Enhanced Action on Technology Development and Transfer

The Conference of the Parties,

Confirming the importance of promoting and enhancing national and international cooperative action on the development and transfer of environmentally sound technologies to support action on mitigation and adaptation now, up to and beyond 2012, in order to achieve the ultimate objective of the Convention,

Recognizing that climate change represents an urgent, grave and potentially irreversible threat to human societies and the planet, and thus requires to be urgently addressed,

Also recognizing that early and rapid reduction of emissions, and the urgent need to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change, requires large scale diffusion and transfer of, or access to, environmentally sound technologies,

Stressing the need for effective mechanisms and enhanced means for the removal of obstacles to the scaling up of the development and transfer of technologies to developing country Parties,

Objective

1. Decides that the objective of enhanced action on technology development and transfer is to support action on mitigation and adaptation to enable and achieve the full implementation of the provisions under the Convention related to technology development and transfer;

2. Agrees on the need to accelerate action at different stages of the technology cycle including research and development, demonstration, deployment, diffusion and transfer of technology (hereinafter referred to as ‘technology development and transfer’*) in support of action on mitigation and adaptation by developing country Parties and that such action should be guided by a country-driven approach and be based on national circumstances and priorities;

National and international technology cooperative action

3. Encourages Parties, consistent with their respective capabilities and national circumstances and priorities, to undertake domestic actions identified through country-driven approaches that:

(a) Promote the establishment and/or strengthening of national technology innovation centres;

(b) Promote public- and private-sector partnerships;

(c) Create the enabling environments to facilitate enhanced action on technology transfer and mobilize private-sector investment;

(d) Develop and strengthen relevant institutional, technical and human capacity, including the capacity to absorb, adapt, and adopt appropriate and applicable technologies;
4. Also encourages Parties, consistent with their respective capabilities and national circumstances and priorities, to engage in bilateral and multilateral cooperative activities on technology development and transfer in order to, inter alia:

(a) Promote collaborative action through north-south, south-south and triangular technology partnerships, including through regional and international technology centres and networks;

(b) Promote the establishment of cooperative partnership arrangements with relevant international organizations, the public- and private-sector, academia and the research community;

(c) Enhance the development and dissemination of best practices;

(d) Support national and regional capacity building;

Activities to be supported

5. Emphasizes that effective actions on technology development and transfer require a broad portfolio of activities at national, bilateral and multilateral levels and collaboration between governments, industry and the research community including through the promotion of the enabling environments and public-private partnerships, and that activities to be supported shall be determined through country-driven processes and shall be based on national circumstances and priorities as defined through national appropriate mitigation actions, national adaptation plans and technology needs assessments;

Institutional arrangements

6. Decides that a Technology Mechanism shall be established, pursuant to decision 1/CP.15, and will consist of the following components:

(a) A Technology Executive Committee (TEC), as described in paragraphs 7–10 below;

(b) A Climate Technology Centre, as described in paragraphs 11–13 below;

(c) A research and development objective, to be elaborated by the Conference of the Parties;

(d) Other arrangements to be further determined by the Conference of the Parties;

7. Also decides that the Technology Executive Committee is hereby defined, and will have, but will not be limited to, the following functions:

(a) Provide advice and analysis on policy and technical issues related to the development and transfer of technology for mitigation and adaptation;

(b) Prepare criteria on eligible activities for support, including funding;

(c) Seek cooperation with relevant international technology initiatives, relevant stakeholders and organizations, promote coherence and cooperation across technology activities including activities inside and outside of the Convention, liaise with other bodies under the Convention and facilitate networking;

(d) Catalyze the development and use of technology road maps or action plans at international and national levels through cooperation by relevant stakeholders, particularly governments and relevant organizations or bodies, including the development of best practice and guidelines, as facilitative tools for action on mitigation and adaptation;
(e) Consider and recommend actions that may be necessary to address the barriers to technology development and transfer identified by developing-country Parties in order to enable action on mitigation and adaptation;

(f) Promote collaboration on the development and transfer of technology for climate mitigation and adaptation between governments, industry, and research communities;

