

SUBMISSION BY ANGOLA ON BEHALF ON THE GROUP OF LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

CAPACITY BUILDING UNDER THE CONVENTION:

Information from Parties on the activities they have undertaken pursuant to decision 2/CP.7 and 2/CP.10, which should include, inter alia, such elements as needs and gaps, experiences and lessons learned.

CAPACITY BUILDING UNDER THE KYOTO PROTOCOL:

Information from Parties on the activities that they have undertaken pursuant to decision 29/CMP.1 and reports from relevant multilateral and bilateral agencies and the private sector on their support of the implementation of the framework undertaken pursuant to decision 29/CMP.1, in accordance with national priorities and with the knowledge of relevant national authorities.

The Least Developed Countries Group (LDC Group) welcomes the invitation to submit information from Parties on the activities they have undertaken pursuant to decision 2/CP.7 and 2/CP.10 under the Convention, and decision 29/CMP.1 under the Kyoto Protocol which should include, inter alia, such elements as needs and gaps, experiences and lessons learned. In response to this invitation, the LDC Group is pleased to submit the following information.

In 2001, the Conference of the Parties at its 7th Session adopted two frameworks that address the needs, conditions and priorities of developing countries and of countries with economies in transition. The frameworks provide a set of guiding principles and approaches to capacity-building, for example that it should be a country-driven process, involve learning by doing, and build on existing activities. They also contain a list of priority areas for action on capacity-building, including the specific needs of least developed countries and small-island developing States amongst them. They reaffirm that capacity-building is essential to enable these countries to implement the objective of the Convention.

In 2005, the First Session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP 1) decided that the capacity-building frameworks were also applicable to the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol. The CMP endorsed these frameworks (decision 29/CMP.1) to guide capacity-building activities under the Kyoto Protocol in developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

The LDCs continue to believe that the scope of capacity-building needs, as contained in the framework for capacity-building in developing countries (decisions 2/CP.7) is still relevant. The LDCs also continue to subscribe to decisions 9/CP.9, 2/CP.10, 7/CMP.1, 29/CMP.1, 4/CP.12, 6/CMP.2, 1/CP.13, 1/CP.16, 13/CP.17, 15/CMP.7, 1/CP.18 and 10/CMP.8 including all the factors that should be taken into account and could assist in the further implementation of decisions 2/CP.7.

The LDCs believe in the proverb that says: ***“EVERYBODY’S BUSINESS IS NOBODY’S BUSINESS.”*** Here ‘business’ means ‘duty’ or ‘task’. When nobody is directly responsible for doing a thing, nobody does it, because everybody thinks somebody else is or will be doing it (ref.: <http://english.al/proverb/everybodys-business-is-nobodys-business/>).

The LDC Group agrees that capacity-building is foundational and capacity comes first before one can mitigate; adapt; develop and implement economically and financially viable projects and to develop, deploy, transfer and apply environmentally sound technologies. Since 1992, capacity-building has been applied ad-hoc and has been tied to specific projects with a time-bound component, without creating a sustaining, lasting structure. As expressed in all the Durban Forum meetings, capacity-building is still considered to be an issue and the LDCs agree that there must be something fundamentally wrong with the way that capacity-building is dealt with. Most developing countries, particularly the LDCs, consider the treatment of capacity building as a cross-cutting issue that everybody is doing everywhere and every time is flawed.

The Bali outcomes failed to sufficiently treat Capacity Building as a foundational element in parity with other elements (i.e., Adaptation, Mitigation, Finance, Technology Transfer) of the Bali Action Plan. The Durban decisions also failed to rectify this anomaly. It is the only element for which a process for better and effective cooperation and coordination both nationally and internationally are lacking. Monitoring, reporting and verification of achievement is not in place. The Durban Forum is inadequate to serve as such an institutional arrangement and actions from the Forum are not adequately followed. Capacity Building lacks a Coordination Body equivalent to the Adaptation Committee, the Technology Executive Committee, the CDM Executive Board, the Standing Committee on Finance, the Consultation Group of Experts (CGE), the LDC Expert Group (LEG) and the Executive Committee (ExCOM) under the Warsaw Intention Mechanism on Loss and Damage. Capacity building activities are conducted ad-hoc by these Convention Bodies, bilaterally and multilaterally but these activities are not globally monitored, measured and verified because there is no single body responsible for this oversight. There are no internationally agreed baseline, targets and indicators to use in measuring achievement. This is because ***Capacity Building is regarded as Everybody’s Business and thus Nobody’s Business.***

The LDCs submit that this internationally flawed process should be corrected. The Group recommends that a Capacity Building Coordination Committee (CBCC) should be created under the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol to coordinate the implementation of the Capacity Building Framework pursuant to decision 2/CP.7, 2/CP.10 and 29/CMP.1. The CBCC should lead the comprehensive review of the Framework, the organization of the Durban Forum, and the monitoring, reporting and verification of capacity building activities conducted nationally and internationally.

