



Joint Submission by Conservation International, Environmental Defense Fund, National Wildlife Federation, and The Nature Conservancy on Topic 2(a) of Decision 4/CP.23, related to the Koronivia joint work on agriculture.

The views in this submission represent the consensus of Conservation International (CI), Environmental Defense Fund (EDF), National Wildlife Federation (NWF), and The Nature Conservancy (TNC), which have worked together in a coalition for many years to promote sensible mitigation opportunities in the land sector.¹ We welcome the adoption of the Koronivia road map during SBSTA 48, and the opportunity to submit views on “modalities for implementation of the outcomes of the five in-session workshops¹ on issues related to agriculture and other future topics that may arise from this work.”

Overarching considerations for the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture (KJWA)

As Parties consider modalities for implementation of the outcomes of the five in-session workshops on issues related to agriculture and other future topics that may arise from this work, we encourage them to focus their efforts on the creation of a set of modalities and tools for implementation of activities that can build confidence among Parties and accelerate deployment of programs that support the following objectives:

1. Resiliency of farming systems and farmers,
2. Increased production and improved livelihoods, and
3. Reduced emissions of greenhouse gases (GHGs) and increased sequestration.

We recommend that the upcoming workshops and decisions of the KJWA address the following cross-cutting topics, and would support a set of decisions based on KJWA outcomes by 2020 that could allow incorporation of these outcomes into any revisions of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs):

Safeguards: As the discussions on the KJWA road map topics progress, we recommend the consideration of safeguards on the topic of agriculture. Previous consensus on safeguards in the forest sector via the Cancun Safeguards on REDD+ are a past example of social and environmental protections that helped to build trust in the dialogue between Parties. The safeguards should ensure good governance in the implementation of domestic activities. This can be achieved, in part, through the inclusion of relevant stakeholders in these activities and future KJWA discussions and negotiations.

¹ Each signatory group to this submission is a non-profit, non-governmental, accredited UNFCCC observer organization, with relevant expertise and longstanding interests in the successful outcomes of the UNFCCC.

Transparency: Implementation of activities related to agriculture should be subject to the same transparency requirements as other activities (under Article 13 of the Paris Agreement) and should be supported by the same means of implementation as other activities (relevant to Articles 9, 10, and 11 of the Paris Agreement). As such, topics that may arise within the KJWA, such as activities at a subnational scale; the progression toward higher levels of ambition; the monitoring, reporting, and verification of outcomes; the provision and appropriate use of finance; and the potential transfer of mitigation outcomes, among others – may be relevant to negotiations related to those Articles and vice versa.

Inclusion: Parties should take an inclusive approach regarding implementation in future discussions and workshops. This means that modalities for implementation should contemplate and identify the opportunities for action among all relevant actors, such as smallholders and indigenous peoples and local communities, who form the majority of the world’s agricultural producers, and whose inclusion in climate action is key to ensuring sustainable landscapes and resilient agricultural systems.

Given the importance of the agricultural sector to achieving meaningful mitigation, adaptation, and food security gains, we urge Parties and the Constituted Bodies to work toward guidance for Nationally Determined Contributions that reflect the latest science and best practices and are consistent with the transparency framework, Paris Agreement, and related implementation guidelines. To encourage the full inclusion of the agriculture sector into Parties’ NDCs for 2025-2030, we urge Parties to proceed in a manner that would allow them to complete their work on a comprehensive set of future topics (yet to be determined) by no later than 2023. For guidance on the scope of this work, Parties may look to the Warsaw Framework on REDD+ (and precursor decisions on REDD+) as an example of a package of decisions that worked in a coherent and comprehensive manner to address a particular set of important activities.

