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Adaptation and mitigation experiences and best practices shared

Bonn, 24 June (Dale Wen) – Representatives of several cities and subnational authorities met to share a wide range of experiences, best practices and challenges on adaptation and mitigation at the recently concluded climate talks in Bonn.

The UNFCCC Conference of the Parties (COP) at its 19th session in Warsaw last year decided to accelerate activities under the workplan on enhancing mitigation ambition, including by "facilitating the sharing among Parties of experiences and best practices of cities and subnational authorities, where appropriate, in identifying and implementing opportunities to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change, with a view to promoting the exchange of information and voluntary cooperation".

At the request of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action (ADP), the UNFCCC secretariat organized a Forum on experiences and best practices of cities and subnational authorities in relation to adaptation and mitigation on 10 June, to provide an opportunity for such information sharing. A Technical Expert Meeting (TEM) on Urban Environments also took place in the afternoon of 10 June to allow for synergies in participation and focus.

The events were supposed to provide a basis for the discussion on the implementation of action at the subnational and city level. The Forum showcased specific initiatives and best practices in creating an enabling environment for action and mainstreaming climate change considerations into local development plans. Dr. Aisa Kirabo Kacyira, Deputy Executive Director of UN-HABITAT, chaired the Forum.

UNFCCC Executive Secretary Christiana Figueres opened the Forum by stressing that we cannot address climate change without addressing urban areas, and there is no better area to do this than in subnational governments. Carbon emissions globally have to peak soon, and cities must be on a carbon neutral pathway. She asked the Parties to consider what the 2015 agreement needs to do in order to promote what cities and subnational authorities are already doing, and what national governments need to do to facilitate vertical integration to put us on a livable path. She dreams of resilient cities with low emissions, local food production, and optimal waste and water management.

The Chair stressed the connections between what people need on the ground and the international level policy-making. The challenge is how to scale up local actions, and how to support leaders in government that are there for a short time to tackle mandates that stay there for the long term.

During the panel presentation that followed, a series of focused keynote interventions were given regarding the extent of potential action to respond to the challenge of climate change at the city and subnational level. These presentations outlined the extent to which such authorities impact the policy landscape, through planning and regulations, and their role in guiding and undertaking action across various sectors.

Mr. Edward Mazria (Architechture2030) outlined the projection of global urban floor growth. By 2030, 15% of global growth will happen in North America (the United States and Canada) and 38% will happen in China. It is crucial that the newly built urban areas are not locked in a high carbon pathway. He also called on developed countries to renovate 2-3% of building stocks a year and developing countries 1.5-2% per year to increase energy efficiency. In practice every major architecture group has adopted the 2030 targets of carbon neutrality, and all new federal buildings in the US will be carbon neutral by 2030. The key is design and planning, which will gets us 70-80% of the way to carbon neutral; and the technology like renewables will get the other 20-30% of the way. US emissions from the building sector is already going down and is saving big money for the local consumers due to energy saving.

Mr. Mark Kember (the Climate Group) stated that regional governments are responsible for delivering practical policies and implementation on the ground. And it makes economic sense to move towards low carbon. North Rhine-Westphalia with 1/3 of Germany's emission and 75% of the energy from coal, has a state law to achieve 80% emissions reduction by 2050. They believe smart low carbon policy will increase competitiveness. Gujarat, where India's prime minister is from, is the first subnational government in Asia with a dedicated climate change department; and it has energy surplus from solar/wind. Scotland has a target of 100% renewables by 2020, and it will be the driver of Scotland's growth. The linkage between the high level policy-making, the multilateral process and the actions on the ground is crucial. Agreement is nothing if it's not backed up by implementation, stressed Kember.

Mr. Mark Watts (C40) stated that transport is a critical sector with 30% of global carbon emissions and the fastest emission growth. All C40 city mayors want to extend public transportation, for example, bus trips in London have grown over 60% in the last decade. It is also important to have policy initiatives to reduce the need to travel at all, such as mixed use urban planning. Right national policy is important to give right incentives to the cities, he said.

