

SUBMISSION OF BRAZIL ON ENHANCED ACTION ON ADAPTATION AND ITS MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION, IN THE CONTEXT OF THE BALI ACTION PLAN

The Government of Brazil welcomes the opportunity to submit views on elements of a draft negotiating text on enhanced action on adaptation and its means of implementation, which is an essential pillar of the Bali Action Plan.

Brazil believes that the outline below, with related elements, should be reflected in the draft negotiating text that will be provided by the Chair of the AWG-LCA. It is worth highlighting that these elements are complementary to and consistent with the G-77 and China proposals on financing and technology under the AWG-LCA.

RATIONALE OF A FRAMEWORK FOR ADAPTATION AND ITS MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION

Sustainable development and building resilience are the best and lasting approach to adaptation to the impacts from climate change. In this context, a comprehensive and flexible approach for enhanced action on adaptation and its means of implementation, including finance, technology and capacity-building, now, up and beyond 2012, must be defined.

The fact that the adaptive capacity to climate change is uneven across countries requires enhanced international cooperation to face increasing adaptation needs. This fact was acknowledged by the Parties to the UNFCCC through the adoption of paragraph 1(c) of the Bali Action Plan. Further action is needed for the full implementation of articles 4.3 and 4.4 of the Convention, which determine that Annex II Parties will assist developing countries in coping with climate impacts.

Current barriers to implementing adaptation include knowledge gaps, impediments to flows of knowledge and information relevant for adaptation decisions, and, most importantly, insufficient resources available for building adaptive capacity and translating them into action in developing countries.

The development of a comprehensive and robust framework for adaptation is a first step for enhanced action under the Convention. The elaboration of such a framework should take into account lessons learned from the “Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change”, which is expected to be concluded in 2010. Crucial in the framework is that it increase capacity to translate data into information for users and, thus, information into action.

OBJECTIVE

To establish a comprehensive and structured approach to enhance action on adaptation under the Convention, including, *inter alia*, actions identified in the Bali Plan of Action, paragraph 1 (c).

To establish a comprehensive and structured approach to enable, support, facilitate and implement adaptation actions by addressing the predictable, stable, adequate and timely flow of new and additional financial resources and development, deployment, diffusion and transfer of technology to support national, sub-regional and regional adaptation activities and programmes to address the adverse effects of climate change in all developing countries, taking into account the urgent and immediate needs of developing countries defined as particularly vulnerable under the Convention, specially the LDCs, SIDs, and further taking into account the needs of countries in Africa affected by drought, desertification and floods, as well as those adaptation activities that need to be implemented over a longer time horizon.

The comprehensive and structured approach must support, on an ongoing basis, efforts to enhance national capacity to incorporate adaptation considerations into the national development process; and to implement stand-alone adaptation efforts.

PRINCIPLES

Key principles for enhanced action on adaptation and means of implementation include:

- principle of common but differentiated responsibilities under the Convention and be strictly guided by equity;
- establish new, additional and predictable financial resources separate and apart from ODA that are supported by appropriate institutional mechanisms;
- promote coherence in the way that adaptation issues are addressed under the UNFCCC;
- projects and programmes on adaptation to the adverse effects of climate change must be country-driven;
- implementation of adaptation actions should take into account specific characteristics of sub-national and national, and sub-regional and regional vulnerability assessments;
- cover full costs for adaptation technologies and for stand-alone adaptation projects.

SCOPE

- be comprehensive, including vulnerability assessments, planning and implementation;
- distinguish between, and balance the needs for (i) adaptation to short-term climate shocks, due to increasing numbers of extreme events related to climate change, including adaptation to the impacts of unavoidable climate change; and (ii) adaptation to long-term shifts in climate change;
- distinguish between, and balance the needs for finance for adaptation programmes that are (i) integrated with development planning; and (ii) stand-alone programmes which are additional to national development planning, and which should be financed at full costs;

MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION: PROVISION OF FINANCIAL RESOURCES, TECHNOLOGY, CAPACITY-BUILDING AND KNOWLEDGE SHARING

FINANCIAL RESOURCES

The comprehensive and structured approach on adaptation must be seen as complementary to and consistent with the Group's proposals of financing and technology under the AWG-LCA, given that appropriate means of implementation must be provided in terms of finance, technology, capacity building and knowledge sharing. Enhanced implementation of the adaptation provisions of the Convention will require significant new financial resources. Financing for adaptation should be considerably increased in order to redress the balance in the allocation of funds under the climate change regime.

