The work of the Adaptation Committee on adaptation planning

Symposium on space-based applications for climate change
12 to 14 September 2016, Graz, Austria

Klaus Radunsky, member of the Adaptation Committee
What is the Adaptation Committee and what does it do?

The Adaptation Committee is the overall advisory body on adaptation under the Convention, established in 2010.
Sharing information, knowledge, experience & good practices

The Adaptation Committee reaches out to stakeholders at all levels, including through:

- The Adaptation Forum (Warsaw – Panama – Rotterdam)
- Publications
- Video Documentary
- Workshops
The adaptation landscape under the UNFCCC
The adaptation landscape under the UNFCCC

Science, research, systematic observation

- Research dialogue, IPCC collaboration, review…

Knowledge and assessment

- Nairobi work programme

Planning and Implementation

- National adaptation plans (NAPs)
  - Least Developed Countries Expert Group, NAPAs

Addressing residual risks

- Warsaw Mechanism on Loss and Damage

Ensuring coherence

- Adaptation Committee

Stakeholder engagement and regional cooperation

Finance, Technology and Capacity Building
The Paris Agreement

“Recognizing the need for an effective and progressive response to the urgent threat of climate change on the basis of the best available scientific knowledge”
**Central components of the Paris Agreement**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Global goals / efforts</th>
<th>National efforts</th>
<th>Cooperation</th>
<th>Transparency framework</th>
<th>Global stocktake</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Global temperature limit (Art. 2)</td>
<td>Mitigation</td>
<td>Capacity-building</td>
<td>To enhance transparency of action and support, implementation and compliance</td>
<td>To assess progress against the purpose of the Paris Agreement and its long-term goals</td>
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<td>Long-term goal on mitigation (Art. 4.1)</td>
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<td>Policy coordination</td>
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<td>Global goal on adaptation (Art. 7.1)</td>
<td>Adaptation</td>
<td>Mobilization of support</td>
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<td>First global stocktake to take place in 2023, and every 5 years thereafter</td>
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<td>Mobilizing climate finance (Art. 9.3)</td>
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<td>Technology (Art. 10)</td>
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Adaptation under the Agreement (Article 7)

- **Global goal on adaptation**
  - Paragraph 1

- **Recognition of adaptation efforts of developing country Parties**
  - Paragraph 3

- **Guiding principles**
  - Paragraph 5

- **Cooperation**
  - Paragraph 8

- **Planning and implementation**
  - Paragraph 9

- **Communication**
  - Paragraph 10

- **Support**
  - Paragraph 13

- **Global stocktake**
  - Paragraph 14
The operationalizing decision to the Paris Agreement: 1/CP.21

The AC is requested to:

- conduct a technical examination process on adaptation, and
- undertake five tasks and provide recommendations for CMA 1

1. Review, in 2017, the work of adaptation-related institutional arrangements under the Convention
   - (AC)

2. Consider methodologies for assessing adaptation needs
   - (AC)

3. Develop methodologies on reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support
   - (AC & LEG, in collaboration with SCF and others)

4. Develop modalities to recognize the adaptation efforts of developing country Parties
   - (AC & LEG)

5. Develop methodologies on taking the necessary steps to facilitate the mobilization of support for adaptation in developing countries
   - (AC & LEG, in collaboration with SCF and others)
Mandate

- The Adaptation Committee (AC) was established in 2011 as part of the Cancun Adaptation Framework (decision 1/CP.16)

- The Committee is the overall advisory body to the Conference of the Parties on adaptation and promotes the implementation of enhanced action on adaptation in a coherent manner

- At the Paris Climate Change Conference in 2015, Parties re-affirmed and amplified the role of the AC, and:
  - Requested the Committee, along with others, to develop further methodologies and modalities in support of adaptation planning and implementation (decision 1/CP.21, paras 41, 42, 45)
  - Requested the Committee and the LDC Expert Group (LEG) to consider how they can provide more information on accessing funding from the GCF for the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans (NAPs) (decision 4/CP.21, para 10)
AC work related to adaptation planning and support emanating from Paris

- To consider methodologies for assessing adaptation needs to assist developing countries

- To develop methodologies to facilitate the mobilization of support for adaptation in developing countries in the context of the temperature limit defined in the Paris Agreement

- To develop methodologies to review the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support
AC activities in support of the adaptation planning and implementation

Workshops and meetings organized by the AC:

