

MALAWI SUBMISSION ON NATIONAL ADAPTATION PLANS

Malawi's submission following the invitation by the Thirty-fourth session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI 34) for Parties to submit their views to the UNFCCC Secretariat, on the following two items:

- a) The process to enable LDC Parties to formulate and implement NAPs, building upon their experience in preparing and implementing NAPs.
- b) The modalities and guidelines for LDC Parties and other developing country Parties to employ the modalities formulated to support NAPs.

Background

Malawi has formulated and completed the National Adaptation Programs of Action (NAPs) as a means to address its urgent and immediate adaptation needs. The NAPA was formulated taking into consideration that, in future, medium and long-term adaptation plans shall be developed as well.

Malawi has developed one full-size project from the NAPA, which is yet to go into implementation once logistical arrangements have been finalized with the African Development Bank, which is the Global Environment Facility's (GEF) implementing agency for the project. The project was approved in October 2010 by the Chief Executive Officer of the Global Environment Facility.

With emerging issues on the ground and increased vulnerabilities, the country has recognised that there is need for development and implementation of medium and long-term adaptation plans to assist the vulnerable areas and communities respond to both current and future challenges arising from Climate change. The formulation and implementation of these adaptation efforts need to be based on a sound science, cost effective and adaptation options that can be evaluated in terms of whether, and by how much, the benefits of such options exceed the costs of not adapting now.

1. The process to enable LDC Parties to formulate and implement NAPs, building upon their experience in preparing and implementing NAPs.

Just as the NAPA process, the NAP process should be a country-driven process, be gender-sensitive, fully participatory and transparent. The NAPA process provided a good starting point for the development of NAPs. However, due to limited time and resources, the NAPA process was not comprehensive enough to cover detailed vulnerability assessments of all climate change sensitive sectors. Therefore, it is the view of Malawi to see that the NAP process is comprehensive enough as it will be a basis of medium and long term adaptation planning for the country. The NAP process will contribute into the overarching national adaptation strategy or policy for all sectors in the country.

The NAPA process also indicated limited capacity for most LDCs including Malawi when it comes to use of models and modelling tools. However, it is clear to Malawi that the NAPs will cover the medium and long term projections of Climate change vulnerabilities and impacts, therefore, the NAP process needs to enhance continuous

capacity building for LDCs in modelling techniques and in use of various modelling tools.

Further, Malawi is of the view that the LEG and Adaptation Committee will provide very useful technical roles in the formulation and implementation of the adaptation plans from the LDCs.

In addition, the NAP process will be a continuous evolving process, and as such it will have to be flexible enough for periodic reviews and updates of adaptation interventions. This will need enhanced capacity in terms of relevant data collection during the whole process of formulation and implementation.

In terms of how LDCs will communicate their medium and long term plans, Malawi is of the view that these medium and long term projects, strategies, or programs should be communicated as a stand alone document which will be submitted to the UNFCCC Secretariat for wider dissemination.

Furthermore, the SBI should elaborate on how the NAP process shall be funded, in particular regarding issues of sources of the resources and their disbursement channels to the LDCs, and also the role of Technology Executive committee in the NAP process.

2. The modalities and guidelines for LDC Parties and other developing country Parties to employ the modalities formulated to support NAPs

The LEG provided useful technical assistance during the preparation of the NAPAs in terms of producing support documents including the Step-by-Step guidelines which were very useful for the LDCs. Malawi envisions that the modalities and guidelines should be contained in such type of technical document that may be produced by the LEG with inputs from relevant stakeholders as soon as it can so that it should help the LDCs in the formulation and implementation of their NAPs. This technical guidance should not be prescriptive and mandatory to be followed, but should serve just as a guiding tool for the LDCs

Malawi considers that as the modalities and guidelines for the LDCs could also be useful to other developing countries, its design should include: a) clear roles of coordination institution in a country, b) review of relevant background information to help identify components of the NAP, c) a comprehensive vulnerability and impacts assessments for all sectors, d) a country driven criteria for ranking medium and long term vulnerabilities. Further, the structure of the NAP should take into account governments' priorities and other available social and economic development strategies and the NAP should be clear enough on how it shall support those other development strategies. The NAP should also have a clear implementation strategy that could contain issues of specific activities, temporal and spatial scales of project and programs, institutional arrangements for implementation, monitoring evaluation issues, a communication strategy. There is also need to have thorough elaboration of how the beneficiaries of the adaptation programs will be identified and targeted. This is very critical if adaptation projects and programs will have an impact to those that are not only vulnerable to climate change but also to those that are vulnerable and poor. A clear indication on how the review and update of the NAP will be done is also an important area for consideration.