

Submission by Nepal on behalf of the Least Developed Countries Group on addressing the implications of decisions 2/CMP.7 to 5/CMP.7 on the previous decisions on methodological issues related to the Kyoto Protocol including those relating to Articles 5, 7 and 8 of the Kyoto Protocol

The Least Developed Countries Group (LDC Group), welcomes the invitation by SBSTA to submit views on the Implications of decisions 2/CMP.7 to 5/CMP.7 on the previous decisions on methodological issues related to the Kyoto Protocol including those relating to Articles 5, 7 and 8 of the Kyoto Protocol in particular paragraphs 6 and 8.

The LDC Group welcomes the decision made in Durban under SBSTA to address the key issues associated with the effective implementation of the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol. The decision under SBSTA outlined the date for the report to facilitate the calculation of the assigned amount as well as the information required for the report and methodological issues associated with reporting on Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) were important achievements for this agenda item. The LDCs, along with other non-Annex I countries, were particularly concerned about rewriting the Marrakesh Accords for the second commitment period.

The LDC Group also welcomed the decision 2/CMP8 in Doha, in particular its Annex I and Annex II, respectively, on the report to facilitate the calculation of the assigned amount and information on LULUCF activities under paragraph 3 and 4 of the Kyoto Protocol in annual GHG inventories.

The LDC Group is of the view that both the Kyoto Protocol's Articles 5, 7 and 8 and the Marrakesh Accords, that guide the implementation of these articles, provide the backbone to the Kyoto Protocol's effective monitoring, reporting and verification system. This level of assurance provides the LDCs with confidence that Annex I Parties are meeting their commitments and if not, opportunities are available to address it through the Compliance Committee. The LDC Group believes this is an essential assurance to help meet the climate challenge. The experience gained, not only by the countries but also by the expert reviewers, has been invaluable in this process.

Regarding changes needed for the second commitment period, the LDC Group is of the view that a decision can be made that all references in the Marrakesh Accords that refer to the first commitment period could be read as also referring to the second commitment period, unless the decision made in Doha (L.9) provides additional guidance.

The LDC Group is particularly concerned with the use of Convention units to meet Kyoto commitments. There is as yet no clarity on the type of units to be generated under the Convention nor any legally binding agreement with which these units are to be measured against, therefore the LDCs propose that, if needed, any decisions on Convention units for the Kyoto rulebook could only be taken when the modalities and procedures under the new

market mechanism have been agreed. Furthermore, the LDC Group believes that to ensure the environmental integrity of the Kyoto Protocol, Parties should consider placing a limit on the use of Convention units to meet their Kyoto commitments. In particular, Parties will need to consider what additional guidance is needed in the Marrakesh Accords rules from Doha decisions on: (a) Share of the proceeds, and (b) Previous Period Surplus Reserve (PPSR).

Additionally, there were a number of other issues that were addressed during the workshop in October 2012, such as timing of reviews and the availability of public information. The LDC Group does not support the view that national reports by Annex I Parties be reviewed only every two years. The LDC Group believe that the review process is a significant and important component of Parties' ability to manage their greenhouse gas accounting and help get appropriate feedback and oversight needed to ensure Parties meet their commitments. Furthermore, as the LDC Group has previously stated (including in submissions regarding transparency and MRV issues under the ADP) that the MRV provisions under the Convention should be enhanced to meet the robustness and rigour of those rules under the Kyoto Protocol and not vice versa.

With regard to the issue of sharing information, the LDC Group is of the view that information should remain in the public sphere in order to ensure easy access to the information not only for the Parties but also for other stakeholders. However, information which imposes a security risk should be withheld.

With regard to the issues of reviewing the reports to facilitate the calculation of the assigned amount, it should be expedited so that once Parties present their report and have deposited their receipt of instruments of acceptance in respect of the Doha Amendment, the legal requirements for the fulfillment of the second commitment period assigned amounts are completed.

The LDC Group welcomes the work undertaken by SBSTA on this agenda item and looks forward to the consideration of our views.