The proposed CBCC will be able to verify and follow on some of the information and outcomes of activities provided during the Durban Forum and also activities conducted bilaterally, multilaterally and by non-state actors. The proposed CBCC can verify some of the information provided by Partners during the Durban Forum, for example:

- a) Status of established and strengthened institutional arrangements in some developing countries;
- b) Initiated mainstreaming of environmental and climate change related issues in other sustainable development initiatives in developing countries;
- c) Strengthened collaboration between existing institutional arrangements and the private sector that is regarded as an essential element to ensure the successful implementation of climate change activities;
- d) Status of the appointments of focal points and establishment of Network of Focal Points for multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) with particular focus on climate change in all government ministries, agencies, statutory bodies, academia, the private sector, including the banking and insurance sector, industry, NGOs and community-based organizations;
- e) Improvement and sustainability of capacity of Parties to fulfill obligations under multiple MEAs and to address other areas with links to climate change through the development of environmental protection policies, regulatory frameworks, and climate change public expenditure in line with sustainable development principles;
- f) Realization at the national and sub-national levels of the capacity building efforts reported by developed countries towards enhancing enabling environments by facilitating access to existing bilateral, multilateral and private capital financing options for diverse projects in the areas of climate change adaptation and mitigation;
- g) Availability of Expert Teams at the national level arising from capacity building activities supported by developed countries and undertaken by several developing country Parties;
- h) Evaluation of why developing country Parties continue to report high number of capacity gaps at the institutional, systemic and individual levels in all the submitted National Communications;
- i) Evaluation of why developed country Parties continue to believe that the National Communications are an extremely useful instrument to plan and target their support on a country-driven basis taking into account national priorities;
- j) Evaluate how many of the projects identified in National Communications have been funded and implemented.
- k) Provide advisory services to developing country Parties that continue to underscore the lack of adequate institutional frameworks to assess mitigation options, design NAMAs, formulate strategies for enhanced energy efficiency and renewable energy, and promote CDM project activities.
- l) Provide advisory services to developing country Parties, in collaboration with the TEC, on lifting the specific barriers to, and enabling factors for, technology transfer

The LDC Group is of the view that the work programme of the Durban Forum should be formalized and operationalised as soon as possible. The scope of the work programme should be in line with the priority activities listed in decision 2/CP.17. The work programme should have the following activities:

- assessing current and future capacity needs for developing countries for the effective implementation of the Convention and KP

- reviewing provided and available support on capacity building, since capacity building is essential for effective implementation of the Convention, including provision of dedicated finance for capacity building activities
- enhancing monitoring and evaluation of effectiveness of capacity building by developing clear indicators and modalities
- establishing review mechanism for the support provided by developed country Parties to developing country Parties
- Developing a process to assist developing countries to meet their identified needs of education, training, services and awareness through facilitating the matching of resources with needs.
- establishing a permanent institutional arrangement for effective implementation and monitoring of all the activities on capacity building including linkage between adaptation, mitigation, technology and financial system
- provisions for training (in further understanding the INDC's) and retaining experts in developing countries

Inscription of Capacity Building in the proposed 2015 Agreement

The Durban decision indicates capacity building as an integral part of ADP. However, ADP has not dedicated enough time to discuss its importance and its linkages with other elements of the new agreement. The LDC Group is of the view that capacity building is extremely important for developing countries, particularly LDCs, for the effective implementation of the new agreement. It should, therefore, receive the adequate attention that it deserves.

Building on previous and ongoing work and lessons learned from current institutional arrangements on capacity-building established under the Convention, including the Durban Forum on capacity-building, the LDCs recommend the institutionalization of an International Capacity-Building Mechanism (ICBM) which shall comprise of:

- a) A capacity-building coordination committee;
- b) A capacity building Portal within the UNFCCC website;
- c) An evaluation mechanism;
- d) Regional capacity-building centres; and
- e) An institute for capacity-building to operate as a consortium of tertiary institutions in all major regions of the world.