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Organization of the
United Nations

The Koronivia joint work on agriculture and the convention bodies: an overview





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The authors would like to dedicate this publication to the memory of the late Fred Kossam, lead climate change negotiator for Malawi, former Chair of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG) and member of the Adaptation Committee. Fred was instrumental in setting the agenda for least developed and African countries before and after the adoption of the Paris Agreement, and a key contributor to the adoption of the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture and its roadmap. His tireless efforts to build a better tomorrow will continue to inspire his peers and friends.

Abbreviations

AC	Adaptation Committee
AFOLU	Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use
AWG-LCA	Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action
BUR	Biennial Update Report
CAF	Cancun Adaptation Framework
CGE	Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention
CMA	Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement
CMP	Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol
COP	Conference of the Parties
CTCN	Climate Technology Centre and Network
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
ICA	International Consultation and Analysis
ILO	International Labour Organization
KJWA	Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture
LDC	Least Developed Countries
LEG	Least Developed Countries Expert Group
LULUCF	Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry
NAP	National Adaptation Plan
NAPA	National Adaptation Programme of Action
NC	National Communication
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
NDE	National Designated Entities
PCCB	Paris Committee on Capacity Building
SBI	Subsidiary Body for Implementation
SBSTA	Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice
SCF	Standing Committee on Finance
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
TEC	Technology Executive Committee
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNIFEM	United Nations Development Fund for Women
WHO	World Health Organization

Executive summary

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) adopted its corporate *Strategy on Climate Change* in 2017 with the aim to enhance support to Member Nations facing the challenge of climate change. Later the same year, the 23rd Conference of the Parties (COP23) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) concluded with a landmark decision recognizing the role of agriculture in tackling climate change. Decision 4/CP.23 on the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture (KJWA) requests the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) to jointly address issues related to agriculture. This includes workshops and expert meetings, working with constituted bodies under the Convention and taking into consideration the vulnerabilities of agriculture to climate change and approaches to addressing food security.

In light of Outcome 2 of its corporate *Strategy on Climate Change*, which strives to achieve *Improved integration of food security and nutrition, agriculture, forestry and fisheries considerations within the international agenda on climate change through reinforced FAO engagement*, FAO produced this review in order to provide its member countries and other stakeholders with relevant background and knowledge related to the KJWA. While the Koronivia decision mainly results from previous discussions on agriculture-related issues under the SBSTA, its implementation will require combined efforts from both subsidiary bodies, as well as from constituted bodies under the Convention and other relevant stakeholders.

This review therefore aims to help provide a better understanding of the roles, responsibilities and past activities of the subsidiary bodies, as well as of the constituted bodies that may be called upon to support the KJWA, in order to orient future work. It shows that agriculture is inherent in the work of the UNFCCC and reveals that each of the subsidiary and constituted bodies considered has worked either directly or indirectly on issues related to agriculture in the past, and could do so again in the future.

This document introduces the KJWA decision and further developments resulting from the 48th sessions of the subsidiary bodies, provides a brief overview of the UNFCCC, and describes how the Convention addresses agriculture. It then looks at the subsidiary bodies and the seven constituted bodies under the Convention (listed in the order of their creation): the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (CGE), the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG), the Technology Executive Committee (TEC), the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN), the Adaptation Committee (AC), the Standing Committee on Finance (SCF), and the Paris Committee on Capacity Building (PCCB). Looking at their respective mandate and previous agriculture-related work, this document outlines that each of the Convention bodies could build on past experiences to contribute to the implementation of the KJWA.

I. Introduction

Answering a request from its Member Countries, the FAO developed its Strategy on Climate Change in 2017.¹ The Strategy was adopted by the 40th FAO Conference in July 2017 with the aim of enhancing support to Member Nations in achieving their commitments to face climate change. The Strategy is structured around three mutually reinforcing outcomes to this end:

- Outcome 1: Enhanced capacities of Member Nations on climate change through FAO leadership as a provider of technical knowledge and expertise
- Outcome 2: Improved integration of food security and nutrition, agriculture, forestry and fisheries considerations within the international agenda on climate change through reinforced FAO engagement
- Outcome 3: Strengthened coordination and delivery of FAO work on climate change.

