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# **Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)**

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# Climate change: regional and global developments

# **Summary**

The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) provides member States with technical assistance and capacity development in the areas of climate change assessment, adaptation, mitigation and negotiations. Those efforts are in response to resolutions adopted at the thirtieth ESCWA session and prior sessions, as well as resolutions adopted by ministerial councils responsible for water, environment, electricity and meteorology under the auspices of the League of Arab States.

The present document reviews regional preparations for climate change negotiations and associated work conducted in the light of commitments set forth under the Paris Agreement and 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This includes support provided to Arab countries on climate finance and other issues under negotiation and implementation. The present document also reviews the delivery of a range of climate change-related services and support under the Arab Centre for Climate Change Policies, and complementary and forthcoming activities aimed at providing technical assistance, strengthening capacity, establishing regional platforms, informing integrated planning, and improving access to knowledge and data. Representatives of member States are invited to discuss the content of the present document and provide comments thereon.

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#### Introduction

- 1. The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) provides member States with technical assistance and capacity development in the areas of climate change assessment, adaptation, mitigation, negotiations, planning and finance. These efforts are in response to resolution 329 (XXX) adopted at the thirtieth ESCWA session, held in Beirut from 25 to 28 June 2018, and to prior requests for assistance from member States, including those articulated in resolutions adopted by ministerial councils convened under the auspices of the League of Arab States. Such efforts include delivering technical and capacity-building support on climate change issues to ESCWA member States, and responding to ministerial resolutions adopted by the Arab Ministerial Water Council, the Council of Ministers Responsible for the Environment, the Arab Ministerial Council for Electricity, and the Arab Council of Ministers Responsible for Meteorology and Climate and its associated Arab Permanent Committee for Meteorology.
- 2. The present document reviews recent developments in the climate change arena in the context of global climate change negotiations of interest to Arab countries, and considers work related to the Arab Centre for Climate Change Policies and the Regional Initiative for the Assessment of Climate Change Impacts on Water Resources and Socio-economic Vulnerability in the Arab Region (RICCAR), in accordance with ESCWA resolution 329 (XXX). The present document also outlines planned future activities, and presents recommendations for consideration.

#### I. CLIMATE CHANGE NEGOTIATIONS

#### A. CLIMATE FINANCE

- 3. Insufficient access to and availability of climate finance is a main obstacle to advancing climate action. ESCWA analysis of data reported by signatories of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) on developed country support to Arab States through bilateral channels shows that climate finance for mitigation exceeds climate finance for adaptation by a factor of 5 to 1, although adaptation to climate change remains the priory concern of Arab countries. Figures also show that loans exceed grants by 5 to 1, despite the need for grant support in many Arab countries, particularly least developed countries (LDCs) in the region. From a sector perspective, only 14 per cent of bilateral flows are allocated for water and sanitation projects, compared to 76 per cent for energy, transport and infrastructure.
- 4. Financial flows to the region from multilateral channels present similar ratios. The 2018 Joint Report on Multilateral Development Banks' Climate Finance, prepared by seven multilateral development banks including the Islamic Development Bank, confirmed that \$30.2 billion (70 per cent of total financing for 2018) was devoted to climate change mitigation investments, while only \$12.9 billion (30 per cent) was invested in adaptation and to counter the effects of extreme weather events. While the efforts of bilateral and multilateral donors are significant, they are well below the global commitment of providing \$100 billion per year for climate action by the year 2020.
- 5. ESCWA analysis of data reported to UNFCCC shows that the distribution of public international climate finance among Arab countries is also uneven, with 94 per cent of reported bilateral climate finance flows from developed countries in 2016 (the most recent reporting year) going to just five Arab countries, namely Egypt, Jordan, Morocco, Qatar and Tunisia. Conversely, just 2 per cent of flows went to Arab LDCs.
- 6. Nonetheless, there are preliminary signs of improvement. In 2019, there was an initial replenishment of funds to the Green Climate Fund (GCF), which was established as a financial mechanism under UNFCCC in 2010 to deliver equal amounts of funding to mitigation and adaptation, and whose role has been enhanced under the Paris Agreement. By the end of its twenty-fourth Board meeting held in November 2019, GCF had allocated \$407.8 million, raising its total project portfolio to \$5.6 billion, including the approval of a new \$26.3 million project for Water Banking and Adaptation of Agriculture to Climate Change in Northern Gaza, put forth by the State of Palestine and the Agence française de développement (AFD).

