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# **Regional Cooperation Programme on Climate Change**

## REGIONAL COOPERATION PROGRAMME ON CLIMATE CHANGE

The Ministers and Heads of Delegation participating in the Nineteenth Meeting of the Forum of Ministers of Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean that gathered in Los Cabos, Baja California Sur, Mexico, from 12 to 14 March 2014, ratified the need to adopt ambitious and immediate action against the consequences of increased frequency of extreme weather events and other negative impacts of climate change.

In this sense, and based on the existing regional experiences, they decided to promote a Regional Cooperation Programme on Climate Change as a framework for South-South and triangular cooperation in areas of interest to the region. This programme will be supported by UNEP and other relevant regional and global institutions.

Vision: The Latin American and Caribbean region develops successful cooperation projects on adaptation, mitigation, development and technology transfer, committed to low emission development and resilience that allows vulnerability and GHG emissions reduction and institutional capacity building to strengthen policies to address climate change.

**Expected result:** The countries of the region increase their skills and knowledge to meet the challenges of climate change with triangular and South-South cooperation as a key aspect. They also promote the design and implementation of public policies on the following topics:

### 1. Adaptation

- a. Reduce vulnerability and increase resilience of communities to the effects of climate change;
- b. Develop adaptation programmes for its strategic infrastructure and productive systems for the effects of climate change and variability;

### 2. Mitigation

- a) Promote low carbon emission development strategies; mainly those that present co-benefits from a social, environmental and economic point of view.
- b) Share successful experiences of low carbon emission development in the region.
- c) Develop NAMAs or other mitigation actions in the most relevant sectors related to the emissions of greenhouse gases in each country.

### 3. Institutionalization of climate change policy to address climate change and variability

- a. Strengthen, consolidate and promote the creation of strong institutional systems to address the challenges of climate change (laws, regulations, plans, programmes, institutional arrangements, among others); that would reinforce the governance in response to climate change in the countries as necessary;

- b. Share and exchange experiences on the development, implementation and strengthening of national legal frameworks on climate change.

**3. Financing**

- a. Establish the necessary institutional structures that provide access to funds and other resources (creation or strengthening of adequate institutions and organisations within the country to obtain resources (green climate fund));
- b. Strengthen capacities within the countries to access international financing. Consolidate a portfolio of programmes and key projects to search for climate financing;
- c. Promote the exchange of experiences on the identification of readiness projects to access the various sources of funds to tackle climate change and variability, as structures and methodologies for MRV of the resources and their execution.

**4. Knowledge exchange**

- a. Promote scientific, technical and financial collaboration on the above topics;
- b. Establish a regional platform for exchange of knowledge and technology transfer and experiences on the topics mentioned above.