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global public policy network  
on water management



# Proposed Text Amendments on Water and Climate Change Adaptation

**Presented by the Global Public Policy Network on Water Management  
to the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long Term Cooperative Action under  
the Convention (AWG-LCA)**

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**Water and Climate Change Adaptation: Proposed Text Amendments**  
for the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-Term Cooperative Action under  
the Convention

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The Global Public Policy Network on Water Management is a joint initiative of Stakeholder Forum and Stockholm International Water Institute, working with global stakeholders to identify priorities for the international water agenda, and communicate those priorities to decision-makers. As part of its efforts to raise the profile of water in relation to climate change adaptation, the GPPN has put together these proposed text amendments for the AWG LCA, in response to the Chair's draft negotiating text.

The amendments build on the following documents, reports and submissions:

- *Water and Climate Change: Key Messages for COP15*, GPPN (based on consultation with over 30 stakeholders)<sup>1</sup>
- *Water and Climate Change Adaptation, Proposals for the fifth session of the AMG LCA*, supported by GPPN, IUCN, International Water Association, World Water Council and Cooperative Programme on Water and Climate.<sup>2</sup>
- *Submission on Water and Climate Change Adaptation to the UNFCCC Secretariat* by GPPN<sup>3</sup>

The documents, reports and submissions outlined above are based on formal and informal consultation and collaboration with the following stakeholders:

Bremen Overseas Research and Development Agency (BORDA)  
CAZALAC – Centro del Agua para Zonas Aridas y Semi Aridas de America Latina y el Caribe  
Chartered Institute of Water and Environmental Management (CIWEM)  
Cooperative Programme on Water and Climate  
Ecuminical Association for Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development, Ghana (ECASARD)  
ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability  
International Federation of Agricultural Producers (IFAP)  
Confederación Nacional Agraria, Peru  
Cooperativas Agrarias Federadas – CAF. Uruguay  
Confederación de Porcicultores Mexicanos  
Jordan Farmers Union  
Uganda National Farmers Federation  
Franciscans International  
Friends of the Earth Canada  
Friends of Ozone  
Freshwater Action Network  
Gender and Water Alliance

Global Water Partnership (GWP)  
International Water Association (IWA)  
International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN)  
Progressio  
Stockholm International Water Institute  
Tearfund  
Uganda Water and Sanitation NGO Network  
UNANIMA  
UN Convention to Combat Desertification  
UNDP Water Governance Facility  
UNEP DHI Water and Environment Centre  
UNESCO IHE  
UNISON  
UN Water  
WaterAid Ghana  
Wetlands International  
World Business Council for Sustainable Development  
World Water Council  
WWF/WWF International  
Dr Peter Johnston, University of Capetown  
Professor Tony Allan

The resulting text amendments build on an open, consultative and collaborative process. However, it should be noted that as stakeholders may have commented on one area but not others, each amendment does not necessarily reflect the views of all of those consulted or involved. Rather the amendments build on a collection of inputs gathered, and their being listed in this document does not imply a full endorsement of all proposed amendments, though where possible the GPPN has attempted to identify consensus.

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<sup>1</sup> [http://gppn.stakeholderforum.org/fileadmin/files/GPPN\\_2008-9/Papers/GPPN\\_Key\\_Messages\\_Water\\_and\\_Climate\\_Change\\_Adaptation\\_COP-15.pdf](http://gppn.stakeholderforum.org/fileadmin/files/GPPN_2008-9/Papers/GPPN_Key_Messages_Water_and_Climate_Change_Adaptation_COP-15.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> [http://gppn.stakeholderforum.org/fileadmin/files/GPPN\\_2008-9/Two-pager\\_on\\_Water\\_and\\_Climate\\_Change\\_Adaptation\\_for\\_UNFCCC\\_April\\_2009.doc](http://gppn.stakeholderforum.org/fileadmin/files/GPPN_2008-9/Two-pager_on_Water_and_Climate_Change_Adaptation_for_UNFCCC_April_2009.doc)

<sup>3</sup> <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2009/smsn/ngo/147.pdf>

## II. Enhanced action on adaptation

### A. Objectives, scope and guiding principles

18. International cooperation {shall}{should} be enhanced with a view to facilitating, supporting and implementing urgent and immediate, medium- and long-term adaptation action by all Parties at local, subnational, national, regional and global levels, enabled by means of implementation, to respond effectively, coherently and in a timely manner **[add: by the appropriate sectoral actors]** to current and future impacts of climate change. Such cooperation {shall}{should} take into account the urgent and immediate needs of developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change.

