SUBMISSION BY THE REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA AND THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION ON BEHALF OF THE EUROPEAN UNION AND ITS MEMBER STATES

This submission is supported by Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Serbia.

Tallinn, 11/09/2017

Subject: Proposals for elements and "skeleton" outlines as contained in the informal note of the APA4 agenda item

I. Introduction

1. The European Union and its Member States (EU) welcome the opportunity to submit its views on the proposals for elements and "skeleton" outlines of further guidance in relation to an adaptation communication as contained in the conclusions proposed by the APA Co-chairs[1] with respect to APA agenda item 4, taking into account submissions by Parties, the technical note by the Secretariat[2], the subsequent discussions at the workshop, including its report[3], and at the third part of the first session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement in Bonn[4].
2. The EU would like to recall the previous submissions (6 October 2016[5] and 23 March 2017[6]) where we elaborated our views on further guidance in relation to the adaptation communication.

II. Further views on the "skeleton" including on elements for the adaptation communication

3. Set out below are our suggestions for the "skeleton" (or structure) and elements (or content) of a CMA decision providing further guidance in relation to the adaptation communication.
4. The EU would also like to highlight, that, consistent with Article 7(10) and Article 7(11) of the Paris Agreement, the guidance adopted by the CMA will respect that Parties retain the ability to choose which "vehicle" to use for the communication. This will include the communication of adaptation-related information as a component of or in conjunction with other communications or documents, without creating additional burden for developing country Parties. Therefore we suggest recalling those provisions in the preamble section.
5. Further, we would like to stimulate that the adaptation communication also can be seen as an invitation to the private sector to showcase their adaptation measures and activities planned and undertaken to support others to adapt.

[1] http://unfccc.int/files/meetings/bonn_may_2017/in-session/application/pdf/apa2017_l2_amended_unedited.pdf
[2] Information related to possible elements of adaptation communications identified by Parties http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2017/apa/eng/inf01.pdf
[3] http://unfccc.int/files/meetings/bonn_may_2017/application/pdf/apa_workshop_item_4_informal_report_final_version.pdf
[4] http://unfccc.int/files/meetings/bonn_may_2017/in-session/application/pdf/apa_4_informal_note_final.pdf
[5] http://www4.unfccc.int/Submissions/Lists/OSPSubmissionUpload/75_280_131202983317121819-SK-10-06-APA%204%20Adaptation%20COM.pdf
[6] http://www4.unfccc.int/Submissions/Lists/OSPSubmissionUpload/783_322_131347311876248243-MT-03-23-EU%20APA4%20Adaptation%20Communication%20Submission.pdf

IV. "Skeleton" outlining further guidance in relation to the adaptation communication

(Preambular)
Recalling
- Art. 7 of the Paris Agreement, in particular Art. 7(10) and 7(11)

Also recognizing the close linkages with
- Art. 13(8) of the Paris Agreement and Para 90 of 1/CP.21 (transparency)
- Art. 7(14) of the Paris Agreement and Para 99(a)(ii) of 1/CP.21 (Global Stocktake)
- Art. 7(12) of the Paris Agreement (public registry)
- The Sustainable Development Goals and the Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction

(Purposes)
Agrees that the purposes of the adaptation communication are as follows:
- Enhance visibility / the profile of adaptation
- Facilitate learning by sharing evidence and good practice
- Inform the review on the overall progress towards the global goal on adaptation
- Recognize adaptation efforts
- Inform future decisions under UNFCCC (with a view to enhancing implementation and providing recommendations for strengthening and improving effectiveness and efficiency of the adaptation framework)
- Enhancing the implementation of adaptation and catalyzing further action

(Elements)
Decides to adopt the elements and sub-elements in the annex to this decision as a guide for an adaptation communication.
Annex:
- National context/circumstances:
    - ⇨ Information on climate scenarios, key climate hazards (observed and expected, including scale and time frames), observed and expected climate impacts;
    - ⇨ Assessment of (existing and expected) risks, impacts, vulnerabilities and adaptive capacity, including the description of methodologies used for the assessment, including the associated uncertainty;
    - ⇨ Institutional arrangements and governance systems to manage adaptation, including on vertical and horizontal coordination, generation and dissemination of data and information to decision makers and stakeholders;
    - ⇨ Legal, regulatory and institutional framework enabling adaptation-related processes (including inter alia planning, decision-making, consultation, participation, implementing, monitoring, evaluation, reporting).

- Information on plans, priorities, actions, programmes, strategies:
    - ⇨ Adaptation and development objectives and priorities;
    - ⇨ Policies, strategies, main programmes and lines of actions and plans in place / planning process(es) to be undertaken to enable progress towards objectives, including a description of methodologies used for their selection;
    - ⇨ Information on integration of adaptation-related planning in government wide planning mechanisms and processes;
    - ⇨ Arrangements in place to ensure co-ordination and adjustment of priorities and activities in the light of experience, noting stakeholder involvement and feedback, both across sectors and levels of governance, including civil society and the private sector, as relevant;
    - ⇨ Co-benefits of adaptation for other areas of sustainable development.
    - ⇨ Information on e.g. plans, priorities, actions, programmes, strategies from the private sector, if available.

- Implementation of adaptation efforts and progress made:
    - ⇨ Description of co-ordination action undertaken;
    - ⇨ Description of activities carried out under adaptation plans, with assessment of effectiveness and /or plans for evaluation;
    - ⇨ Progress on introduction of or changes in regulation, policies and planning;
    - ⇨ Progress on adaptation action and programmes;
    - ⇨ Progress on mainstreaming/integrating adaptation into overall development strategies and sectoral plans and programmes.

- Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) of adaptation action, its outcomes and findings:
    - ⇨ Mechanisms in place or under development to track adaptation action and outcomes (including scope, purpose, and indicators used, if appropriate);
    - ⇨ Systems in place or under development to measure and track national, international and private finance for adaptation;
    - ⇨ Good practice and (negative) lessons learned from policy and regulatory changes, practical action or co-ordination mechanisms, including remaining challenges, and plans to address them;
    - ⇨ Information resulting from M&E mechanisms, including on effectiveness of implemented adaptation actions, and results in increased resilience/ reduced vulnerability/ enhanced adaptive capacity from actions undertaken.

- Implementation and support needs:
    - ⇨ Domestic and international, public and private, resources invested in adaptation (international/national/sub-national, sectoral as available), including sources of data;
    - ⇨ Financial instruments and/or budget provisions enabling implementation of adaptation action, including domestic, international and private finance mobilization;
    - ⇨ Adaptation related technology development and transfer measures and activities, support provided, needed and received;
    - ⇨ Adaptation related capacity building provided, received and needed.