

**SUBMISSION BY PERU ON BEHALF OF THE AILAC GROUP OF COUNTRIES COMPOSED BY CHILE, COLOMBIA, COSTA RICA, HONDURAS, GUATEMALA, PANAMA,
PARAGUAY AND PERU**

15th of September 2017

APA Agenda item 4—Further guidance in relation to the adaptation communication, including, inter alia, as a component of nationally determined contributions, referred to in Article 7, paragraphs 10 and 11, of the Paris Agreement.

AILAC welcomes the opportunity to submit further views on the adaptation communication and specifically on the “proposals for elements and ‘skeleton’ outlines as contained in the informal note” of the co-facilitators¹. Given the clear interlinkage this agenda item has with other elements of the Paris Agreement, this submission should be read in conjunction with prior submissions² of AILAC³, including on APA agenda item 5⁴, on APA agenda item 6⁵ and on the mandates Decision 1/CP.21 provides to constituted bodies⁶ as well as submissions presented for COP23. This submission considers conclusions, informal notes, and the discussions held during APA 1-3 and contains AILAC’s views on the ‘skeleton’/outline of the outcome and the elements of the guidance of the adaptation communication (see table 1).

INTRODUCTION: KEY MESSAGES

Provided the urgent needs parties face in light of the increasing impacts of climate change AILAC believes the purpose of the adaptation communication should be overarching and focussed on the key matter of enhancing adaptation action. The purpose of an instrument such as the adaptation communication must not be atomized in numerous purposes as it dilutes its effectiveness and loses sight of the fact that there are other instruments already available under the Convention that can help advance other interests i.e. the National Communication can continue to serve as a means for reporting progress, sharing lessons learned and for the recognition of efforts developing countries carry out.

In this sense, the guidance of the adaptation communication should facilitate communicating adaptation plans, needs, action and priorities to enhance action (in accordance to Article 7.14 (b)) while respecting its inherent flexibility and not creating additional burdens. The common elements of the guidance would apply irrespective of the Parties’ choice of vehicle it uses to submit the adaptation communication and therefore be overarching in nature. As stated in G77 and China’s proposal of elements there could also be additional “opt-in opt-out” elements Parties may also submit.

¹ Informal http://unfccc.int/files/meetings/bonn_may_2017/in-session/application/pdf/apa_4_informal_note_final.pdf

² AILAC APA item 4 submission dated March, 2016 available at http://www4.unfccc.int/Submissions/Lists/OSPSubmissionUpload/233_280_131197469405886489-160930%20AILAC%20Adaptation%20Item%204%20APA%20Submission%202016.pdf

³ AILAC APA item 4 submission dated 30th September, 2016 available at http://www4.unfccc.int/Submissions/Lists/OSPSubmissionUpload/233_280_131197469405886489-160930%20AILAC%20Adaptation%20Item%204%20APA%20Submission%202016.pdf

⁴ AILAC APA item 5 dated 1st of March, 2017 http://www4.unfccc.int/Submissions/Lists/OSPSubmissionUpload/233_323_131328374406197076-170228%20AILAC%20Submission%20Transparency%202017%20vf_P17.pdf

and prior submission dated 30th September, 2016 http://www4.unfccc.int/Submissions/Lists/OSPSubmissionUpload/233_281_131197485029118930-160930%20AILAC%20Submission%20Transparency%202016.pdf

⁵ AILAC APA item 6 dated 30th September, 2016 http://www4.unfccc.int/Submissions/Lists/OSPSubmissionUpload/233_282_131197470783548982-160929%20AILAC%20Submission%20Global%20Stocktake%202016.pdf

⁶ AILAC submission dated 13th of January, 2017 http://www4.unfccc.int/Submissions/Lists/OSPSubmissionUpload/123_284_131293917741293274-AILAC%20Submission%20AC%20LEG%20mandates.pdf

OUTLINE/SKELETON FOR RESPECTIVE CMA DECISION:

The outline for a decision text on this matter would cover the following:

Preamble

- Recall five key provisions of the Paris Agreement that are essential to the guidance of the adaptation communication: Art.7.10; 7.11; 7.12 :7.13 and 7.14 (b).
- Defining linkages of the adaptation communication: Art. 7.14; Art. 14 and reports of the progress made once the adaptation communication is implemented as an input to the Enhanced Transparency Framework (Art. 13.8).
- Flexibility.