19. A comprehensive, robust, cooperative and action-oriented adaptation {framework}{programme} shall be established to enable, support and implement adaptation action, and to reduce vulnerability and build resilience to the adverse impacts of climate change. It {shall}{should} encompass provisions for:

**(c bis) Ecosystem-based adaptation measures and sharing of approaches in this area**

22. The implementation of the adaptation {framework}{programme} {shall}{should}:

(a) Be undertaken in the context of the following:

(iii) Promoting climate-resilient development in a manner that is **[delete: practical] [add:ecosystem-based]** informed by the best science, environmentally sound, and economically efficient, and that promotes on-the-ground results;

(d) Be flexible, bottom-up, results-based and country **[delete: driven] [add: stakeholder-owned]** involving all relevant stakeholders, with a view to enhancing ownership, at local, subnational, national and regional levels, of the implementation of adaptation actions, including ownership of the means of implementation provided

(f) Promote coherence and facilitate linkages with **[add: and among] [delete: other]** international, regional and national **[add: as well as sectoral]** programmes, bodies and stakeholders that are implementing adaptation and related activities;

(g) Facilitate and promote an integrated, **(add: cross-sectoral and)** best practice approach;

**ADD: (g bis) Recognise cross-sectoral priorities including integrated land and water resources management.**

(j) Address the concerns and/or build the resilience of, inter alia:

**ADD: (iii) Particularly vulnerable sectors, including the water sector**

(k) Be guided and informed by sound scientific and technological **[add: and empirica]** knowledge, including emerging scientific findings, by continuous learning and evidence-based vulnerability assessment processes, and by traditional knowledge;

**ADD: (k bis) Be guided by an awareness of the importance of effective integrated land and water management, through adherence to the five principles of the Nairobi Statement on Integrated Land and Water Resources Management for Climate Change Adaptation: Sustainable Development, Resilience, Governance, Information, and Economics and Financing.**

(l) Build upon experiences and lessons learned from past and ongoing adaptation actions, including national adaptation programmes of action (NAPAs), the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change, and traditional practices, **[add: and ensure that these lessons are shared with relevant implementing sectors]**

### B. Implementation of adaptation action

*Enabling activities/environments to support adaptation action*

23. {Parties}{All developing country Parties}{Particularly vulnerable developing country Parties}{shall}{should} formulate and report on their national adaptation plans, assessing, identifying, costing and prioritizing their urgent and immediate, and medium and long-term, adaptation needs, including needs related to risk management, reduction and sharing, that are consistent with national and sectoral priorities. These plans {should}:

(a) Catalyse actions in **[add: and across]** different sectors, promoting efficient and effective use of the financial resources for adaptation provided under the Convention;

(b) Emphasize **[add: integrated and]** programmatic approaches, while also recognizing a place for adaptation projects under certain circumstances;

**ADD: (e bis) Consider the cross-cutting nature of integrated land and water resources management for adaptation**

(f) Take into account the dynamics of natural systems **[add: and promote ecosystem-based adaptation]**

24. To promote the enabling {activities}{environments} to support adaptation action, {all Parties} {Parties} {all developing country Parties} {shall}{should}:

(a) Integrate adaptation into development, disaster risk and poverty reduction plans, strategies, tools and policies at multiple levels and in and across sectors;

**ADD: (a bis) Develop integrated land and water management plans that are responsive to climate impacts**

**ADD: (b bis) Develop governance and regulatory systems in and across sectors that respond flexibly to increasing uncertainty caused by climate change**

(c) Build capacity, including institutional capacity, through providing financial and technical support for:

**ADD: (iii) Developing ecosystem-based adaptation actions**

(d) Undertake sound vulnerability and adaptation assessments **[add: based on internationally agreed criteria and methodology]** **[delete: employing a range of decision-making tools and methodologies]**

**ADD: (g bis) Develop projects that build understanding and capacity for integrated land and water resources management**

(i) Establish a short-term work programme up to 2012 in order to support the preparation and implementation of NAPAs, and to support the strengthening of observation systems, the creation of databases for climate data, and targeted capacity-building for long-term planning, **[add: including the integration of NAPAs with other national and sectoral planning processes, including Integrated Water Resource Management plans]**

25. The adaptation {framework}{programme} shall support and enhance the implementation of national adaptation plans. Adaptation action includes:

**ADD: (a bis) Actions at regional and international level to enhance transboundary water management and respond to climate change impacts on shared river-basins and international watercourses.**

(c) Strategies and measures to build resilience, **[add: including through ecosystem conservation, preservation and rehabilitation]**, and economic diversification;