Recommendations for working with Constituted Bodies under the Convention to address gaps in financing, technical guidance, and other means of implementation

The Koronivia decision² requests the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) to jointly address issues related to agriculture, *working with the constituted bodies under the Convention*. During COP24, Parties will discuss modalities for implementation of the previous in-session workshops on agriculture, and the effective participation of the Constituted Bodies should serve as potential vehicles for this implementation to occur. The Constituted Bodies under the Convention include (in order of creation):

- Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (CGE);
- Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG);
- Standing Committee on Finance (SCF);
- Technology Executive Committee (TEC) and the Climate Technology Centre & Network (CTCN);

² Decision 4/CP.23

- Adaptation Committee (AC);
- Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage (WIM ExCom)
- Paris Committee on Capacity-building (PCCB);

Thus far, it is clear that these Bodies have considered or addressed agriculture in their work to varying degrees. For instance, the TEC has published several policy briefs specifically on agriculture, and the LEG is assisting eligible Parties to integrate agriculture-related climate risks and opportunities into their National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) through the joint FAO-UNDP integrating Agriculture into NAPs Programme. More information on the relevance of the Constituted Bodies and agriculture is presented in the annex to this submission.

We recommend that the workshop with the Constituted Bodies occurring during SB49 in December 2018 be utilized to better understand which Convention Bodies are most relevant for agriculture, and for this subset, to understand how their existing work can contribute to implementation of the KJWA. The KJWA should both make recommendations to, and request support from, applicable Constituted Bodies, specifically with an eye toward addressing gaps in financing, technical guidance, and other means of implementation. Furthermore, other bodies, organizations, and mechanisms linked to the UNFCCC process - including admitted observer organizations - that have applicable experience or provide necessary financing or resources should also be invited to participate.

ⁱ The five previous in-session workshops addressed:

- 1) “the identification of adaptation measures, taking into account the diversity of the agricultural systems, indigenous knowledge systems and the differences in scale as well as possible co-benefits and sharing experiences in research and development and on the ground activities, including socioeconomic, environmental and gender aspects;” ([Link](#))
- 2) “the identification and assessment of agricultural practices and technologies to enhance productivity in a sustainable manner, food security and resilience, considering the differences in agro-ecological zones and farming systems, such as different grassland and cropland practices and systems;” ([Link](#))
- 3) “the development of early warning systems and contingency plans in relation to extreme weather events and its effects such as desertification, drought, floods, landslides, storm surge, soil erosion, and saline water intrusion”([Link](#))
- 4) “the assessment of risk and vulnerability of agricultural systems to different climate change scenarios at regional, national and local levels, including but not limited to pests and diseases;” ([Link](#))
- 5) “the current state of scientific knowledge on how to enhance the adaptation of agriculture to climate change impacts while promoting rural development, sustainable development and productivity of agricultural systems and food security in all countries, particularly in developing countries, taking into account the diversity of the agricultural systems and the differences in scale as well as possible adaptation co-benefits.” ([Link](#))

Annex: Constituted Bodies under the UNFCCC and Kyoto Protocol and their connections to agriculture

Constituted Body	Scope of Work	Responsibilities	Connections to Agriculture ³
Adaptation Committee (AC)	The overarching objective of the AC is to promote the implementation of "enhanced action on adaptation" in a coherent manner under the Convention.	The COP requested the AC to engage with relevant institutions, organizations, frameworks, etc., to gain expertise to advance its objective.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The work plan of the AC contains a range of activities to facilitate awareness-raising, outreach and sharing of information. - Mandated to hold workshops on the monitoring and evaluation of adaptation, building on and contributing to existing related processes. - Mandated to hold workshops on best practices and needs of local and indigenous communities together with the Nairobi Work Programme.
Standing Committee on Finance (SCF)	Assists the COP in exercising its function in relation to the Financial Mechanism of the Convention.	Responsibilities include: improving coherence and coordination in the delivery of climate change financing, rationalization of the Financial Mechanism, mobilization of financial resources, and measurement, reporting, and verification of support provided to developing country Parties.	In 2016, the SCF agreed to undertake activities to improve coherence and coordination of forest finance, including a reaching out to entities financing REDD+ activities and other relevant stakeholders working on forest finance to strengthen the coherence and coordination between the forestry sector and sectors that drive deforestation and forest degradation.

