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## LDCs finalize comprehensive plans to deal with impacts of climate change

Warsaw, Poland (PANA) – The poorest countries of the world, meeting here for the 19th UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of Parties, have finalized a comprehensive set of plans to deal with the inevitable impacts of climate change.

UNFCCC disclosed Thursday in Warsaw, Poland, where negotiators have gathered to discuss how to avoid further escalation of the climate crisis, that all 48 Least Developed Countries (LDCs), which are Parties to the UNFCCC, have submitted their National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs) to the UNFCCC secretariat.

With these plans, poor countries can better assess the immediate impacts of change, for example drought and floods, and what they need in the way of support to become more resilient to climate change impacts.

“Science clearly shows that a significant degree of climate change is unavoidable, as has been confirmed by the latest findings of the UN’s Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Typhoon Haiyan has been the latest in a string of worsening extreme weather events around the world, and we know there are more to come,” UNFCCC Executive Secretary Christiana Figueres stated.

“Now and in the future, the poorest and most vulnerable countries urgently require predictable finance and technology to become more resilient. Good planning is essential to empower poor countries to deal with climate change. At the same time, it is clear that the support to countries is presently inadequate and must urgently be stepped up,” she added.

Through the National Adaptation Programmes of Action, poor countries have both identified their immediate adaptation needs and formulated concrete projects to meet those needs.

In Angola, the country is seeking to adapt its fisheries to climate change, while Cambodia is looking to make its water supplies and agriculture more resilient and Samoa is seeking to strengthen the infrastructure of communities which are dependent on tourism.

According to UNFCCC, at least US\$ 1.4 billion in additional funding would be required to support the successful implementation of these projects.

“The preparation of these plans has served as a major catalyst for climate change action in the poorest countries, helping them to systematically undertake various activities towards climate change adaptation. Awareness has been raised across all levels, and poor countries have gained human and institutional capacity for adaptation,” said the Chair of the LDC Group under the UNFCCC process, Prakash Mathema.

Whilst the NAPAs address urgent and immediate adaptation needs, least developed countries are now starting to embark on the formulation of so-called “National adaptation plans” (NAPs) to address medium- and long-term adaptation needs.

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