7. The United Nations Climate Action Summit, held in New York in September 2019, also rallied commitments by Governments and the private sector. From the Arab region, climate commitments and initiatives were presented by Djibouti, Morocco, the State of Palestine, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates, which had also hosted a preparatory meeting for the Summit in June 2019. Moreover, 33 banks signed the Collective Commitment to Climate Action, representing \$13 trillion in assets, and committed to aligning their portfolios to reflect and finance the low-carbon, climate-resilient economy required to limit global warming to well below 2 degrees Celsius. Several of those banks maintain significant branch networks in Arab countries.

# B. PREPARATIONS FOR THE TWENTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO UNFCCC

- 8. The twenty-fifth session of the Conference of the Parties to UNFCCC (COP 25, Madrid, 2-13 December 2019) will include the fifteenth session of COP serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, the second session of the COP serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement, and the fifty-first session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation and of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice.
- 9. COP 25 is expected to move forward on outstanding issues in the Katowice Climate Package, including provisions under article 6 of the Paris Agreement that would assist countries in meeting domestic mitigation goals; establishment of a public registry for nationally determined contributions (NDCs); and modalities related to the submission of adaptation communications under the Paris Agreement. It will also include a number of high-level, mandated and action-oriented events and round-table discussions. Furthermore, COP 25 will address the pre-2020 stocktake on implementation and ambition efforts related to mitigation, adaptation and provision of support for the period before 2020, and in preparation for the next round of NDC submissions in 2020.
- 10. In preparation for those global negotiations, the twelfth and thirteenth regional training workshops on capacity development for climate change negotiations for the Arab countries were organized in Beirut from 7 to 8 April 2019 and in Cairo from 3 to 5 November 2019, respectively, by the League of Arab States and ESCWA, in collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Cairo Office of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). The Arab Group of climate change negotiators participates in these biannual workshops, which are mandated by the Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for the Environment and the Arab Ministerial Water Council, and supported by ESCWA resolution 329 (XXX).
- 11. Participants at the twelfth regional training workshop discussed the latest outcomes of negotiations related to the Katowice Climate Package on adaptation, mitigation, finance, technology, carbon markets, trade and the 2018 Facilitative Dialogue addressed at COP 24. They also discussed issues related to the proposed transparency mechanism, response measures, NDC features, and adaptation-mitigation co-benefits. A number of recommendations were made at this workshop, which focused on enhancing technical capacity in climate change impact and vulnerability assessments at the national level, making use of RICCAR regional results, and on assessing adaptation needs and means for accessing climate finance.
- 12. At the thirteenth regional training workshop, participants reviewed the latest outcomes of the negotiation process that took place at the United Nations Climate Change Conference, held in Bonn in June 2019, and under the Katowice Climate Package. They extensively discussed the finance component of the Paris Agreement Work Programme package and reporting on GCF-funded projects in some Arab countries. Participants also examined linkages between climate change and the 2030 Agenda in view of the outcomes of the 2019 High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development and the 2019 United Nations Climate Action Summit. Moreover, they presented their actions regarding their review of NDCs in 2020, and formulated an Arab position paper for COP 25 on common priorities for regional action.

#### II. ARAB CENTRE FOR CLIMATE CHANGE POLICES

13. The establishment of the Arab Centre for Climate Change Policies was welcomed by ESCWA member States in resolution 329 (XXX). The resolution requests ESCWA to support member States through five pillars of work focused on the following: (a) providing technical assistance and advisory services; (b) building capacity and strengthening institutional frameworks; (c) supporting regional platforms and regional consensus-building; (d) promoting integrated responses to climate challenges affecting water, energy and food security; and (e) providing access to regional knowledge and information through the Regional Knowledge Hub. The resolution also provides further detail on areas of capacity-building, and iterates its support for RICCAR-related work, including the partnerships that ESCWA maintains with the League of Arab States and other relevant organizations.

