating in the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on the Millennium Development Goals Indicators.
