

Draft decision -/CP.18

Further guidance to the Least Developed Countries Fund

The Conference of the Parties,

Recognizing the specific needs and special circumstances of the least developed countries, as referred to in Article 4, paragraph 9, of the Convention,

Recalling decisions 6/CP.9, 3/CP.11, 5/CP.14, 5/CP.16 and 9/CP.17,

Also recalling the least developed countries work programme, as defined in decision 5/CP.7,

Noting the report on the twenty-second meeting of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group,¹ the report of the Global Environment Facility to the Conference of the Parties at its eighteenth session² and the synthesis report prepared by the secretariat,³

Taking note of the decisions taken at the 43rd meeting of the Council of the Global Environment Facility,

Welcoming the key GEF-5 reform to expand the Global Environment Facility partnership,

Expressing its appreciation for the continuing efforts of the Global Environment Facility to undertake this important reform,

1. *Welcomes* the increased allocation and disbursement of funds to least developed country Parties under the Least Developed Countries Fund;
2. *Notes with appreciation* the Parties included in Annex II to the Convention that have made additional contributions to the Least Developed Countries Fund;
3. *Takes note* of the increased number of least developed countries successfully completing the preparation of their national adaptation programmes of action, including Myanmar and Somalia, and that the Least Developed Countries Fund has financed the preparation of 48 national adaptation programmes of action, of which 47 have been completed;
4. *Notes* that the Least Developed Countries Fund has approved funding for 76 national adaptation programmes of action projects in 44 least developed countries;
5. *Requests* the Global Environment Facility, as an operating entity of the financial mechanism of the Convention entrusted with the operation of the Least Developed Countries Fund:
 - (a) To continue to support all activities contained in the least developed countries work programme;
 - (b) To continue mobilizing resources to ensure the full implementation of the least developed countries work programme, including the implementation of the elements of the work programme other than national adaptation programmes of action, through, inter

¹ FCCC/SBI/2012/27.

² FCCC/CP/2012/6 and Add.1 and 2.

³ FCCC/SBI/2012/INF.13.

alia, capacity-building to improve coordination at different levels of government and across sectors in order to improve project performance in the least developed country Parties, with regard to the implementation of the Convention;

(c) To further facilitate access to the Least Developed Countries Fund by the least developed countries;

(d) To further enhance a country-driven process for the implementation of national adaptation programme of action projects and the implementation of programmatic approaches;

(e) To continue raising awareness of the need for adequate and predictable resources under the Least Developed Countries Fund to allow for the full implementation of the least developed countries work programme, in particular national adaptation programmes of action, as outlined in decision 5/CP.14, paragraph 8;

(f) To enhance communication with its implementing agencies on the updated operational guidelines for the Least Developed Countries Fund;

6. *Also requests* the Global Environment Facility, as an operating entity of the financial mechanism of the Convention entrusted with the operation of the Least Developed Countries Fund, to include, in its annual report to the Conference of the Parties, information on specific actions that it has undertaken to implement this decision, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its subsequent sessions;

7. *Invites* Parties included in Annex II to the Convention to continue contributing and other Parties in a position to do so to contribute on a voluntary basis to the Least Developed Countries Fund in order to support the implementation of the least developed countries work programme, considering the options contained in the report on the twenty-first meeting of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group;⁴

8. *Also invites* Parties and relevant organizations to submit to the secretariat, by 1 August 2014, information on their experiences with the implementation of the remaining elements of the least developed countries work programme, considering the options contained in the report on the twenty-first meeting of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group, for compilation by the secretariat into a miscellaneous document for consideration by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation at its forty-first session;

9. *Requests* the secretariat to prepare a synthesis report on the progress made in the implementation of the remaining elements of the least developed countries work programme, considering the options contained in the report on the twenty-first meeting of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group, and taking into account information from the Global Environment Facility and its agencies, the submissions referred to in paragraph 8 above, the reports of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group and other relevant sources of information, for consideration by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation at its forty-first session;

10. *Also requests* the Subsidiary Body for Implementation to consider, at its forty-first session, the progress made in the implementation of the remaining elements of the least developed countries work programme, including the updating and implementation of national adaptation programmes of action, with a view to the Conference of the Parties determining, at its twentieth session, appropriate further guidance to be provided to the Least Developed Countries Fund.

⁴ FCCC/SBI/2012/7.