Mr. Nick Harrision (Ecofys) showcased LEDS (low emission development strategies) Global Partnership. LEDS GP aims to harness the collective knowledge and resources of governments, donors and international organizations, and practitioners in scaling up and strengthening implementation of climate-resilient low emission development around the world. National governments can accelerate subnational action on climate through working group collaboration, synthesis of research and good practice. There are huge mitigation opportunities that exist at city and subnational level, with many solutions to overcome various barriers. He identified barriers in four major areas: financial, information and knowledge, political and institutional, capacity and skills. However, solutions to overcome these barriers also exists, with concrete examples below:

- Financial solutions
  - Direct subsidy or funding for sub-national mitigation action (Germany Climate Fund)
  - Establishing dedicated funding entities (e.g. Rwanda and FONERWA; UK, GIB)
  - Working through existing finance entities (e.g. Peru, COFIDES; Thailand EE fund)
- Political and institutional solutions
  - Providing mandate and ownership (e.g. Vietnam, GG strategy, UK cities deals
  - Improve integration and coordination (e.g. US Climate Task Force)
- Information and knowledge solutions
  - Improving access to data (e.g. UK HEED Database or mini-stern reviews)
- Capacity and Skills solutions
  - Provide skills and knowledge support (e.g. Brazil national development bank)
  - Building skills and knowledge (e.g. Bangladesh, waste management training).

The presentation by **Dr. Vanesa Castan Broto (4CPPD)** was about participatory urban planning for climate change adaptation. She stressed that solutions have to be site specific, what to do depends on where to do it. Effective action for climate change adaptation is specific to the context of action, responds to the needs of communities and individuals, addresses the structural drivers of vulnerability, and leads to knowledge co-production. Local citizens do have sophistical knowledge about the consequences of climate change in their city and about how to act immediately and effectively; the challenge for them is often the conflict between long-term strategies and immediate needs. With institutional support for implementation, local citizens can identify and implement forms of action that foster mitigation and adaptation today rather than tomorrow. Horizontal and vertical networks are important to propagate positive experience to facilitate multi-scaling (instead of scaling-up).

The next panel was about experiences of implementation. A panel of representatives of cities and subnational authorities were asked to share their views on concrete actions taken in the design and implementation of climate sensitive development. The panelists drew out examples of building resilience and mainstreaming mitigation and adaptation into local development agendas, and the challenges faced in doing so.

Mr. Mussa Natty from **Dar Es Salaam,** a coastal city of **Tanzania** outlined the city's challenges: its population is doubling after every 10 years, with rural residents migrating to the city caused by the failure of agriculture; most of the new migrants concentrate in low-lying areas which are flood prone, and floods are more frequent in recent years due to climate change. The city is trying to relocate people to higher areas, and plan to build sea walls and a stronger water drainage system as adaptation measures. On mitigation, they have tree planting and reforestation campaigns, plans to improve cook stoves and building codes, a city master plan with metro design, etc. However, there are serious finance barriers to implement all the plans. The city faces so many development challenges that climate isn't always the priority issue. Improved access to international finance is crucial, stressed Natty.

The Chair said that as a former mayor in a developing country, she understood the challenges. What lower level governments are doing on the ground needs to be in cooperation with the top level mandate to be carbon neutral by 2050. She would like to hear from participants on how to connect the two.

Mr. Yann Francoise from **Paris, France** said the city had its first climate plan in 2007, with 25% reduction target by 2020. Retrofitting existing buildings to be energy efficient is a huge challenge, however, it also have co-benefits such as 2000-job creation, and reduced energy bills. Other mitigation measures include introduction of organic products; integration of urban, suburbs and rural areas, especially with agriculture/food supply and energy supply.

Ms. Louise Bedsworth from **California, the United States of America** said California is working with the federal government, cities and townships towards its goal to reduce its 2020 emissions back to 1990 level. Its comprehensive program includes a carbon cap-and-trade program linked with Quebec (Canada), renewable energy standards, vehicle standards, etc. It also has a regional adaptation program to build resilience. It wants to be part of a strong international process.

The Chair thanked the presenters for offering concrete solutions of collaboration with different levels of governments. As connection with international dialogues is crucial, she asked the Parties to elaborate on how they foresee the 2015 agreement supporting the existing plans or additional efforts.