Financing for the consolidated work programme under the comprehensive and structured approach must:

- be predictable and stable, new and additional, adequate and timely, for the implementation of nationally determined adaptation priorities, both urgent and long term,;
- ensure the timely flow of new and additional resources to address the immediate and urgent national adaptation activities in particularly vulnerable countries, as well as those activities that need to be implemented over a longer time horizon;
- be provided from the assessed and mandatory contributions of developed countries as part of their commitments under the UNFCCC;
- be supported by new and innovative international and regional mechanisms to ensure predictable financing;
- not jeopardize the developing countries' efforts to alleviate poverty as part of sustainable development planning;
- enable and support efforts, including high-priority ones, on an ongoing basis, to enhance national capacity to incorporate adaptation concerns into the development process;
- be substantially scaled up to match with needs and ensure adequacy and equity in allocation of funds for adaptation, including the mobilization of new resources, beyond the existing funds under the Convention and the Protocol; and
- go beyond the integration of adaptation into the development process, include stand alone adaptation projects and be separate and apart from ODA (Official Development Aid) channels;
- ensure direct access to financial resources.

TECHNOLOGY

Technology support for the consolidated work programme under this comprehensive and structured approach must:

- take into account sector specific adaptation technologies and, where appropriate, incorporate ecosystem-scale intersectoral linkages;

- address the need for research and development, deployment, diffusion and transfer of appropriate adaptation technologies;
- enhance endogenous adaptation technologies
- enable technology development, deployment, diffusion and transfer, and capacity-building and knowledge transfer, including social learning, enabling environments and information dissemination and sharing; and
- cover full costs for technology for stand-alone adaptation projects.

CAPACITY BUILDING

Capacity building — which must be considered in conjunction with knowledge sharing actions identified below — for implementation of adaptation programmes must be a central element of the consolidated work programme. The comprehensive and structured approach for adaptation must:

- establish national and regional centers, or strengthen existing ones, which could assist Parties to build endogenous capacity;
- include a package of assistance to support the implementation of NAPAs including financial, technical, capacity building and institutional support;
- include a 3-year pilot phase of “adaptation activities implemented cooperatively” to catalyze rapid learning about adaptation “good practice “ by supporting enhanced implementation of demonstration projects, programs and policies in vulnerable countries and communities;
- include capacity-building for operational planning of adaptation including detailed project designs, costing of adaptation, and increase of adaptive capacity, among others.

KNOWLEDGE SHARING

The comprehensive and structured approach for adaptation must enhance knowledge and information sharing through:

- strengthening of national or regional centres to coordinate and disseminate information on best practices;
- promotion of professional exchange between technical personnel from different countries and regions;
- promotion of professional development opportunities, through scholarships, fellowships and access to other forms of training;
- strengthening of information networks;
- establishment and maintenance of databases and repositories of adaptation-related information;
- preparation and dissemination by UNFCCC of compilations and syntheses of best practices in adaptation;
- support for public information and awareness-raising activities at national level;
- publication of peer-reviewed documents and journals;

ADAPTATION ACTIVITIES

Categories of adaptation activities that must be enabled and supported include, *inter alia*:

- Enabling activities including, *inter alia*, institutional strengthening, learning-by-doing, capacity-building, knowledge-sharing, planning and design options, evaluation activities including ecosystem-based adaptation activities, where appropriate;
- Activities related to reducing vulnerabilities;
- Resilience-building through adaptation projects and programmes;
- Rehabilitation (and compensation) for loss and damages.

IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

Implementation arrangements must include, *inter alia*, the following:

- build access to means of implementation including finance, technology, capacity building, and knowledge sharing for adaptation at national, sub-national, regional and sub-regional levels;
- develop appropriate linkages with other national, sub-regional, regional and international bodies and stakeholders that are implementing adaptation and related activities;
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- establish national and regional centers, or strengthen existing ones, which could assist Parties to build endogenous capacity for, *inter alia*: i) the development of analytical tools to enable scenario generation and downscaling for current and future impact assessments; ii) the research, development and transfer of adaptation technologies, including for, *inter alia*, in the areas of food, forestry, water resources, human health, industry, human settlements and society; iii) awareness raising; iv) support of pilot projects; and v) publication of studies on adaptation.
- establish a mechanism, under the Convention, which could enable and support the creation of partnerships among companies and research institutions of developed and developing countries for adaptation technologies and the implementation of adaptation activities.

MECHANISM TO ADDRESS LOSS AND DAMAGE INCLUDING INSURANCE

A mechanism to address loss and damage associated with climate change impacts in developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change must be established, in accordance with paragraph 1.c (iii) of the Bali Plan of Action. Consideration of transfer mechanisms such as insurance can also be taken into account, in accordance with paragraph 1.c (ii) of the Bali Plan of Action.