Six months later, the 23rd Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) concluded in November 2017 with a landmark decision on next steps for agriculture within the UNFCCC framework, known as the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture (KJWA).² Decision 4/CP.23 requests – for the first time – the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) to work jointly to address issues relating to agriculture, including through workshops and expert meetings. This request for collaboration recognizes that, in order to achieve greater results, it is necessary to combine scientific and technical negotiations with exchanges on how to facilitate implementation. As part of their mandate, the subsidiary bodies are requested to work with the constituted bodies under the Convention, and to take into consideration the vulnerabilities of agriculture to climate change and approaches to addressing food security.

This decision resonates with FAO's core mandate to eliminate hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition, reduce rural poverty, and make agriculture, forestry and fisheries more productive and sustainable. It also relates to Outcome 2 of FAO's corporate *Strategy on Climate Change, which strives to achieve Improved integration of food security and nutrition, agriculture, forestry and fisheries considerations within the international agenda on climate change through reinforced FAO engagement*. At global level, these aspirations are in line with the global communities' efforts to achieve, amongst others, SDG1 (end poverty), SDG2 (zero hunger) and SDG13 (climate action).

Following the adoption of the decision, Parties and observers were invited to submit their views on elements to be included in the KJWA for consideration at the 48th sessions of the SBSTA and SBI in Bonn, Germany, in April-May 2018.³ As a first step to support the discussions and the work

¹ FAO. 2017. FAO Strategy on Climate Change [online]. Rome. www.fao.org/3/a-i7175e.pdf

² Decision 4/CP.23, Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture: <https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/docs/2017/cop23/eng/11a01.pdf>

³ FAO submission on the KJWA is available at: www4.unfccc.int/sites/SubmissionPortal/Documents/201803281654---FAO%20Submission%20on%20Koronivia%20Joint%20Work%20on%20Agriculture.pdf



ahead, FAO hosted a technical meeting for agricultural negotiators, the so-called Koronivia Dialogue, at its headquarters in Rome on 8-9 March 2018.⁴ This informal meeting, co-facilitated with Oxford Climate Policy and supported by the World Bank, provided an opportunity for participants to openly and informally exchange views on ways to implement the Koronivia decision.

In support of this Dialogue, it was considered useful to provide a brief overview of the UNFCCC subsidiary bodies in charge of implementing the decision, of the constituted bodies that might be called upon to support the implementation, and of any agriculture-related work already undertaken by each of them. FAO therefore undertook this review to provide its member countries and stakeholders with relevant background and knowledge related to the KJWA.⁵

The first part of the document introduces the KJWA decision and further developments resulting from the 48th sessions of the subsidiary bodies. The second part provides a brief overview of the UNFCCC and how it addresses agriculture. The third and fourth parts respectively look at the subsidiary bodies and the constituted bodies under the Convention, focusing on their mandates and their previous work on issues relating to agriculture. The final part offers an outlook on the ways in which the Paris Agreement, and the associated Nationally Determined Contribution process, have reinforced the international climate community's focus on food security and agriculture.

⁴ FAO. 2018. Koronivia Dialogue: Post-Dialogue Reflections: www.fao.org/3/BU626en/bu626en.pdf

⁵ This paper considers agriculture as defined by the UNFCCC, as well as the Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU) sector when relevant.

2. Koronivia joint work on agriculture

At COP23, Parties reached a decision on next steps for agriculture within the UNFCCC framework, known as the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture. This decision is the first substantive outcome and COP decision in the history of the agenda item on agriculture, which has been under negotiation since 2011. The decision requests the SBI and SBSTA to jointly address issues related to agriculture, including through workshops and expert meetings, working with constituted bodies under the Convention and taking into consideration the vulnerabilities of agriculture to climate change and approaches to addressing food security.

Parties and stakeholders were invited to share their views on the elements to be included in the work ahead of the 48th sessions of the subsidiary bodies in April-May 2018, starting with but not limited to the following issues, as listed in the decision:

- a) Modalities for implementation of the outcomes of the five in-session workshops on issues related to agriculture and other future topics that may arise from this work;
- b) Methods and approaches for assessing adaptation, adaptation co-benefits and resilience;
- c) Improved soil carbon, soil health and soil fertility under grassland and cropland as well as integrated systems, including water management;
- d) Improved nutrient use and manure management towards sustainable and resilient agricultural systems;
- e) Improved livestock management systems;
- f) Socioeconomic and food security dimensions of climate change in the agricultural sector.

