

Messages towards COP 17

Call to Action on Water in the Climate Change Negotiations



Overall objective

To support Parties in the implementation of Article 4 (e) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change which commits the Parties to develop appropriate and integrated plans for coastal zone management and water resources.

Key Message 1

Request Parties to the UNFCCC to call for the operationalisation of references to water resources in the Cancun Agreement.

Purpose: To recognise water resources management as a concrete adaptation activity in the procedures of the Adaptation Committee established by the Cancun Agreement.

Adaptation Committee: At COP 16 in Cancun, 2010, the Parties agreed to establish "an Adaptation Committee to promote the implementation of enhanced action on adaptation in a coherent manner under the Convention, inter alia, through the following functions..." * (para. 20)

The Committee will provide technical advice and guidance to the Parties to facilitate the implementation of adaptation activities. The Cancun Agreement makes specific reference to water resources when it refers to

"Planning, prioritizing and implementing adaptation actions, including projects and programmes..." (see footnote to para. 14)

Parties have been invited to provide recommendations on the modalities and procedures of the Adaptation Committee, which will be adopted by COP 17. GWP requests Parties to call for the creation of a Water Resources Management programme. A core group of water experts should be established to track and monitor activities and advise the Adaptation Committee on the implementation of water-related adaptation. This Water Experts Group should be linked to the UNFCCC's Subsidiary Bodies for Implementation (SBI) and the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA).

* Report of the Conference of the Parties on its sixteenth session, Cancun, Mexico, 29 November to 10 December 2010, p. 5 <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2010/cop16/eng/07a01.pdf#page=2>

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Key Message 2

Requests Parties to the UNFCCC to call for the creation of a Thematic Funding Window for Water Resources Management under the Green Climate Fund.

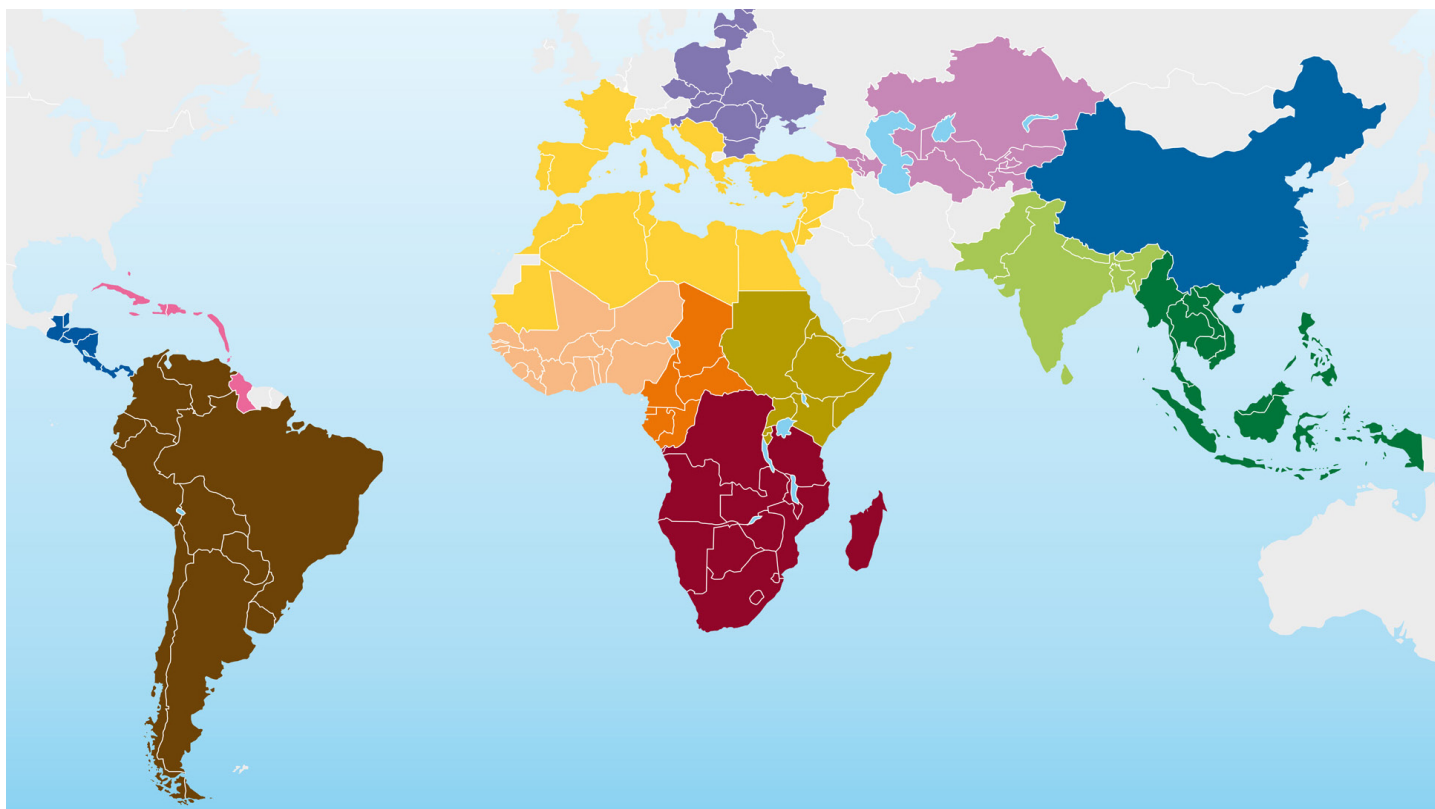
Purpose: To provide a financing mechanism to support water resources management as a concrete adaptation activity and promote the integration of water security in national development planning processes.

Green Climate Fund: At COP 16, the Parties agreed to establish a "Green Climate Fund, to be designated as an operating entity of the financial mechanism of the Convention under Article 11, with arrangements to be concluded between the Conference of the Parties and the Green Climate Fund to ensure that it is accountable to and functions under the guidance of the Conference of the Parties, to support projects, programmes, policies and other

activities in developing country Parties using thematic funding windows."

A Transitional Committee will be responsible for designing the Fund. The Committee will consider mechanisms to ensure appropriate expert and technical advice, including from relevant thematic bodies established under the Convention.

A Thematic Funding Window for water resources will provide the Parties with a mechanism to scale up investments in water **Infrastructure, Information and Institutions** and promote the integration of water security and climate resilience in national development planning processes.



The Global Water Partnership's vision is for a water secure world. Its mission is to support the sustainable development and management of water resources at all levels. GWP is an intergovernmental organisation of 13 Regional Water Partnerships, 80 Country Water Partnerships and more than 2,500 Partner organisations in 158 countries. The global secretariat is located in Stockholm, Sweden. GWP was founded in 1996 to foster integrated water resource management (IWRM), the coordinated development and management of water, land and related resources in order to maximise the economic and social welfare without compromising the sustainability of ecosystems and the environment.

FURTHER INFORMATION

GWP Technical Committee Background Paper No. 14: *Water Management, Water Security and Climate Change Adaptation*

Other climate change documents can be found at www.gwp.org.

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