#### A. ACTIVITIES

14. The Centre consolidates the work of ESCWA on climate change under a common umbrella. Several activities have been undertaken in support of the Centre through the use of extrabudgetary resources (XB) and funds secured through the Regular Programme of Technical Cooperation (RPTC). The table below sets out the advisory missions, meetings and workshops undertaken during the period from December 2018 to end of November 2019 drawing upon these resources.

#### ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN FROM DECEMBER 2018 TO NOVEMBER 2019

Event	Venue	Date	Pillar (see para.	Funding source
Colloquium on hydrodiplomacy and climate change for peace in Mesopotamia: Case of the Tigris and Euphrates (organized by MEDURABLE, the Mediterranean Network of Basin Organizations, and the French Senate)	Paris	10 December 2018	a	XB
National workshop on the Sendai Framework Monitor and National Disaster Loss Accounting System and linkage of climate change and disaster risk reduction for Iraq (requested by the Ministry of Health and Environment of Iraq)	Beirut	18-21 December 2018	b	RPTC
	Tunis	Tunis: 6 February, 24 April 2019	b	XB
Consultation meetings in pilot countries on small- scale renewable energy applications in the Arab region	Amman	Amman: 6 March, 25 July 2019		
	Beirut	Beirut: 13 March, 18 June 2019		
Fifth Arab Water Week: sessions (organized by the Arab Countries Water Utilities Association)	Dead Sea	3-7 March 2019	a	XB
Expert group and focal point meeting on green technology investments and access to sustainable financing in the Arab region (organized with the Climate Technology Centre and Network)	Beirut	4-6 March 2019	a	XB

Event	Venue	Date	Pillar (see para. 13)	Funding source
Thirteenth Gulf Water Conference: session and RICCAR training workshop (requested by the Water Sciences and Technology Association)	Kuwait City	12-14 March 2019	a	XB
Regional consultation on Climate Change for the 2019 Arab Forum for Sustainable Development and High-Level Political Forum (organized with the League of Arab States)	Beirut	21-22 March 2019	С	XB
Training Workshop on Geographic Information System and Remote Sensing Tools for Climate Change Analysis (organized with Arab Centre for the Studies of Arid Zones and Dry Lands (ACSAD))	Beirut	25-27 March	b	XB/ RPTC
Land and Water Days: exhibits and sessions (with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO))	Cairo	31 March – 4 April 2019	a, d	XB
Review Meeting for the project on "Promoting Food and Water Security through Cooperation and Capacity Development in the Arab Region"	Cairo	1 April 2019	a	XB
Seminar on the Role of Climate Action in Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (requested by the Islamic Development Bank)	Marrakesh	5 April 2019	a	XB
Twelfth Regional Training Workshop on Capacity Development for Climate Change Negotiations for the Arab Countries (requested by the Arab Group and the League of Arab States, and implemented with UNEP and UNESCO)	Beirut	7-8 April 2019	b	RPTC
Arab Forum for Sustainable Development: Special session on SDG13: Advancing Climate Action in the Arab region (organized with League of Arab States, UNDP, UNDRR, UNESCO, UN-Habitat, UNICEF, UNOPS and Government of Sweden)	Beirut	9 April 2019	С	XB
Oman Energy and Water Conference on Addressing the Energy-Water Nexus through Integrated Approaches and Regional Cooperation (requested by Oman)	Muscat	22-24 April 2019	a	RPTC
Brainstorming roundtable on strategic opportunities in improving responses to climate-related security risks (requested by the Swedish International Peace Research Institute)	Stockholm	2-3 May 2019	a	XB
Strategies towards more sustainable food systems in the Mediterranean Region (requested by FAO)	Palermo	15-17 May 2019	a	XB
National Training Workshop on the Application of Climate Change Impact and Vulnerability Assessments for Tunisia (organized with ACSAD)	Tunis	24-28 June 2019	b	XB