Germany said that the Ministry of Environment is in charge of both climate change and sustainable cities, which is a good synergy. The country is engaged in energy transition and can't do that without energizing local action in cities. It started a comprehensive support program in 2008, with 3000 projects funded in cities. The system of giving seed money is very important and successful. Its "Master plan municipalities" project had chosen 19 municipalities with the target to reduce emissions by 95% by 2050 and energy consumption by 50% compared to 1990 levels. They are funded for 4 years, with first 2 years establishing a master plan that needed to be approved by the city council, the next 2 years for implementation in sectors of transport, energy production, renewables, etc. It aims to create constant structures in the cities that advise all decision makers on how to do things better and smarter. On the international front, there are some programs targeting cities in developing countries. It is important that those that do on-the-ground work should network, and Germany has initiated a series of workshops to facilitate this.

Malaysia said that on the subnational level, it has focused on economic corridors and fast growing cities. It has done a case study on the fastest growing region next to Singapore, which aims towards a strong sustainable metropolis. Focus group discussion is helping to build consensus; a blue print is needed to build low carbon development.

The US stated that it is valuable to engage with subnational counter parts. It believes that by increasing cooperation between levels of governments, Parties can leverage greater emissions reductions for the pre-2020 period. Continued information sharing and best practice sharing under the UNFCCC are important.

China just had its first National Low Carbon Day on 10 June. 42 provinces and cities have joined the low carbon pilot program, and are playing a leading role in low carbon transformation. By 2012, 10 provinces in the pilot had reduced carbon intensity by 10% compared to 2010, which was well above the 6.6% national average carbon intensity reduction.

Quebec, Canada said 96% of its electricity is already renewable energy, mostly from hydropower and wind. Reducing transportation greenhouse gases (GHG) is key. It has implemented a cap-and-trade system since 2013, which will include the building and transportation sector from 2015, thus covering more than 80% of GHG. It has a floor price of $11/ton to ensure viability; and so far it is the largest carbon market in North America. It will generate considerable sums by 2020, 100% of which will be invested in renewable energy/efficient energy projects. With diversity of carbon markets, it is important to set rules to avoid double accounting. Carbon market mechanisms will play a large role in the post-2020 regime and should be included in the 2015 agreement, said the Quebec representative.

Georgia said inclusion of cities is important for implementation and this is the future of the Convention. **Mexico** said it is a challenge to coordinate actions into a single baseline to link all the efforts.

Dakar, Senegal said that with 25% of the country's population and poor planning/management, the rapidly expanding city is challenged to provide basic services to its residents. The city needs an integrated plan with baseline and multi-sector analysis to see what to act on mitigation and what are the sectors for adaptation. The challenge is to have a baseline to compare, thus to clarify what the country is doing and what can be reported in the future.

Bogota, Columbia shared what the city is doing on mitigation and adaptation. With 8 million people, the city will be stressed on water in the next 20 years based on variability of climate. The challenge cannot be addressed fully by the local government; conservation of the region's ecosystem (Amazon basin) can only happen with transnational effort. The challenge is to create the coordination mechanisms and strategic thinking globally.

France highlighted that solutions are at the disaggregate level, and it has been engaged in the discussions on how to tackle the urban issues to integrate mitigation and resilience. It is important to link it to the wider post-2015 (development) agenda (under discussion at the United Nations). Many local government structures are involved in international networks, and there has been decentralized participation from those in the south – with cities working together directly. Partnerships can bring together different stakeholders to build knowledge and experience.

Sweden outlined its climate investment program 2003 – 2013 which used the local governments as a vehicle. The local governments would identify the environmental issues, and the program aimed to deliver a number of tangible results.

Vienna, Austria said that while vertical integration is needed, horizontal integration at the city level is crucial as well. Its smart city department has an integrated approach to address cross-cutting issues including mobility, energy, climate change etc with a focus on quality of life. Change of legislation is needed to help cities to implement future-oriented ideas.

Tanzania stressed that it is important to work with developing country cities to make sure they grow at a less carbon intensive way. It pleaded to Parties to listen to what developing countries are saying to make sure they are supported in means of implementation to change the emissions trajectory and work with them to unleash their potential.

Uganda said the least developed countries (LDCs) are making effort in the direction of resilience. Many LDCs are struggling with the challenge of providing basic services and have different budget priorities, yet without built-in resilience, their development efforts will not be sustainable in the long run. It is important that LDCs receive special focus which will enable them to persuade the governments to take climate change as a priority.