The SBSTA and the SBI initiated their joint consideration of the KJWA at their 48th sessions in Bonn, Germany. Based on Parties' and observers' views, a roadmap to guide the KJWA was adopted.⁶ The desire to develop such a roadmap at SB48 (or to further clarify modalities and responsibilities for future joint work) had been expressed by several participants during the so-called Koronivia Dialogue organized by FAO in March 2018, and 15 out of 27 Party submissions⁷ on the KJWA contained specific indications with regard to this matter. The adopted roadmap provides for in-session workshops on each of the six topics listed in Decision 4/CP.23, starting at SB49 in December 2018 and ending in 2020. At the subsidiary bodies' request, the UNFCCC secretariat will: organize these workshops and encourage admitted observers to participate; prepare a report on each workshop for consideration at the sessions of the SBI and the SBSTA following the sessions in conjunction with which the workshops took place, and; invite representatives of the constituted bodies under the Convention to contribute to the work, and attend the workshops, in particular the first workshop on the modalities for implementation of the outcomes of the five in-session workshops.

⁶ UNFCCC. 2018. *Koronivia joint work on agriculture. Draft conclusions proposed by the Chairs* [online]. Bonn. https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/l01_2.pdf?download

⁷ FAO. Forthcoming. *Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture: Summary of Submissions*.



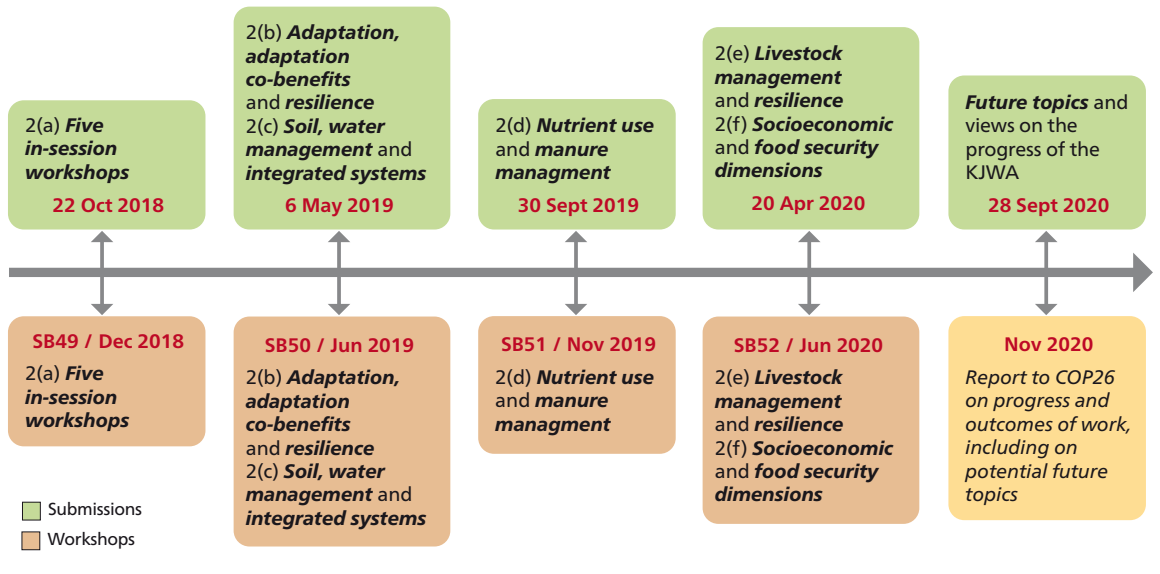
Parties and observers will be invited to submit their views on the subject to be discussed ahead of each workshop. At SB48, the SBSTA and the SBI took note of the importance of issues, including but not limited to farmers, gender, youth, local communities and indigenous peoples, and encouraged Parties to take them into consideration when making submissions and during the workshops.