Event	Venue	Date	Pillar (see para. 13)	Funding source
Experts Meeting on Assessing and Determining the Needs of Developing Countries (requested by UNFCCC)	Manila	10-11 July 2019	a	XB
Water-Energy-Food Nexus implementation in the MENA cities (requested by MEDREC)	Marrakesh	22-23 July 2019	d	XB
Expert group meeting on Green Technology, Adaptation and Investment Required for Implementing SDG 12: Sustainable Consumption and Production	Amman	29-31 July 2019	a	RB/XB
Stockholm World Water Week: Session on Disruptive Technologies (organized with the World Bank)	Stockholm	24-29 August 2019	a	XB
The 2019 Forum of the Standing Committee on the theme "Climate finance and sustainable cities" (organized with UNFCCC, Union for the Mediterranean, Islamic Development Bank, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs)	Beirut	12-13 September 2019	b	RB/XB
Regional Workshop on Remotely Sensed Observation of Precipitation Using Artificial Intelligence (organized with UNESCO, University of California at Irvine and the American University of Beirut)	Beirut	9-11 October 2019	b	XB
Cairo Water Week: Second African Young Water Professionals Forum – Training on Climate Change Impacts on Agricultural Productivity (requested by the Egyptian Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation and the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage)	Cairo	21-23 October 2019	b	XB
Thirteenth Regional Training Workshop on Capacity Development for Climate Change Negotiations for the Arab Countries (organized with the League of Arab States, UNEP and UNESCO)	Cairo	3-5 November 2019	b	RPTC
Technical Workshop on Climate Finance in the Arab Region: An inception workshop for the Needs-based Climate Finance Project (organized with the League of Arab States and UNFCCC)	Cairo	6-7 November 2019	b	XB
Fourth meeting of the Arab Climate Outlook Forum (organized with the Presidency of Meteorology and Environment of Saudi Arabia, League of Arab States and the World Meteorological Organization)	Jeddah	24-26 November 2019	c, a	XB
Expert Group Meeting on Mainstreaming Climate Action into National Development Planning in the Arab Region (organized with the Islamic Development Bank)	Amman	25-27 November 2019	b	XB

Event	Venue	Date	Pillar (see para. 13)	Funding source
Regional Training Workshop on the Application of Climate Change Impact and Analysis (organized with ACSAD)	Amman	26-28 November 2019	b	XB

15. Several of the activities listed in the table are undertaken under XB projects supported by the Government of Sweden through the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), namely RICCAR, the project on Promoting Food and Water Security through Cooperation and Capacity Development in the Arab Region, and the Regional Initiative for Promoting Small-scale Renewable Energy Applications in Rural Areas of the Arab Region (REGEND). The knowledge products and services delivered through the RICCAR Regional Knowledge Hub support the work of the Arab Centre for Climate Change Policies. Partnerships with United Nations agencies, the League of Arab States and international development agencies have also played an important role in advancing and scaling up the work of the Centre at ESCWA.

#### B. REGIONAL KNOWLEDGE HUB

- 16. The Regional Knowledge Hub provides access to knowledge products and to regional data and information. It is composed of two open access components consisting of a website and a data portal, complemented by technical assistance and capacity-building support on the use of the regional knowledge base and datasets.
- 17. The website was launched in June 2018 (http://www.riccar.org/) to facilitate access to the RICCAR publication series, including the climate change impact assessment report, technical material and training tools. The website also disseminates news items and information on events organized within the framework of RICCAR. A series of additional technical reports and technical notes were issued and posted on the Regional Knowledge Hub in 2019, including those produced under RICCAR and those produced using RICCAR data through the extrabudgetary project on Promoting Food and Water Security through Cooperation and Capacity Development in the Arab Region.
- 18. The data portal component of the Regional Knowledge Hub was formally launched at the Land and Water Days in March 2019, in coordination with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), which hosts this component. The data portal can be accessed through <a href="http://www.riccar.org">http://www.riccar.org</a> or directly at <a href="https://rkh.apps.fao.org">https://rkh.apps.fao.org</a>. It provides access to geospatial datasets and modelling outputs generated for the Arab region, and allows interactive visualization of maps developed under RICCAR. Moreover, the portal supports search functionality and research tools for generating maps, downloading datasets, and exporting outputs in different formats.
- 19. An Arabic mirror website for the Hub was also developed to provide access to knowledge material generated under RICCAR in Arabic, and material published in English and translated into Arabic, to support better communication and dissemination of RICCAR outcomes among Arabic native speakers.
- 20. A dedicated website for the Centre is currently under development. The website provides background information regarding the establishment of the Centre, partnerships supporting the Centre's work, thematic areas of work and governance structure. It is expected that these resources will continue to be linked to existing and emerging regional knowledge platforms, so as to increase access to the regional knowledge base.