North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany said that as the most important industrial region in Germany, it is the first German state to adopt a climate bill, with the targets of 25% reduction by

2020, and 80% reduction by 2050 written into law. With 76% of its current electricity from coal and 11% from gas, it aims to expand to renewable energy, and scale up energy conservation and efficiency efforts. The state government will be carbon neutral by 2030.

Mr. Gino van Begin, Representative of ICLEI, Focal point of Local Governments and Municipal Authorities (LGMA) Constituency expressed compliments that the first mayor and ministerial roundtable was held in Warsaw and the (UNFCCC) Troika presidency is taking this further. Regarding Lima/Paris and beyond, he said that a political affirmation is needed that local and subnational actions will be confirmed in the climate regime and he proposed to have a very concrete COP decision on a specific action program from 2015, which should be recognized by nations of the local government and subnational actions and provide a long term global vision in which these governments can play a role for change, and committed to have permanent ministerial mayoral dialogues and technical city forums to build on successes that the Parties have heard here today. He also proposed to launch a partnership of networks on 23 September during the UN Secretary-General's climate summit to connect success cases of the work that's being done on the ground.

Brian Kilkelly, facilitator of the UNFCCC Technical Expert Meeting (TEM) on Urban Environments, said that many cities have yet to engage in this process and stressed the need to spread success stories more effectively and in a language that makes sense to everyone. He said that 4.6 trillion dollars can be saved by city actions and the session of TEM on Urban Environment that afternoon will look at how specific policies can be activated to motivate local actions.

Mr. Rohit Aggarwala (Bloomberg Philanthropies) said that how to realize the vision is the key challenge, and both subnational and national governments have key roles to play.

Technical Expert Meeting on Urban Environment

In the afternoon of 10 June the TEM on Urban Environment convened. It focused on the ways to support and scale up the feasible policy options to ensure sustainable urban development. The first session discussed how policy options can be supported and scaled up by finance, technology and capacity building. The second session discussed how to take forward the results of the TEM throughout the year and how Lima can further advance the workplan on enhancing mitigation ambition.

James Close (the World Bank) outlined the Bank's Low-Carbon Livable City Initiative. He stressed that climate change could roll back decades of development, and poorest and most vulnerable will be hardest hit. 6.2 billion people (70% of the global population) will be living in cities by 2050; and cities already account for 2/3 of the world's overall energy consumption and 70% GHG emissions. Climate change and rapid urbanization are the dual challenges of the 21st century; and cities can help raise the level of ambition for an international climate agreement. The World Bank Low Carbon Livable Cities Initiative focuses on getting cities ready and to get finance flowing. There is a significant climate planning gap, as only 20% of the 150 largest cities have basic analytics needed for low-carbon planning. The financial gap is even larger, where only 4% of the world's 500 largest cities in developing countries are investment grade by international standards. Every $1 invested in creditworthiness can help mobilize $100. Investing in low-carbon solutions makes economic sense by improved health and quality of life, environmental preservation, job creation, innovation, improved efficiency, improved service quality and improved mobility and access to jobs.

Matthew Lynch (World Business Council for Sustainable Development - WBCSD) gave a presentation about addressing barriers to investment in urban infrastructure. $60 trillion in infrastructure investment is required by 2030 and it is a critical opportunity to avoid high-carbon "lock-in". It is a major resourcing challenge for city governments and the private sector has a significant role to play. Governments can scale up private investment by removing investment barriers, lowering risks of investment and enhancing returns on investments. The WBCSD Urban Infrastructure Initiative tries to simplify city sustainability planning process and encourages various PPPs (Private-Public Partnerships).

Mr. Jonas Kamleh, Deputy Head of Urban Development and Climate, City of Malmo (Sweden) outlined the city's policy frameworks for sustainable urban development. By 2020, the City of Malmo will be climate neutral and by 2030 the whole municipality will run on 100% renewable energy. Energy consumption in Malmo will decrease by at least 20% per person by 2020, and by a further 20% by 2030. Greenhouse gas emissions will decrease by at least 40%, calculated from 1990 by 2020. The city is not waiting for the perfect solution but experimenting with diverse and innovative solutions. The city's ambition is supported by the EU and national programs, for example, the EU-Horizon 2020 project proposal budget amounts to 19.8 million Euro, which aims to increase renewable energy production by 1.2 million kWh/y by 2020 compared to 2014 baseline, and reduce mobility CO2 emission by 35% compared to 2008 baseline.