(g) Monitor and assess progress of action to enhance the development and transfer of environmentally sound technologies;

8. Further decides that the Technology Executive Committee established by this decision shall replace the Expert Group on Technology Transfer established by decision 4/CP.7 and which was reconstituted by decision 3/CP.13, and which shall have its mandate terminated at the sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties, by which time the Expert Group on Technology Transfer shall complete its pending activities and deliver its final report for consideration by the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation at their thirty-third sessions;

9. Further decides that the Technology Executive Committee shall provide information in timely manner to the financial arrangement, as described in decision X/CP.15 (finance), for consideration, on activities eligible for financial support;

10. Further decides that the Technology Executive Committee shall provide annual reports on the progress of its work for consideration by the Conference of the Parties and, upon request, assist or provide recommendations to the subsidiary bodies and other relevant constituted bodies under the Convention on matters relating to enhanced actions on technology development and transfer, as appropriate;

Technology Centres and Network

11. Decides that a Climate Technology Centre is hereby defined to support and accelerate the diffusion of environmentally sound technologies for mitigation and adaptation to developing country Parties through the provision, upon request, of technical assistance and training;

12. Also decides that the Climate Technology Centre shall have the following functions:

(a) Provide advice and support to developing country Parties and their stakeholders for the identification of technology needs and implementation of environmentally sound technologies, practices and processes;

(b) Improve and provide access to publicly available information on existing and emerging technologies for mitigation and adaptation, and act as a clearing house to promote the broad exchange and diffusion of such information;

(c) Provide training, information and workforce development programmes to build and/or strengthen the regional and/or national capacity of developing country Parties to identify technology options, make technology choices and operate, maintain and adapt technologies, including through training of trainers and on-the-job technical and vocational training;

(d) Facilitate immediate application of existing technologies in developing country Parties based on the identified needs;

(e) Stimulate and encourage, through collaboration with the private sector, public institutions, academia and research institutions, the research, development, demonstration, diffusion and transfer of existing and emerging environmentally sound technologies, as well as opportunities for technology cooperation;
(f) Develop and customize analytical tools, policies and best practices for country-driven planning to support the dissemination of environmentally sound technologies;

(g) Establish regional technology centres based within existing institutions to support the effective implementation of the functions of the Climate Technology Centre;

(h) Establish a Climate Technology Network with a view to:

(i) Harnessing the expertise of other national, regional and international technology centres that can be affiliated with the Network;

(ii) Facilitating international partnerships among public and private stakeholders to accelerate the innovation and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies to developing country Parties;

(iii) Providing in-country technical assistance and training to support identified technology actions in developing country Parties, upon request;

(iv) Performing other activities as determined by the Climate Technology Centre as appropriate;

(i) Compile a roster of experts drawn from the Climate Technology Network, who will be available to provide technical advice to the Technology Executive Committee;

13. Further decides that the Climate Technology Centre, referred to in paragraphs 11–12 above, shall provide periodic updates on the status and progress of its work, including that of the Climate Technology Network, to the Conference of the Parties through the Technology Executive Committee, with a view to determine any required action arising from the updates;

Capacity building

14. Requests the Technology Executive Committee to develop and facilitate, in collaboration with the Climate Technology Centre and relevant international organizations, capacity building activities and initiatives to support enhanced action on technology development and transfer to developing country Parties based on available information on capacity building needs identified through country-driven process including technology needs assessments and other national adaptation and mitigation planning processes;

Issues for further consideration

15. Agrees to continue to deliberate upon the full mandate and composition of the Technology Executive Committee and modalities for the operation of the Climate Technology Centre, referred to in paragraph 3 (a) and 3 (b) above, and conclude these deliberations with a view to the Technology Executive Committee and Climate Technology Centre commencing their work in January 2011;

16. Underlines the importance of continued dialogue among Parties on the issues deliberated upon during this session including, inter alia, ways to address specific barriers identified through country-driven processes, technologies for adaptation, modalities for technology action plans and road maps, incentives for technology development and transfer, and the research and development objective of the Technology Mechanism, with a view to concluding its consideration on these matters at its subsequent session.