Operational aspects including:

- Purpose of the adaptation communication: to enhance adaptation action and support to contribute towards the global goal on adaptation.
- Adoption of the guidance for the adaptation communication (in annex).
- Iterative nature of the guidance of the adaptation communication.

The annex to the decision would include:

- Purpose of the guidance: facilitate that Parties communicate their plans, priorities, needs and adaptation actions in a manner that enhances adaptation action and support.
- Guidance of the adaptation communication (see table 1):
 - I. Common elements.
 - II. Additional “opt-in opt-out” elements.
 - III. Other information.
- Iterative nature of the guidance of the adaptation communication, in accordance with relevant decisions of the CMA.

ELEMENTS FOR GUIDANCE OF THE ADAPTATION COMMUNICATION

In accordance with the inherent flexibility that the Paris Agreement provides for the adaptation communication, agreeing to a common set of elements in the guidance of the adaptation communication will help accomplish its purpose. Having a common set of elements does not prevent Parties from setting “additional optional elements” as part of the guidance as well as a third category of “other elements” parties may use to include other details they believe would be useful to enhance adaptation action in their country. Table 1 below elaborates on the elements AILAC believes should be part of the guidance of the adaptation communication (see table 1)

Table 1: Elements to be included in guidance of the adaptation communication.

I. Common Elements	<i>Detail of content per element that all Parties that choose to submit an adaptation would include in their adaptation communication.</i>
i. National circumstances	Summarized context information on the country, in order to facilitate the understanding of adaptation priorities, needs, plans and actions including: -National long-term adaptation objective, vision, components of low emission resilient development strategies). -Institutional arrangements and/or legal framework. -Priority or strategic sectors/geographies.

<p>ii. Impacts, vulnerabilities and risk assessments</p>	<p>This element would include summarized vulnerability, risk and upcoming impacts assessment that serve as context to understand priorities, plans, actions and needs presented in the Adaptation Communication. Risk and vulnerability assessments could cover economic sectors; geographies or populations exposed to certain impacts and that are most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. National assessments (including risk assessments) can be complemented by regional or global reports carried out by international agencies that may have greater capacity and complement information produced at a national level. Agreeing with the AGN submission⁷, AILAC too believes that risk assessments can be expressed in the context of different temperature scenarios, which would benefit from guidance based on a variety of existing methodologies, which could be developed by the IPCC with contributions from the Adaptation Committee.</p>
<p>iii. Prioritized adaptation actions, strategies and programmes for implementation</p>	<p>This content would include on going or planned actions, strategies and programmes identified as priorities for implementation. Accompanying details to be provided could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Development strategies through which the adaptation actions or priorities are to be implemented -Timeframes for their implementation (in the short, medium and/or long term), -Information on implementation of actions that are on going or that still require support; -Dimensions (local, national and international) of the adaptation action, which could be based on National Adaptation Plans, as appropriate. -Details on how a Party will follow a gender-responsive, participatory and transparent approach to advance their adaptation actions;
<p>iv. Adaptation support needs.</p>	<p>Adaptation support needs of developing countries (which will vary in the light of the goal of global temperature limit and different temperature scenarios), including financial, technology transfer and development, and capacity building needs to implement the aforementioned prioritized adaptation actions (planned or on going), strategies and programmes identified. As established in the Paris Agreement, constituted bodies are currently finalizing recommendations on methodologies (to be adopted by the CMA) so Parties may decide to use so that Parties may assess their needs. These efforts can be complimented by other UN agencies that have developed methodologies to define adaptation costs and needs.</p>
<p>II. Additional opt-in opt-out elements</p>	<p><i>This information may be submitted if this information is available to Parties and if the Party finds it useful to share.</i></p>
<p>i. Co-benefits of adaptation.</p>	<p>Adaptation actions may generate mitigation benefits and viceversa. If mitigation benefits are created Parties would need to report expected quantified emission reductions.</p>
<p>ii. How the country is planning to MnE its progress.</p>	<p>Information on how the country is planning to MnE its progress. This could be complemented by methodologies recommended by the Adaptation Committee and the LEG on assessing adequacy of action and support. A suite of methodologies could be developed by UN agencies that have options available for consideration of Parties.</p>
<p>III. Other elements</p>	<p><i>Parties may include any other information they believe would help clarify their adaptation communication or that they believe is useful.</i></p>