Ms. Jennifer Semakula Musisi, Kampala Capital City Authority (Uganda) said that with support from the World Bank's Public Private Investment Advisory Facility (PPIAF) program, KCCA embarked on a "Credit Worthiness Initiative" to improve its financial sustainability. The Initiative focuses on improving local revenue collections, improving financial management and credibility, regulatory reforms to support municipal borrowing, and obtaining a city credit rating. It has managed to restructure and improve treasury management systems and put in place a new accounting manual; city revenue collections have increased by 110% in the last 36 months. The increased revenue coupled with prudent financial management has help the city finance climate resilient projects including eco stoves, solar street lights, construction of new channel and new pedestrian walk way, designing of a BRT (bus rapid transit) system, etc. For the way forward, the city plans to incorporate climate change responsive aspects in all infrastructure project designs; to structure PPP projects in solid Waste, BRT Operations, Solar Street Lighting etc. All City administration facilities including buildings, schools will switch to solar energy.

Susana Muhamad, City of Bogota (Colombia) presented on her city's experience in transforming the public transport system from a diesel to an electric/hybrid one. **Mr. Alfredo Arquillano, former Mayor of Cebu (Philippines)** presented on his municipality's bottom-up disaster risk management system.

Mr. Masahiro Kimura from Tokyo Cap-and-Trade Program shared lessons learned. Since its implementation on 2010, total CO2 emissions from facilities covered by Tokyo's cap-and-trade has dropped 22% within 3 years. 1400 facilities (mainly commercial building) were capped; each building is obligated to reduce emissions by 6,8 % during the first period (2010-2014) and 15,17% in the second period (2015-2019). The trade scheme can be utilized by owners to fulfill their obligations; and tradable allowances are limited to the excess reductions over compliance obligations. The results show that there are still many building energy efficiency measures with low/negative cost. The city also selected measures with a payback period no greater than 3 years to give guidance. For larger investments, involving the corporate decision makers is the key. Capacity building of both government and facility/building sides is necessary. The government needs to learn how to have better communication with stakeholders, to build up and improve policies and programs, as well as to learn from other cities. To further enhance urban government actions, support is needed for capacity building and local alliances with more global attention for local climate actions.

During the discussion, participants considered diverse points including recognizing national and subnational actions in the UNFCCC process; avoiding lock-in while promoting energy efficiency in buildings; leveraging financial resources for credit worthiness in cities; and moving jobs and services with mixed-use urban planning to reduce commutes.

Mr. Rohit Aggarwala (Bloomberg Philanthropies) stressed that the city level actions can bridge divides between the North and South; many urban issues are low cost. He also emphasized good management and leadership as well as effectively organizing municipal authorities.

Zitouni Ould-Dada (UNFCCC Climate Technology Centre and Network), reported that the CTCN is now fully operational and encouraged Parties to make requests and utilize it.

Mr. Franck Jésus (Global Environment Facility Secretariat) discussed the GEF's support for sustainable cities. GEF support for sustainable urban transport started in 1999, with 63 projects in over 110 cities and 50 countries; $412 million were committed, with $6.5 billion leveraged in co-financing. Several success cases were presented, including: Sino-Singapore Tianjin eco-city project, which was recognized as a model of eco-city in China; Asian Sustainable Transport & Urban Development Program, which has mobilized other cities in the region to purse low-carbon transit system; a Cameroon project, which has enhanced resilience of low-income communities to urban flooding in Yaounde area; a Colombia project, which has improved adaptation to climate impacts in water regulation and supply for the area of Chingaza - Sumapaz - Guerrero.

He also discussed GEF support for sustainable urban projects over the next four years (2014-2018). There are two channels for Sustainable Cities support under the GEF-6 strategy (2014-2018): a specific program under the Climate Mitigation Focal Area targeting "Integrated low-emission urban systems"; a new window under GEF-6 Integrated Approach Pilots targeting "Sustainable Cities", which is dedicated to projects targeting multiple global environment benefits, including mitigation and adaptation, mitigation and international waters, mitigation and chemicals etc. GEF will commit at least $100 million to GEF-6 Integrated Approach Pilots, plus co-financing. It will emphasize country ownership of national projects, implemented through 1:1 incentive mechanism; regional/global coordination and sharing of information are also crucial. Discussions and concept development have started, and submissions to the GEF Council will be approved during 2014. Up to 20 countries/cities will be discussed; and a ceiling for incentive access per country will be established.

