

Submission by Malawi on experiences on the application of the NAP guidelines (decision 5/CP.17, para 7).

The Government of the Republic of Malawi welcomes the invitation by the COP to submit views and information on experiences on the application of guidelines for the formulation of National Adaptation Plan (NAP) process for LDCs in accordance with decision 5/CP.17, paragraph 7. Concurring with the 2012 submission by the LDCs on the support to NAP process in LDCs and COP 18 decisions on NAP, Malawi attaches high priority to the urgency of initiating the NAP process to address the on-going and emerging threats of climate change through comprehensive climate change adaptation efforts in addition to the continued support to implementation of the National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) to address the urgent and immediate adaptation needs.

Malawi further recalls the COP 18 decision regarding the guidance to the Global Environment Facility (GEF), as the operating entity of the financial mechanism of the Convention entrusted with the management of the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF), to enable the preparation of NAPs by the LDCs that request funding support from the LDCF. Malawi further notes the SBI conclusion on this matter at COP 18 that requests the GEF to respond to the guidance on providing financial support to the LDCs by COP 19. We look forward to further details from the GEF on how we can access financial support for our NAP process under the LDCF.

Malawi appreciates the work of the LDC Expert Group (LEG) in developing and sharing the NAP technical guidelines based on the initial guidelines as per decision 5/CP.17 (Annex: Initial guidelines for the formulation of national adaptation plans by Least Developed Country Parties), and the overview publication of the NAP process, during COP 18. Malawi expects that these technical guidelines will be used as a guiding document, and will assist in the formulation of the NAP. The guidelines are expected to establish a country-driven process to formulate NAP as per specific national circumstances. The summary document will be very useful in our efforts to brief our policy makers, as we work towards establishing our national framework and road map for the NAP process. We would encourage the LEG to consider producing many more outreach materials that will assist us in communicating the NAP process, opportunities and benefits that it will offer, and on specific topics from the guidelines to facilitate our work. We recognise that many developed (and some developing) countries have NAP-like processes well underway, and have produced many outputs already, including some national, sectoral and subnational plans (for cities, etc), we hope the LEG can help in compiling examples and lessons from these processes and products, so we can learn by doing. As part of our strategy for the NAP process, we will indicate what products we expect to produce, and we welcome any guidance and support the LEG can provide in terms of how to best present these outputs and our adaptation plans.

Our needs for support, both technical and financial, will become clearer as we embark on our NAP process. We would welcome any opportunity to communicate these to the SBI/COP. Perhaps the SBI can welcome such submissions in the next session, so the LEG and the GEF can take these into account in designing their support, in addition to any modalities that they would have established by then.

Malawi participated at the side-event on NAP organized by the Gambia and IIED in Doha in December 2012, where the Honourable Minister for Environment and Climate Change Management presided over. In this regard, we do appreciate the initiatives undertaken by development partners and non-governmental organizations in developing ideas, generating awareness, building capacities for climate adaptation planning, and promoting the NAP process.

Malawi views the NAP process that was established by decision 1/CP.16 as having two platforms. One is a NAP process at the COP level, and the ongoing discussions under the SBI and COP on NAPs is one of these platforms. The second is the NAP process that will be implemented at the country level. At the COP level, we would also like to see a medium and long-term approach, where we can define a road map for the foreseeable future. Malawi views the initial guidelines in decision 5/CP.17 for the formulation of NAPs as initial guidelines for the NAP process. We expect that the COP should develop further guidelines for other components of the NAP process. We view the guidance to the GEF on provision of financial support to LDCs under decision 12/CP.18 as a further elaboration of guidelines for the NAP process.

In the spirit of decision 1/CP.16, the next set of guidelines should be for the implementation of NAPs. We would propose establishing a timetable for assessing how things are going in LDCs in preparing NAPs, and then allowing Parties to make submissions on how the NAPs can be implemented – bearing in mind that NAPs will contain policies, projects and programmes. We could then have a discussion under the SBI to consider the submissions and develop a decision on how NAPs would be implemented. We expect this to be a broad discussion that covers the many channels that we can use to implement NAPs. We would propose such submissions to be invited in early 2014, so we can conclude on implementation of NAPs at the COP in 2014.

Another important set of guidelines still at the SBI/COP level, would be on how the SBI can successfully do its work under paragraph 37 of decision 5/CP.17 at SBI 42. Based on the report of the 22nd meeting of the LEG, the LEG is looking at methods for monitoring and evaluation (M&E). Malawi feels that the work of the LEG on M&E should be used by the SBI in evaluating the NAP process, and we should fully support the LEG in making good progress on this topic.

On the second life of NAPs in the process at the national level, Malawi is ready to embark on formulating adaptation plans. We will be communicating to the LEG information on our progress through the surveys that the LEG conducts at each SBI session. We look forward to hearing about the experience of other LDCs so we can learn more.

The above notwithstanding, Malawi feels that, it is too early to revise the initial guidelines for the formulation of NAP by LDCs as per decision 5/CP.17. However, Malawi, just like other LDCs, has adequate and useful experience regarding the preparation and implementation of NAPA which would be valuable in the formulation of NAPs. *Based on the NAPA, Malawi is implementing a Climate Adaptation for Rural Livelihoods and Agriculture (CARLA) Project* which will run for a period of three years from 2012 up to 2015. The goal of the CARLA Project is to improve resilience to current climate variability and future climate change by developing and implementing adaptation strategies and measures that will improve agricultural production and rural livelihoods. Core funding has come from the Least Developed Countries Fund of the Global Environment Facility to a tune of US\$ 3million, whereas supplementary financing has come from the Smallholder Crop Production and Marketing Project (SCPMP) financed by the African Development Bank in the Ministry of Water Development and Irrigation. It is estimated that up to 30,000 households (smallholder farmers and other community members) will be the primary beneficiaries from the project. The expected key outcome of the CARLA Project is improved resilience to climate variability and future climate change. Malawi is also developing a project preparation grant for a NAPA project entitled **“Implementing urgent adaptation priorities through strengthened decentralized and national development plans”** with the UNDP to a tune of US\$4.5m.

In conclusion, Malawi urges developed country Parties, development partners, UN and international organisations, to provide adequate financing through direct access and flexible procedures within 2013 so that LDCs can start the NAP formulation process without delay. Furthermore, Malawi awaits a timely response from GEF to the COP decisions in order to provide funding support to LDCs for the formulation of NAPs.