The subsidiary bodies agreed to continue consideration of the KJWA at their 49th meeting. As per the adopted roadmap, SB53 will report on the progress and outcomes of the work, including on potential future topics, to COP26 (end 2020).

Roadmap of the KJWA

Session	Activity
SBSTA/SBI 48 April-May 2018	Parties agree on the roadmap/agenda
SBSTA/SBI 49 December 2018	Workshop with constituted bodies under the Convention on topic 2(a) (Modalities for implementation of the outcomes of the five in-session workshops on issues related to agriculture and other future topics that may arise from this work)
SBSTA/SBI 50 June 2019	Workshops on topics 2(b) (Methods and approaches for assessing adaptation, adaptation co-benefits and resilience) and 2(c) (Improved soil carbon, soil health and soil fertility under grassland and cropland as well as integrated systems, including water management) Consideration of the workshop report on topic 2(a)
SBSTA/SBI 51 November 2019	Workshop on topic 2(d) (Improved nutrient use and manure management towards sustainable and resilient agricultural systems) Consideration of the workshop reports from topics 2(b) and 2(c)
SBSTA/SBI 52 June 2020	Workshops on topics 2(e) (Improved livestock management systems, including agropastoral production systems and others) and 2(f) (Socioeconomic and food security dimensions of climate change in the agricultural sector) Consideration of the workshop report from topic 2(d)
SBSTA/SBI 53 November 2020	Consideration of the workshop reports from topics 2(e) and 2(f) Report to the Conference of the Parties on the progress and outcomes of the work, including on potential future topics

Figure 1. Roadmap of the KJWA



3. UNFCCC and the COP in brief

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is one of three Conventions linked with the Rio Earth Summit in 1992. It was adopted in New York during a UN General Assembly in May, but opened for signature in Rio de Janeiro in June 1992. It entered into force in 1994, with the objective to stabilize greenhouse gas (GHG) concentrations at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system. The Convention specifies that such a level should be achieved, inter alia, to ensure food production is not threatened.⁸

Agriculture is mentioned directly in the text of the UNFCCC on two occasions, both in Article 4 concerning Parties' commitments:

- Article 4 (1)(c) requests Parties to *"Promote and cooperate in the development, application and diffusion, including transfer, of technologies, practices and processes that control, reduce or prevent anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases"*. In this section, agriculture (and forestry) are mentioned alongside all other sectors.
- Article 4 (1)(e) commits Parties to cooperate in preparing for adaptation to the impacts of climate change. Here, agriculture has a more specific role: *"the development of appropriate and integrated plans for coastal zone management, water resources and agriculture, and for the protection and rehabilitation of areas affected by drought and desertification, as well as floods"* are emphasized.

In addition, under the UNFCCC, industrialized countries, referred to as Annex I Parties, have to report regularly on their climate change policies and measures, and to submit an annual inventory of their greenhouse gas emissions. Developing countries, or non-Annex I Parties, report on their adaptation and mitigation actions in more general terms and less regularly, provided that they receive the necessary funding to do so.⁹

The Conference of the Parties (COP) is the supreme decision-making body of the Convention. All States that are Parties to the Convention are represented at the COP, at which they review the status of implementation of the Convention and any other legal instruments that the COP adopts, as well as take decisions necessary to promote the effective implementation of the Convention.

⁸ As stipulated in UNFCCC, art. 2: <https://unfccc.int/resource/docs/convkp/conveng.pdf>

⁹ As stipulated in UNFCCC, art. 4 (1)(a): <https://unfccc.int/resource/docs/convkp/conveng.pdf>



4. Permanent subsidiary bodies

The SBI and SBSTA are the two permanent subsidiary bodies to the Convention, established at the UNFCCC's first Conference of the Parties in August 1995. The SBI supports the COP through the assessment and review of the effective implementation of the Convention. The SBSTA provides information and advice on scientific and technological matters as they relate to the Convention. The SBI and SBSTA work together on some cross-cutting issues that touch on both their areas of expertise. These include capacity building, the vulnerability of developing countries to climate change and response measures, issues in relation to technology, work on adaptation, losses and damages associated with climate change impacts, as well as the showcasing of climate action by Parties and non-Party stakeholders.