#### C. GOVERNANCE

- 21. The Centre is hosted at ESCWA in the Sustainable Development Policies Division, which has been leading the Centre's work since June 2018. A governance structure is being established to formalize relationships with partners, and improve complementarity and coherence of support to Arab countries on climate change. This structure will consist of a technical advisory group and a partnerships advisory group, supported by a secretariat based at ESCWA.
- 22. The technical advisory group will provide scientific and technical input in the planning, implementation and review of the Centre's programmes of work and activities. It will be composed of multidisciplinary members who are leaders in the field of climate change research, policymaking and related areas, and are appointed on the basis of their outstanding technical expertise and relevant experience in those fields.
- 23. The partnerships advisory group will comprise a network of partners ranging from the League of Arab States and its specialized agencies, to United Nations sister agencies, international climate research centres, and other relevant institutions. Through this partnership advisory group, the Centre will foster complementarities across the work of partner institutions, which conduct activities in various climate change areas. In doing so, ESCWA will seek to ensure that collective efforts are pursued in an Arab context and that dialogue and exchange are fostered among Arab States.
- 24. Institutionalization of the Centre's programme of work will require combining resources available through extrabudgetary projects, RPTC and the ESCWA regular programme of work to ensure the management, coordination and implementation of the Centre's work.

# D. RESOURCE MOBILIZATION AND PARTNERSHIPS

- 25. The Centre builds upon a number of partnerships that have allowed for the provision of technical assistance and capacity development support to member States, and for the generation of new knowledge on climate change issues facing the region. This includes a strong network of partners and collaborators within the United Nations System, with the League of Arab States and its associated organs, and with international development agencies committed to supporting climate action. Strengthening existing partnerships and forging new ones also supports the coordination and complementary of regional work on climate change through the Centre.
- 26. Resource mobilization efforts and new partnerships pursued under the umbrella of the Centre in 2019 were largely focused on climate finance. To foster dialogue on the importance of climate finance in pursuing climate action, ESCWA collaborated with UNFCCC to co-host the 2019 Forum of the UNFCCC Standing Committee on Finance. This global meeting brought together stakeholders from public institutions, the private sector and civil society from across the globe, with strong representation from the Arab region. ESCWA reported on the Forum to the meeting of the Standing Committee on Finance in October 2019. The results of the Forum will also be officially reported at COP 25.
- 27. Collaboration with UNFCCC on climate finance was enhanced with the launch of the Needs-based Climate Finance Project for the Arab Region in November 2019. This project is jointly implemented by the UNFCCC, ESCWA and the League of Arab States to support the mobilization of and access to climate finance based on the needs of Arab countries, with particular attention to modalities for securing financing for the implementation of priority adaptation projects and investments, including those with mitigation cobenefits, in accordance with the goals outlined in NDCs, national adaptation plans and other relevant national policies and/or strategies. The inception phase began in 2019 and project implementation will continue through 2020.
- 28. Furthermore, ESCWA signed an agreement with the Islamic Development Bank on mainstreaming climate change in national development planning, to help enhance member States' understanding of how to

align national development plans with international climate change commitments and support the effective implementation of their climate change action plans. The initial scope of this project includes the joint implementation of an expert group meeting in November 2019 and the issuance of a joint technical report in early 2020. ESCWA also received financial resources from the Islamic Development Bank to support regional work on monitoring and reporting on Sustainable Development Goal 7 and on geographic information system tools for transportation networks, which could potentially support further work on mitigation opportunities presented by improved energy efficiency in the transport and logistics sector.

- 29. On the adaptation front, ESCWA has held discussion with Sida to build upon existing project portfolios to pursue further work on water and food security in a changing climate context. These activities include efforts to incorporate climate change and associated natural resource considerations in a regional risk assessment framework being developed by ESCWA.
- 30. ESCWA is also communicating with the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) on climate change mitigation to identify areas of collaboration within the scope of the Centre's activities. Discussions with the World Bank Group are also underway to collaborate on regional capacity development for member States on climate change within the framework of the 2030 Agenda, drawing upon regional assessments.