Renate Christ (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change secretariat) summarized findings from the Fifth Assessment Report's Working Group III chapter on human settlements, infrastructure and spatial planning. The largest opportunities for future urban GHG emissions reduction might be in rapidly urbanizing countries where urban form and infrastructure patterns of land use, transport choice, housing, and behavior are not locked-in and where key mitigation strategies include co-locating high residential with high employment densities, achieving high diversity and integration of land uses, increasing accessibility and investing in public transit and other supportive demand management measures. For designing and implementing climate policies effectively, institutional arrangements, governance mechanisms, and financial resources should be aligned with the goals of reducing urban GHG emissions. The feasibility of spatial planning instruments for climate change mitigation is highly dependent on a city's financial and governance capability. A bundling of instruments and a high level of coordination across institutions can increase the likelihood of achieving emissions reductions and avoiding unintended outcomes, she said.

During the discussion, Parties discussed incentives from national governments to engage local authorities, and the need for robust policy tools.

Mark Watts (C40) stressed important factors including cities' credit worthiness to overcome financial constraints; the importance of leadership; and opportunities for creating markets through horizontal cooperation among cities. He said cities with a climate plan take twice as many actions to address climate change compared to cities without a climate plan. He also emphasized that it is a massive business opportunity to make cities more climate resilient.

Gino Van Begin from ICLEI (Local Governments for Sustainability) proposed to build on the Forum and TEM by seeking a mandate from the ADP for the Local Governments and Municipal Authorities constituency to work on an action programme, and establish it through a COP decision in 2015, with implementation starting in 2016.

Nauru suggested that the Parties should aim for a COP decision in Lima instead of Paris. It stressed that workstream 2 is about developed countries assisting developing countries. **Saudi Arabia** asked about the barriers to propagate successful examples. The **US** welcomed the fact that the importance of subnational actors to enhance pre-2020 action is recognized, and supported further work on subnational actors.

Facilitator Brian Kilkelly closed the meeting observing that cities are in the vanguard of creating an environment for action.

Reporting back to the ADP

On 14 June, the Forum Chair Dr. Aisa Kirabo Kacyira (UN-HABITAT) reported back to the ADP. She summarized the following immediate options for Parties, cities and subnational authorities:

1. *Coordination:* National governments can promote enhanced action through the establishment of nationally appropriate coordination mechanisms which provide a basis for developing effective implementation plans based on local circumstances and which maximize mitigation and adaptation benefits of socio-economic development policies and plans; and

2. *Integration:* Through the establishment of medium term climate action targets subnational authorities could achieve greater integration of climate considerations into the full range of planning processes and enhance the synergies, coherence and effectiveness of national responses to climate change.

Regarding the future role of the UNFCCC process, she said Forum participants expressed a need for enhanced structure in the engagement of subnational authorities for a range of diverse purposes. These included:

1. *Recognition of action:* The need to understand the diversity of locally designed responses to climate change, including those involving communities and citizens, and provide recognition of such action was underscored. It was proposed that this could be achieved through a system for recognition of initiatives and action by non-State actors. Some interventions specifically highlighted the need to provide access to local and subnational authorities to UNFCCC infrastructure in the support of implementation, including capacity building and recognition of market based approaches developed at the subnational level. In this regard, the importance of ensuring accountability and transparency of action in manner consistent with the requirements of the Convention was highlighted.

2. *Facilitation of interaction:* The need for enhanced interaction of the UNFCCC process with subnational authorities, potentially through future meetings of such a forum, was emphasized in order to:

- Allow Parties to engage further on the means and impacts of coordinating and facilitating action at the subnational level, recognizing that the diversity of governance approaches in individual Parties requires specific approaches to be nationally determined; and

- Provide a platform for practitioners to directly interact and share experiences.

3. *Supporting implementation:* Lastly the forum considered the potential of establishing an Action Programme under the Conference of the Parties to support the integration of action through established governance structures and guide the supportive work of various UNFCCC institutions, including the operating entities of the financial mechanism. The importance of such an Action Programme in catalyzing the development of climate action goals by those subnational authorities without current targets or goals was emphasized, in addition to the potential to enhance existing goals.