First meeting of the interim Adaptation Benefits Mechanism Executive Committee

21 to 22 November 2019
09:00-17:30, Room 26M
African Development Bank/CCIA
Avenue Jean Paul II
Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire

Agenda

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Presentation of the work on the pilot phase of the Adaptation Benefits Mechanism and the pipeline of demonstration projects.
3. Election of Officers.
4. Organizational matters.
5. Working modalities and rules of procedure of the interim Adaptation Benefits Mechanism Executive Committee.
6. Participation in COP25.
8. Other matters:
   (a) Date and venue of the next meeting;
   (b) Report of the first meeting of the interim Adaptation Benefits Mechanism Executive Committee.
9. Closure of the meeting.
Annotations to the agenda

1. Opening of the meeting.

1. The first meeting of the interim Adaptation Benefits Mechanism Executive Committee (ABM EC) will be opened on 21 November 2019 by the Coordinator of the interim Adaptation Benefits Mechanism secretariat (ABM Secretariat) in the African Development Bank, Mr. Gareth Phillips, Manager Climate and Environment Finance at the Climate Change and Green Growth Department of the Bank, who will preside over the meeting until the Co-Chairs of the ABM EC have been elected. The ABM EC members will be invited to introduce themselves.

2. Presentation of the work on the pilot phase of the Adaptation Benefits Mechanism and the pipeline of demonstration projects.

*Action:* ABM EC members will be invited to discuss the different aspects of the mechanism, the role of the ABM EC and key factors for success.

2. The ABM Secretariat will present the work on the implementation of the pilot phase of the Adaptation Benefits Mechanism, highlighting the role of the mechanism in supporting the implementation of the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals, its envisaged elements, expected project cycle, progress made so far, the first approved pilot, expected tasks for the ABM EC and the pipeline of demonstration projects.

3. Election of Officers.

3. *Action:* ABM EC members will be invited to elect presiding officers of the ABM EC.

4. *Background:* ABM EC members are selected on a personal title for a period to be decided by the ABM EC up to the end of the Adaptation Benefits Mechanism pilot phase (2019-2023), subject to their availability. A suitable approach for chairing the meetings of the ABM EC and its future work will be agreed by the ABM EC members. The ABM Secretariat will present the different options.

4. Organizational matters.

(a) Adoption of the agenda;

5. *Action:* ABM EC members may wish to adopt the agenda.

6. *Background:* The provisional agenda was prepared by the ABM Secretariat in consultation with the ABM EC members.
(b) Decision-making;

7. **Action:** ABM EC members may wish to agree on modalities for decision-making.

8. **Background:** A suitable approach for decision-making, including through voting, is yet to be agreed at the discretion of the ABM EC members. The ABM Secretariat will present the different options.

(c) Organization of the work of the ABM EC;

9. **Action:** ABM EC will be invited to agree on the organization of its work.

10. **Background:** The first meeting of the ABM EC will be held on 21-22 November 2019 at the premises of the African Development Bank in Abidjan, Cote d’Ivoire. ABM EC members can agree on common principles, frequency of the meetings, work via on-line means, interaction with observers and stakeholders, specific needs and support required, taking into account the availability of resources.

(d) Advisory bodies;

11. **Action:** ABM EC members will be invited to consider the needs for technical advice.

12. **Background:** Guidelines and tools delivered by the ABM EC will be made publicly available. Their preparation may require additional technical expertise, such as for instance on methodological and legal issues. ABM EC members can discuss the specific needs and the most suitable arrangements for meeting their needs, as well as any terms of reference.

(e) Role of the ABM Secretariat in supporting the ABM EC.

13. **Action:** The ABM EC may wish to specify further the role of the ABM Secretariat.

14. **Background:** The ABM Secretariat is placed in the African Development Bank’s Department for Climate Change and Green Growth, headed by the Director for Climate Change and Green Growth. A limited number of staff members and consultants funded through other sources, such as the Climate Investment Funds, are supporting the work of the ABM Secretariat part-time. No specific funding for the operation of the ABM Secretariat is available at this stage. A small amount for organizing the meetings and the work of the ABM EC, as well as other elements needed to operationalize the ABM, such as an on-line platform, a registry and independent validation is factored in funding proposals for piloting ABM through demonstration projects. The first meeting of the ABM EC has been funded through the first approved ABM pilot project. Specifying the

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1 The first ABM pilot project, entitled “Cocoa Livelihoods Resilience - enhancing the resilience of smallholder cocoa farmers in Cote d’Ivoire through piloting the Adaptation Benefits Mechanism”, was approved on 12 September 2019 by the African Climate Change Fund and will be implemented in collaboration with the International Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF) and its partners, and in consultation with the Government of Cote d’Ivoire.
5. Working modalities and rules of procedure of the interim Adaptation Benefits Mechanism Executive Committee.

15. **Action:** The ABM EC will be invited to further develop and adopt its working modalities and rules of procedure, as well as to address any questions by stakeholders and observers received in advance of the meeting.

16. The ABM EC may wish to further develop and adopt its working modalities and rules of procedure at its first meeting, and revise them as appropriate. The Terms of Reference for the ABM EC, which refer to, inter alia, its composition, the membership term and meeting arrangements, could be revised and further expanded to include, inter alia chairing arrangements, observer participation, decision making and reporting requirements in one comprehensive document. The ABM secretariat will provide a background paper with different options. The ABM secretariat will also inform the ABM EC about any questions for clarification by stakeholders received in advance of this meeting.

6. Participation in COP25

17. The ABM EC may wish to discuss its participation in COP25 and side-events as appropriate and to exchange information relevant to ABM before and after the COP, including on side-events and the progress of the negotiations.


18. **Action:** The ABM EC will be invited to agree on its activities for 2020.

19. The ABM EC will manage and oversee its work plan. Envisaged tasks include, inter alia, the development of guidelines on ABM methodologies, validation and verification of ABM projects, registration of ABM projects and issuance of certified Adaptation Benefits. In addition, the ABM EC is expected to approve project-related ABM methodologies prepared by project developers following the ABM EC guidelines and approve the issuance of certified Adaptation Benefits. The ABM Secretariat will provide background information, including on timelines for project-related work. The ABM EC may wish to discuss its focus areas and how often to revise its work plan, as well as which materials, processes or cross-cutting issues, such as gender responsiveness, human rights, sustainable development and poverty alleviation, to take into account in its work.

8. Other matters:
   (a) **Date and venue of the next meeting;**

20. The ABM EC may wish to agree on the date and venue of its next meeting.
(b) Report of the first meeting of the interim Adaptation Benefits Mechanism Executive Committee

21. The ABM EC may wish to consider and adopt the report of its first meeting.

9. Closure of the meeting.

22. The first meeting of the ABM EC is scheduled to close on Friday, 22 November 2019, at 17:30.