³ As interpreted at the time of submission by the above-mentioned observers.

<p>Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage (WIM ExCom)</p>	<p>The WIM ExCom was established at COP19 to address the topic of loss and damage associated with impacts of climate change in developing countries that are particularly vulnerable.</p>	<p>The WIM ExCom is comprised of four thematic expert groups: (1) Slow onset events, (2) Non-economic losses, (3) Displacement related to the adverse impacts of climate change, (4) Comprehensive risk management approaches.</p>	<p>2017 WIM ExCom Report: 43 countries named agriculture and food security as a key sector to be at higher risk/more adversely affected by extreme and/or slow onset events.</p> <p>2018 WIM ExCom Synthesis Paper: Ten out of 18 Party and observer submissions included agricultural production a sector which expects to see economic losses from climate change.</p>
<p>Paris Committee on Capacity Building (PCCB)</p>	<p>The PCCB addresses current and emerging gaps and needs in implementing and further enhancing capacity-building in developing countries.</p>	<p>Tasked with managing and overseeing the capacity-building work plan for the period 2016-2020. For the years 2017-2019, its focus area will be capacity-building activities for the implementation of NDCs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Established four working groups as of April 2018: (1) Linkages with existing bodies established under the convention; (2) Cross-cutting issues; (3) Enhancing the capacity-building portal; (4) Identify capacity gaps and needs. - Linkages with existing bodies: Engaged stakeholders on the topic of "...developing insurance mechanisms, as appropriate, embedded in an integrated risk management approach, for example diversified agriculture insurances as a risk transfer mechanism that help farmers to reduce climate risks in the sector."
<p>Technology Executive Committee (TEC)</p>	<p>The TEC is the policy arm of the Technology Mechanism that is made up of both the TEC and the CTCN (described below). The TEC focuses on identifying policies that can accelerate the development and transfer of low-emission and climate resilient technologies.</p>	<p>Plays a key role in supporting countries to identify climate technology policies that support them to achieve the Paris Agreement's objectives. Current focus areas are: adaptation technologies, climate technology financing, emerging and cross-cutting issues, innovation and technology research, development and demonstration, mitigation technologies, and technology needs assessments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The TEC's key outputs are its annual technology-related recommendations to the COP which highlight proven measures that countries may take to speed up climate technology action. - TEC requests stakeholder inputs and participation in TEC meetings, task forces, workshops, thematic dialogues, expert meetings and side events. - Produced brief on South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation on technologies for adaptation in the water and agriculture sectors.

<p>Climate Technology Centre & Network (CTCN)</p>	<p>To promote accelerated, diversified and scaled-up transfer of environmentally sound technologies for climate change mitigation and adaptation, in developing countries, in line with their sustainable development priorities. IPCC defines climate technologies to cover any piece of equipment, technique, practical knowledge or skills for performing a particular activity that can be used to face climate change.</p>	<p>Manages requests from developing country National Designated Entities (NDEs) and delivers responses, fosters collaboration to accelerate capacity building for climate technology transfer. Creates links between countries, technology providers, technology policy and the financial community to enable nations to meet their climate goals by collaborating with the Technology Executive Committee (TEC), the Green Climate Fund (GCF), the Adaptation Fund, and the Global Environment Facility.</p>	<p>CTCN has adaptation and mitigation projects within the agriculture sector. Example: Development of an integrated and comprehensive agroforestry policy in Belize.</p>
<p>Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG)</p>	<p>Mandated to provide technical guidance and support to the least developed countries (LDCs) on the process to formulate and implement National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), the preparation and implementation of the National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs), and the implementation of the LDC work programme through various modalities.</p>	<p>The LEG accomplishes its mandate through technical guidance to countries, technical guidelines and papers, training activities, workshops, monitoring of progress, effectiveness, best practices, lessons learned, databases of submitted NAPAs and NAPs, and promotion of coherence and synergy.</p>	<p>Extended an invitation to partners to develop supplementary guidelines for mainstreaming agriculture, ecosystems, water, risk reduction, and health in NAPs.</p>