**ADD: (e bis) Activities relating to the integrated management of natural resources, including integrated land and water resources management**

### **C. Means of implementation**

28. Taking into account the provisions of paragraphs 31.33 below, developing country Parties {and Parties with economies in transition}{shall}{should} receive access<sup>7</sup> to finance, technology and capacity building, <sup>8</sup> to support adaptation action at local, subnational, national, regional and global levels, including:

(b) Identified adaptation programmes, projects or actions, such as those arising from national sustainable development strategies, poverty reduction strategies, **[add: integrated land and water resources management plans]**, national communications and NAPAs and other relevant instruments;

30. {Agreed} full {incremental} cost coverage should be provided for:

(d) Resilience-building activities based on vulnerability assessments, including for sustainable livelihood, sustainable agriculture, **[add: sustainable and integrated land and water resources management; ecosystem preservation, conservation and rehabilitation]**; building community capacities and infrastructures, access to technologies and innovations, etc.

31. In providing support, priority {shall}{should} be given to:

**ADD: (a bis) Supporting regional frameworks which advance adaptation on a national level, including transboundary water management arrangements at the riverbasin level.**

32. In addition to the above, priority consideration should also be given to ecosystem-based adaptation activities, **[add: and activities advancing the integrated management of land and water resources]**

34. Financial support {shall}{should} generally be provided to adaptation through a programmatic **[add: and integrated]** approach {and to project-based adaptation action}.

#### **E. Institutional arrangements**

45. Under the adaptation {framework}{programme}, international institutional arrangements for adaptation {must}{should}:

(d) Ensure that adaptation action is implemented at the most appropriate level **[add: and by the most appropriate sector]**, including at local, sub-national, national and regional, **[add: transboundary and international levels]**, recognizing the important roles of state and regional governments, **[add: and transboundary mechanisms and arrangements]**

**ADD: (d bis) Ensure that adaptation also takes into account transboundary concerns, especially in the context of adaptive transboundary water management.**

**ADD: (e: bis) Encourage enhanced dialogue, communication and knowledge-sharing between the water and climate change sectors, including facilitating involvement of the water sector in the Nairobi Work Programme, and enhance provision of guidance on using climate information in the context of water management.**

(f) Create arenas for sharing information and good practices, and forums where different public and private stakeholders can discuss concrete challenges, **[add: ensuring that these arenas are open to all stakeholders and provide opportunities for local communities and grassroots organizations to engage and share examples of best practices]**

**ADD: (f bis) Enhance arrangements between climate information providers and climate information users to ensure dissemination of climate information tailored to the needs of sectoral planners and implementers of adaptation at a country-level.**

46. To support the implementation of the adaptation {framework}{programme}, {existing institutional arrangements shall be enhanced} {and the following new institutional arrangements<sup>14</sup> should be established}:

Option 1

{An adaptation committee}{A subsidiary body for adaptation} to enhance the implementation of adaptation action in developing country Parties through, inter alia: providing advice and technical support to Parties; **[add: identifying and sharing cases of adaptation best practices in and across sectors; developing better locally-generated knowledge, identifying priority areas for adaptation and building capacity for ecosystem-based adaptation; providing a platform for cross-sectoral dialogue and communication on adaptation]**, developing mechanisms for the transfer of adaptation technologies; planning, organizing, coordinating, monitoring and evaluating international actions on adaptation to climate change, including on the means of implementation, **[add: assessing sectoral funding requirements for adaptation]**.

49. The above-mentioned centres and networks {should} operate with a view to, inter alia:

(a) Facilitating the implementation of adaptation action {in all vulnerable developing country Parties, particularly LDCs and SIDS} through promoting research, knowledge sharing **[add: in and among sectors and including a diversity of stakeholders]**, training, capacity-building **[for adaptation methods and approaches, including ecosystem-based adaptation actions and integrated land and water management plans]**, and the development, diffusion and transfer of adaptation technology; *promoting ecosystem-based adaptation options.*

(c) Coordinating and disseminating information related to regional modeling, **[add: including meteorological and hydrological data]** for improved vulnerability and adaptation assessments;

50. The scope of the Nairobi work programme is to be enhanced, and it should become a hub for knowledge and information sharing and capacity-building at regional and national levels, **[add: enhancing the involvement of all sectors, including land and water management sectors to share best practice for adaptation.]**

#### **F. Monitoring and review of adaptation action and support**

52. Monitoring {and evaluation} entails, inter alia:

(d) Evaluating the effectiveness of the implementation of adaptation actions, projects and Programmes, **[add: using social, environmental and economic criteria]**