At its ninth session held in Milan in 2003, the COP requested the SBSTA to initiate its work on scientific, technical and socio-economic aspects of impacts of, and vulnerability and adaptation to, climate change, and on scientific, technical and socio-economic aspects of mitigation. It asked the SBSTA to focus on exchanging information and sharing experiences and views among Parties on practical opportunities and solutions to facilitate the implementation of the Convention.¹⁰ Following up on this, SBSTA23 agreed to continue its work on this item, and requested the UNFCCC secretariat to organize workshops on specific themes at each of its next four sessions. The first in this series of mitigation workshops focused on agriculture, forestry and rural development, and was held in May 2006. The following topics were discussed:

- The potential of agriculture and forestry to reduce GHG emissions as part of global mitigation efforts;
- The importance of international cooperation and support to promote technical innovation and technology transfer and to respond to developing countries' needs in these regards;
- The need to develop options for mitigation according to national circumstances and regional differences;
- Potential co-benefits of mitigation action in the agriculture and forestry sectors, for example for water quality, biodiversity, and poverty alleviation;
- Socio-economic impacts of mitigation options and their spillover effects;
- The need for new technologies for mitigating GHG emissions from the agriculture sector that are cost effective and environmentally sound; and
- The need to overcome barriers, for example, the lack of financial resources to develop and transfer technologies, and increase public awareness on the use of new technologies that reduce emissions.¹¹

¹⁰ Decision 10/CP.9, Scientific, technical and socio-economic aspects of impacts of, and vulnerability and adaptation to, climate change, and scientific, technical and socio-economic aspects of mitigation: <https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/docs/cop9/06a01.pdf>

¹¹ SBSTA. 2006. *Chair's summary. In-session mitigation workshop: agriculture, forestry and rural development* [online]. Bonn. http://unfccc.int/files/methods_and_science/mitigation/application/pdf/mitigation_ws_sbsta24_chair_summary.pdf

Agriculture was again discussed after 2007, under the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action (AWG-LCA), which was established as a subsidiary body under the Convention through decision 1/CP.13 on the Bali Action Plan.¹² According to paragraph 1 (b)(iv) of the Bali Action Plan, one of the aims of the AWG-LCA was to enhance implementation of Article 4 (1)(c) of the Convention by addressing national/international action on mitigation of climate change, including, *inter alia*, consideration of cooperative sectoral approaches and sector-specific actions.¹³ In a joint submission for the AWG-LCA, the International Labour Organization (ILO), the World Health Organization (WHO), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), and the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) highlighted the need for climate strategies related to mitigation, adaptation, finance and technology that properly address food security and sustainable development, promote resilience, and are informed through dialogue with the active participation of all social stakeholders, including rural producers such as farmers, fishers, pastoralists and forest users, as well as women and indigenous and local communities.¹⁴ Discussions on agriculture as a sectoral approach took place in several sessions of the AWG-LCA. The idea of a work programme on agriculture under the cooperative sectoral approaches was proposed but never agreed upon. The work of the AWG-LCA, which concluded in 2012, nevertheless resulted in significant achievements such as the Cancun Agreements and other implementing decisions. Important institutional arrangements were created at this time, including the Cancun Adaptation Framework (CAF), the Technology Mechanism, institutions on Finance, the Forum on Response Measures and the Durban Forum on Capacity-Building.

In addition, at its 17th session held in Durban in 2011, through decision 2/CP.17 on the *Outcome of the work of the AWG-LCA*, the COP requested the SBSTA to consider issues relating to agriculture with the aim of exchanging views, and the COP adopting a decision on this matter at its 18th session.¹⁵ At its 36th session, the SBSTA initiated an exchange of views on issues relating to agriculture and agreed to continue consideration of this agenda item at its 37th session.¹⁶ Agriculture was thus on the agenda again at COP18, which was held in Doha in 2012.

Starting in 2013, the SBSTA held five in-session workshops to provide opportunities for Parties to exchange their views on issues relating to agriculture.

