Submission of the Like-Minded Developing Countries (LMDC)
On the Work of the Ad-Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement (APA)

Submitted by the Islamic Republic of Iran
on behalf of the Like-Minded Developing Countries in the UNFCCC (LMDC)

The Like-Minded Developing Countries (LMDC) Group in the UNFCCC makes this submission[1] containing the Group's general observations on the work of the APA in relation to APA agenda items, pursuant to paragraph 8 of the conclusions of the APA at its first session in Bonn in May 2016.[2]

1. After the Agreement and the decision made in Paris, much more needs to be done to enhance the full, effective and sustained implementation of the Convention, including through its related legal instruments the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement, so that UNFCCC Parties can combat climate change together successfully. The LMDC has constructively and positively contributed to this effort, and we will continue to do so.

2. As our work is under the Convention, and related legal instruments such as the Paris Agreement should enhance the Convention's implementation, the fundamental principles of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities (CBDR) remain the basis for our work together in combating climate change, achieving sustainable development, and ensuring the protection of Mother Earth. This will ensure that our work reflects and promotes the right to development of developing countries and the achievement of the sustainable development goals and aspirations of our peoples, with climate justice and equity.

3. The LMDC wishes to stress the following general points in relation to the process and the substantive content of the work of the APA:

(a) First, the process and the progress of the APA's work must be fair and balanced, with all issues to be treated with the same degree of importance and with progress to be achieved in a balanced manner. Transparency and inclusiveness are fundamental and crucial to having legitimate outcomes;

(b) Second, all pre-2020 work should be concluded meaningfully, with the Doha Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol (KP) being ratified and entering into force and the full delivery of pre-2020 commitments on provision of finance, technology development and transfer and capacity-building support from developed countries, in particular increasing the pre-2020 emission reduction targets and achieving the goal of jointly providing USD 100 billion annually by 2020. This is essential in providing the context and foundation for the work we do for the post-2020 period. A weak pre-2020 result weakens post-2020 actions;

(c) Third, equity and CBDR, through clear differentiation between developed and developing country Parties and leadership for developed country Parties and flexibility for developing country Parties, should be made operational in the work and outcomes of the APA and all the other Convention bodies under their mandates from COP21. Developing countries, particularly those within the LMDC and the G-77 more broadly, have shown ambition to address climate change through their actions, and have called for such ambition to be matched by even greater ambition from developed countries to show that

[1] This submission is without prejudice to additional submissions that the Group, or individual Party members of the Group, may make; and may also be further revised or supplemented.
[2] See FCCC/APA/2016/L.3, at http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2016/apa/eng/l03.pdf

they lead in reducing their emissions and in providing all the necessary support and means of implementation for developing countries to also do more under the Convention and its related legal instruments;

(d) Fourth, because finance, technology development and transfer and capacity-building are crucial elements under the Convention that developed countries have long committed themselves to provide to developing countries, including now in relation to the implementation of the Convention and its Paris Agreement, the inadequacy or non-fulfillment of these obligations by developed countries creates great obstacles to the achievement of the sustainable development goals in the context of climate change. Developed countries should now lead by example, both by undertaking serious and substantial emission reductions at home and by fulfilling their obligations to provide finance, technology and capacity-building support to developing countries;

(e) Fifth, the various agenda of the APA and the subsidiary bodies and the work to be done under these may need to be recalibrated in the course of our work with a view to ensuring that they are in full accordance with the principles and provisions of the Convention and the provisions of the Paris Agreements. These constitute a single package. The elements of mitigation, adaptation, finance, technology development and transfer, capacity-building, transparency of action and support, the global stocktake and the facilitation of implementation and compliance, are addressed in a balanced, integrated, comprehensive, and mutually supportive manner, leading to progressively more effective common but differentiated ways of combating climate change by all Parties under the Convention and its related legal instruments, and a more just, equitable and sustainable world for all after 2020.