

EIG Submission on the annual focus area or theme and representatives of the bodies/operating entities for the Paris Committee on Capacity Building

August 2016

The Environmental Integrity Group (EIG) welcomes the opportunity to submit its view on the annual focus area or theme for the Paris Committee on Capacity-building (PCCB) for 2017, and on which representatives of the bodies established under the Convention and of the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism should be invited to the first meeting of the Paris Committee on Capacity-building.

The EIG agrees on a view that capacity building is an integral component of the means of implementation to support parties in the implementation of the Convention and the Paris Agreement.

The Conference of the Parties decided to establish the PCCB and it will manage and oversee the work plan pursuant to decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 72. The purpose of the PCCB is to address gaps and needs, both current and emerging, in implementing capacity-building in developing country Parties and further enhancing capacity-building efforts, including with regard to coherence and coordination in capacity-building activities under the Convention.

The suggested annual focus areas for 2017 are based on the input sources listed in decision 1/CP.21 which includes the outcome of the third comprehensive review of the implementation of the capacity-building framework.

I. The annual focus area or theme for the PCCB for 2017

- **Building up capacity building relevant institutions in developing countries**

Establishing and strengthening of permanent national institutions are basis to implement capacity-building activities. Capacity building is more effective when it is undertaken on a permanent basis not on an ad hoc basis. However, for several developing countries, institutional arrangements are still at very early stage or even not existing at all.

In the context of the Paris Agreement, sound and high-quality data on greenhouse gas are of prime importance to develop national policies, prepare and submit National Communications (NCs) and Biennial Update Reports (BURs). This data should be collected and managed by sound national inventories, which need to be set up to trade Internationally Transferred Mitigation Outcomes (ITMOs) in a reliable way (Related to Article 6 of the Agreement). Thus, the EIG considers the strengthening and where necessary creating of such national institutions for greenhouse gas inventories as a top priority theme for the PCCB in 2017. These inventories should ideally be linked and report to the forthcoming Integrated Global Greenhouse Gas Information System IG3IS (see: <http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/arep/gaw/ghg/IG3IS-info.html>).

Therefore, EIG suggests that creating and enhancing capacity-building relevant institutions, especially strengthening national capacities for high-quality GHG inventories, should be one of the priority focus areas for PCCB for the first session in 2017.

II. Representatives of the bodies established under the Convention and of the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism

In order to expedite PCCB to support implementation of the Paris Agreement, the terms of reference including its membership need to be adopted at the COP22. Above all, finance is one of crucial elements for capacity building, the EIG suggests that GCF and GEF as operating entities of the Financial Mechanisms, should be invited to the meeting of the PCCB. For GEF, capacity building is a key theme and more than 130 capacity-building activities have already been supported by GEF. And the GCF has developed and put in place a readiness program that not only improves developing countries' access to the fund but also supports policy makers establish climate-related policies (institutions) and sets their national priorities. Based on the experience of running this program, the GCF could help to link country strategies of developing countries against climate change with national greenhouse gas inventories. By doing so, it could contribute to the development of efficient national climate-related strategy. In addition to this, the involvement of the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism is essential because most of the capacity-building activities are closely associated with finance.

As it has been decided that six (6) representatives from bodies established under the Convention and from the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism will be invited to participate in the PCCB meetings, the other four (4) representatives should be evenly constituted with institutions of other capacity-building areas, like adaptation and technologies.

In this context, EIG suggests that representatives from Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG), Adaptation Committee (AC), Technical Executive Committee (TEC) and Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN) are necessary to promote the effective management and operation of the PCCB. Participation from the members from the institutions will ultimately enhance capacity building.