Ahead of each workshop, Parties and admitted observer organizations were invited to submit to the UNFCCC secretariat their views on issues to be discussed.¹⁷

¹² Decision 1/CP.13, Bali Action Plan: <https://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2007/cop13/eng/06a01.pdf>

¹³ Article 4 (1)(c) of the Convention stipulates that all Parties, taking into account their common but differentiated responsibilities and their specific national and regional development priorities, objectives and circumstances, shall: Promote and cooperate in the development, application and diffusion, including transfer, of technologies, practices and processes that control, reduce or prevent anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases not controlled by the Montreal Protocol in all relevant sectors, including the energy, transport, industry, agriculture, forestry and waste management sectors.

¹⁴ ILO, WHO, FAO, UNIFEM. 2009. *Joint Submission for the Ad hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action (AWG-LCA)* [online]. <https://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2009/smsn/igo/041.pdf>

¹⁵ Decision 2/CP.17, Outcome of the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention: <https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/docs/2011/cop17/eng/09a01.pdf?download>

¹⁶ SBSTA. 2012. *Report of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice on its thirty-sixth session* [online]. Bonn. <https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/docs/2012/sbsta/eng/02.pdf?download>

¹⁷ All submissions can be accessed at the UNFCCC Submission Portal: <http://www4.unfccc.int/sites/SubmissionPortal/Pages/Home.aspx>

Workshop title	Session	Report
In-session workshop on the current state of scientific knowledge on how to enhance the adaptation of agriculture to climate change impacts while promoting rural development, sustainable development and productivity of agricultural systems and food security in all countries, particularly in developing countries	Warsaw, Nov 2013 SBSTA 39	FCCC/SBSTA/2014/INF.2
In-session workshop on the development of early warning systems and contingency plans in relation to extreme weather events and their effects such as desertification, drought, floods, landslides, storm surge, soil erosion, and saline water intrusion	Bonn, June 2015 SBSTA 42	FCCC/SBSTA/2015/INF.6
In-session workshop on the assessment of risk and vulnerability of agricultural systems to different climate change scenarios at regional, national and local levels, including but not limited to pests and diseases	Bonn, June 2015 SBSTA 42	FCCC/SBSTA/2015/INF.7
In-session workshop on the identification of adaptation measures, taking into account the diversity of the agricultural systems, indigenous knowledge systems and the differences in scale as well as possible co-benefits and sharing experiences in research and development and on-the-ground activities, including socioeconomic, environmental and gender aspects	Bonn, May 2016 SBSTA 44	FCCC/SBSTA/2015/INF.7
In-session workshop on the identification and assessment of agricultural practices and technologies to enhance productivity in a sustainable manner, food security and resilience, considering the differences in agroecological zones and farming systems, such as different grassland and cropland practices and systems	Bonn, May 2016 SBSTA 44	FCCC/SBSTA/2015/INF.7

In accordance with decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 75, the SBSTA continued its work on issues relating to agriculture during subsequent meetings. It welcomed the rich exchanges at its past five in-session workshops and continued an exchange of views based on the outcomes of these workshops. At its 47th session, the SBSTA recommended a draft decision on issues relating to agriculture for consideration and adoption at COP23, taking into account Parties' deliberations and progress made at SBSTA 46 and during the workshops.

The adoption of decision 4/CP.23 on the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture resulted in the joint mandate for the SBSTA and the SBI to address issues related to agriculture, including through workshops and expert meetings, working with constituted bodies under the Convention and taking into consideration the vulnerabilities of agriculture to climate change and approaches to addressing food security. The SBI and SBSTA initiated work on the KJWA at their 48th sessions in May 2018, which led to the adoption of the above-mentioned roadmap and conclusions.

5. Constituted bodies

The Constituted Bodies are specialized bodies established by the COP to provide advice, technical input and expertise to advance the implementation of the Convention. As shown in the figure below, there are seven bodies under the Convention itself, five under the Kyoto Protocol, and three under the Paris Agreement, in addition to the SBSTA and SBI, and the COP/CMP/CMA.¹⁸ This document focuses only on the Convention bodies, referred to as the *constituted bodies under the Convention* in the Koronivia decision. They are presented below following the chronological order of their creation.