Kyoto Protocol Bodies			
Compliance Committee (CC)	Comprised of two branches. The facilitative branch aims to provide advice and assistance to Parties to promote compliance. The enforcement branch has the responsibility to determine consequences for Parties not meeting their commitments.	This body is responsible for compliance under the Kyoto Protocol.	Not identified.
Joint Implementation Supervisory Committee (JISC)	Supervises the verification procedure of countries Joint Implementation commitments which are eligible to transfer and/or acquire emission reduction units and use them to meet their emission reduction target under the Kyoto Protocol.	If a host Party under the Kyoto Protocol does not meet all, but only a limited set of eligibility requirements, verification of emission reductions or enhancements of removals as being additional, a verification procedure has to be done under the JISC. Under this so-called Track 2 procedure, an independent entity accredited by the JISC must determine whether the relevant requirements have been met before the host Party can issue and transfer emissions reduction units (ERUs).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A JI project must provide a reduction in emissions by sources, or an enhancement of removals by sinks, that is additional to what would otherwise have occurred. The agriculture sector could be included in countries JI projects. - The JISC decided not to have more meetings in 2018. The JISC further decided that the Chair and Vice-Chair would consult electronically with members for any decision-making during the year, including on its annual report to the CMP at its fourteenth session and, if required, a side-event to be held at COP24.

<p>Executive Board of the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM EB)</p>	<p>The CDM Executive Board supervises the Kyoto Protocol’s Clean Development Mechanism under the authority and guidance of the Conference of the Parties. It is the ultimate point of contact for CDM Project Participants regarding the registration of projects and the issuance of CERs.</p>	<p>A designated operational entity (DOE) is an independent auditor accredited by the CDM EB to validate project proposals or verify whether implemented projects have achieved planned greenhouse gas emission reductions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Created a Concept Note on Exploration of methodological options for developing ‘agriculture CDM’ . - 2018 CDM management plan implementation: “During the reporting period, work was carried out on the standardization of methods in broadly applicable methodologies covering cities, transport and agriculture.” <p>Methodological options for developing ‘agriculture CDM’ is 75% of the way completed.</p>
<p>Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (CGE)</p>	<p>This group is the key technical support element under the Convention to assist developing country Parties in meeting their reporting obligations under the Kyoto Protocol.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Established to improve national communications and the Biennial Update Reports from developing country Parties under the Kyoto Protocol through technical advice and support. - Enhance collaboration and cooperation with other global initiatives, enhance communication and outreach through various workshops annually. 	<p>Has the ability to make recommendations to countries on how to adequately account for reductions in agriculture under the Kyoto Protocol.</p>

<p>Adaptation Fund Board (AFB)</p>	<p>The AFB is the operating entity that supervises and manages the Adaptation Fund, under the authority and guidance of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP).</p>	<p>Decides on projects, including the allocation of funds, in line with the Adaptation Fund principles, criteria, modalities, policies and programmes. Responsible for the monetization of certified emissions reductions (CERs) issued by the Executive Board of the CDM and forwarded to the Adaptation Fund to assist developing country Parties that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change to meet the costs of adaptation.</p>	<p>Report of the Adaptation Fund Board November 2016: Agriculture sector accounts for 18% of the Adaptation Fund’s portfolio projects and programmes. By sector, the largest grant amount has gone to adaptation projects in the agriculture sector, with USD 62 million approved, AFB’s list of accredited implementing entities includes (among others): Agency of Agricultural Development (Morocco), National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (India), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)</p>
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