- Workshop on monitoring and evaluation of adaptation - September 2013, Nadi, Fiji
- Available tools for the use of indigenous and traditional knowledge and practices for adaptation, needs of local and indigenous communities, and the application of gender-sensitive approaches and tools for adaptation (with the Nairobi work programme) - April 2014, Bonn, Germany
- Workshop on the means of implementation for enhanced adaptation action (focused on climate finance) - March 2015, Bonn, Germany
- Workshop on experiences, good practices, lessons learned, gaps and needs for the process to formulate and implement NAPs (with the LEG) - April 2015, Bonn, Germany
- Expert meeting on promoting livelihoods and economic diversification – September 2015, Bonn, Germany

AC Publications:

- Navigating the landscape of support for the process to formulate and implement NAPs (2015)
- Institutional arrangements for national adaptation planning and implementation (2014)
- The State of Adaptation under the UNFCCC (2013)
AC workplan for 2016-2018: workstreams on technical support and means of implementation

Overall objectives:
To provide guidance on ways to enhance support, including finance, technology and capacity-building, in particular related to access, institutional arrangements and enabling environments, including for the NAP process and to enhance the provision of technical support to developing country Parties for adaptation action in a coherent manner.

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<th>2016: 1st half</th>
<th>2016: 2nd half</th>
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<th>2018</th>
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<td>Finance</td>
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<td>Technology, CB</td>
<td>Coordinate with, and provide inputs to, the SCF, the TEC and the CTCN, as well as the financial entities under the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol, when relevant and as requested</td>
<td>Taking into account relevant ongoing and planned work on technology and capacity building under the Convention, identify next steps, as appropriate, on technology and capacity building</td>
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<td>Continue to consider further modalities for supporting developing country Parties in their adaptation actions, taking into account ongoing and planned work by other constituted bodies and the SB44 side event</td>
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AC ongoing work: support to NAPs - establishment of a NAP task force

- AC 4 (2013): Establishment of a **NAP task force (NAP TF)** – to further support developing countries in the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans


- 2016: NAP TF Workplan for 2016-2018 under elaboration
  - To be finalized on 12 July, on the margins of the NAP Expo

- 2016: Revision of Terms of Reference of NAP TF
  - Composition: 6 AC members and 1 representative of the LEG, the Technology Executive Committee, the Standing Committee on Finance, the Adaptation Fund, the Global Environment Facility and GCF + active contribution of external experts
Summary of activities undertaken by the NAP TF thus far

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<th>Contributing</th>
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<td><strong>Engaging:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Providing inputs:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Meetings/Workshops, reports/submissions, summary of gaps, needs and lessons learned; recommendations (for AC, COP and others)</td>
<td>Workshop on adaptation finance; work on M&amp;E of NAPs, development of NAP Central (non-LDCs)</td>
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<td><strong>Organization of meeting:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Organization of:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>With stakeholders - NAP process; availability of documentation; technical paper</td>
<td>NAP Expos</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Providing inputs:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Participating:</strong></td>
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<td>publications</td>
<td>LEG Regional training workshops; Technical Advisory Group of the NAP-Global Support Programme for non-LDCs</td>
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Questions for discussion

Possible contributions of information from space-based platforms:

• What is needed to objectively review the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation actions and the support for adaptation in countries?

• What can be done to effectively and efficiently recognize the adaptation efforts that have been undertaken by developing countries?
Relevant questions that the AC has to address – could space-based platforms contribute to answering them?

- What methods can be used to review the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation?
- What information/data or metrics are needed for the review?
- Which lessons learned, good practices, challenges and barriers have been encountered in the review of the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation?
- What is the range and scope of adaptation efforts? How do you define and document adaptation efforts? Do you encounter any difficulties in terms of data sourcing or completeness?
- Could you provide examples or possible modalities of how adaptation efforts could be recognized under the Convention?
Examples of relevant information from space-based platforms


Additional issues:
• Early warning systems
• Support for landscape-based adaptation approach

Barriers:
• Challenge to transform the huge amount of data into meaningful information for decision makers and those who are most vulnerable in a timely manner
• Role of roadmaps at the international/national level to address the above challenge – is Copernicus a way forward?
  http://www.esa.int/Our_Activities/Observing_the_Earth/Copernicus
• Or a linkage to the GFCS http://www.wmo.int/gfcs/
Conclusions

• Huge potential to enhance effectiveness and efficiency of adaptation by the use of data from space-based platforms;

• However significant barriers which should be addressed by, e.g.
  a) Continued out-reach to organizations that could benefit from information provided by space-based platforms
  b) Share success stories and lessons learned
  c) Build trust
  d) Enhance capacity systematically to offer relevant information in a timely manner to the relevant stakeholders
THANK YOU

Adaptation Committee
Website: unfccc.int/6053

Co-Chairs:
Ms. Minpeng Chen: minpeng.chen@gmail.com
Mr. Don Lemmen: don.lemmen@canada.ca