⁷ AGN submission of April 2017, available at http://www4.unfccc.int/Submissions/Lists/OSPSubmissionUpload/586_322_131359642536490628-AGN%20submission%20on%20APA%201.3%20Item%204%20April%205%202017.docx

FURTHER NOTES ON VEHICLES AND LINKAGES

These elements are based on content that would be useful to identify ways to enhance action in countries based upon the nationally determined priorities, actions, plans and needs each Party has set out. The linkages to other issues, agenda items or arrangements under the convention were described in detail in AILAC's April 2017 submission⁸.

In this sense, AILAC believes that the National Communication will continue to play a key role for adaptation in the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) and will continue to serve as a reporting vehicle of adaptation actions that Parties have already implemented or are on going (for recognition of these efforts according to Article 7.3), to share lessons learned or to demonstrate progress of their adaptation efforts (as input for Article 7.14 (c)). The coherence amongst instruments and linkages between the ETF and the Global Stocktake has been described in detail in aforementioned submissions and can be reflected in the outline.

Therefore, these elements would be defined in a way that would help understand how to increase support, cooperation and political backing for present, on going and upcoming priorities, needs, plans and action so Parties are less vulnerable, more resilient and have greater adaptive capacity. It is relevant to take into consideration that although there is still no guidance for the adaptation component of the Nationally Determined Contributions (a-NDC), more than 75% of Parties presented an adaptation component of their iNDC shedding light on priorities, needs, plans and adaptation actions which has already helped to raise political support for adaptation. In this sense for AILAC, the a-NDC, as per Article 3 of the Paris Agreement is considered as the most appropriate vehicle (to be submitted as an adaptation communication) with the view to achieving Article 2.1 (b) and Article 7.1 given the functions the a-NDC provides both at national and international levels.

AILAC considers that the GST enables a periodic opportunity not only for important "backward-looking" processes such as the recognition of efforts (Art.7.14 a) or the assessment of overall support for adaptation and progress made towards the GGA (Art.7.14,c and d), for which the outputs of the ETF will play a key role as input to the GST, but more importantly the GST would also focus on the enhancement of future adaptation action.

Recalling that the adaptation communication is established by the Paris Agreement as an input for the GST to "enhance the implementation of adaptation action" (Art.7.14 b) the aforementioned elements of the adaptation communication will serve to collect the adaptation priorities, needs, actions and plans of Parties and facilitate the identification of opportunities of action, including at broader scales than the national ones. The inputs and modalities of the Global Stocktake regarding adaptation will ultimately facilitate Parties further enhance adaptation actions, by providing specific guidance including to the different means of implementation mechanisms under the Convention and in other forms of enhancing support for further action.

⁸ AILAC's April 2017 submission, available at: http://www4.unfccc.int/Submissions/Lists/OSPSubmissionUpload/233_322_131363263686925851-170410%20AILAC%20submission%20APA%20item%204%20Adaptation%20Communication%202017.pdf.