# III. ONGOING AND PLANNED ACTIVITIES

#### A. PUBLICATIONS

- 31. In addition to the aforementioned climate change activities conducted under the Centre, a series of regular budget activities were also completed in 2019, which upscale and complement the work of the Centre with new knowledge products.
- 32. The 2019 ESCWA publication entitled *Energy Vulnerability in the Arab Region* examines how energy issues can no longer be addressed separately from other socioeconomic development goals and climate change. It is being used to inform various consultations, including the expert group meeting on climate mainstreaming organized by ESCWA and the Islamic Development Bank in November 2019. The eighth issue of the ESCWA *Water Development Report on the Water-Related Sustainable Development Goals in the Arab Region* (forthcoming) includes analysis drawing upon RICCAR projections related to forecasted changes in water availability until 2040 to inform national water development plans and policies while taking into account local and national conditions and specificities. ESCWA also finalized a technical report on climate finance in the Arab region (forthcoming), which analyses climate finance flows to the region and financial mechanisms that Arab countries can draw upon to mobilized resources. A fact sheet on NDCs was also prepared in 2019 (forthcoming).
- 33. ESCWA is also contributing to the Arab Regional Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction that is being coordinated by the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction with other regional organizations. The report examines regional patterns in terms of magnitude and geographic and socioeconomic distribution of impacts, and highlights experiences and lessons learned from countries' successes in reducing risks, and draws upon climate analysis generated under RICCAR.
- 34. ESCWA is also exploring whether debt-for-climate swaps or an alternative approach could be an efficient and valuable tool for debt alleviation and resource mobilization, to advance nationally determined climate action and sustainable development in the Arab region. ESCWA will develop a discussion paper and hold a high-level seminar to evaluate the feasibility and value of such mechanisms to support member States, with the possibility for follow-on efforts to implement swaps.

### B. UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- 35. The following activities include meetings and workshops planned for implementation by ESCWA within the framework of the Centre and its regular work programme:
  - Side events at COP 25 (Madrid, 2-13 December 2019), in partnership with UNFCCC, the Arab Negotiations Group on Climate Change and the Islamic Development Bank;
  - Access to Finance for Municipalities Nexus Thinking and Decentralization of Subnational Governments (Amman, January 2020);
  - Climate Change Seminar for the Arab Diplomatic Corps (Beirut, December 2019);
  - Building Capacity for Assessing Disruptive Technologies for Improved Water Resources Management in Changing Climate (Beirut, January 2020);
  - Regional Preparatory Meeting on the Environment for the 2020 Arab Forum on Sustainable Development and the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (February 2020);
  - Preparatory Meeting on the Water-Energy-Food Security Interlinkages under Climate Change for the 2020 Arab Forum on Sustainable Development and the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (Beirut, March 2020);
  - Regional Training for Arab Meteorological Offices on Seasonal Forecasts, in coordination with the World Meteorological Organization (March 2020);
  - Fifth Arab Forum on Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (Djibouti, 1-2 April 2020);
  - Fourteenth Regional Training Workshop on Capacity Development for Climate Change Negotiations for the Arab Countries (April 2020);
  - Side events at the Arab Forum for Sustainable Development (April 2020);
  - Support to Arab ministerial councils responsible for agriculture, electricity, environment, meteorology and climate affairs, and water (Cairo, April to June 2020).

# IV. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 36. Representatives of member States may wish to consider the following:
- (a) Continue drawing upon climate change analysis, findings, recommendations and services available through the Arab Centre for Climate Change Policies and the RICCAR Regional Knowledge Hub to inform regional and national policies, strategies, reports and research;
- (b) Take note of efforts to mobilize financial resources to support the activities of the Centre, and urge the intensification of those efforts:
- (c) Ensure complementarity between extrabudgetary project funds, resources provided through RPTC and the ESCWA regular budget to support the work of the Centre;
- (d) Ensure the institutionalization of the Centre's work programme by providing dedicated staff resources to support further fundraising efforts, coordination with partners, and implementation of the Centre's work programme.

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