Figure 2. UNFCCC constituted bodies¹⁹



Consultative group of experts on national communications from parties not included in annex I to the convention (CGE)

The CGE was established at COP5 in 1999 to improve the process and preparation of National Communications (NCs) by developing country Parties. Later on, this mandate was expanded to also include the provision of technical advice and support for the preparation of Biennial Update

¹⁸ CMP = Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol; CMA = Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement

¹⁹ Adapted from UNFCCC. 2018. *Overview of the UNFCCC Electoral Process* [online]. Bonn. <https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/Elections%20overview.pdf>

Reports (BURs). The CGE is the key technical support element under the Convention to assist developing country Parties in meeting their reporting obligations, which include emissions and removals in the agriculture, forestry and other land use sector.

The CGE has developed training materials to facilitate the preparation of NCs and BURs in accordance with the Guidelines of the Convention.²⁰ Training materials for the team of technical experts nominated to undertake the technical analysis of BURs are currently undergoing a review process.

With regards to national communications, the CGE has prepared three types of training materials. First, there is a publication and a series of presentations which aim to facilitate the preparation of the vulnerability and adaptation assessment section of NCs submitted by non-Annex I Parties. The publication includes a full chapter on the methods, tools and associated data requirements that are commonly used in the agricultural sector for such assessments, as well as chapters on coastal resources, water resources and human health. This is particularly relevant to the KJWA, since identifying which regions, populations and food production systems are at greatest risk from climate change can help in setting priorities for adaptation.

Second, there is a collection of resources on National GHG inventories covering the IPCC Guidelines, some cross-cutting issues, and the energy, waste, and industrial processes and product use sectors. Updated information on the AFOLU sector is being prepared, based on previous CGE training materials on the agriculture and LULUCF sectors.

Third, there is a handbook on mitigation assessment, which includes an overview of the various technologies and options that might be appropriate for mitigating GHGs within critical sectors, among which the agriculture and the forestry sectors. Policies and measures that can promote the implementation of those options are provided, along with the main issues and barriers to mitigation for each sector. The module also discusses the advantages, limitations, data and technical requirements of commonly used methods and modelling tools that can be applied for mitigation assessment, including integrated and sector-specific modelling tools.

With regards to BURs, the CGE has prepared training materials on institutional arrangements, mitigation actions and their effects, as well as on technical capacity building needs and support received. The CGE has also prepared the Technical Tool to Facilitate Parties Prepare for and Participate in the International Consultation and Analysis for non-Annex I Parties (ICA) process, which aims to assist developing country Parties to prepare for and participate in the technical analysis of their BURs and the facilitative sharing of views.

²⁰ UNFCCC. *CGE Training Materials for the Preparation of National Communications from non-Annex I Parties* [online]. Bonn. http://unfccc.int/national_reports/non-annex_i_natcom/training_material/methodological_documents/items/349.php; Decision 17/CP.8, Guidelines for the preparation of national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention: <https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/docs/cop8/07a02.pdf>; Decision 2/CP.17, annex III, UNFCCC biennial update reporting guidelines for Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention: <https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/docs/2011/cop17/eng/09a01.pdf>

At COP19 in 2013, it was decided that the mandate of the CGE would be extended for a period of five years, from 2014 to 2018.²¹ COP22 requested the SBI, at its 48th session, to consider a review of the term and mandate, including the terms of reference, of the CGE with a view to recommending a draft decision thereon for consideration and adoption by the COP24.²² SBI48 agreed to continue its consideration of this matter at SBI49.²³

Least developed countries expert group (LEG)

The LEG was established at COP7 in 2001 to provide technical support and advice to the least developed countries (LDCs) on National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs) and the LDC work programme. This was expanded under the CAF to provide technical guidance and support to the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) process. The LEG meets twice a year and supports LDCs by providing advice on NAPA and NAP formulation and implementation through a variety of modalities that include training workshops, development of guides, tools, technical papers, publications and databases. It also liaises with the Global Environment Facility (GEF) to effectively address some of the bottlenecks identified by the LDCs in accessing the Least Developed Countries Fund and the Green Climate Fund (GCF) regarding countries' access to the adaptation planning window of its Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme.

Since 2009, the LEG has held multiple regional training workshops on implementing NAPAs, NAPs and adaptation more generally.²⁴ Agriculture and food security were among the priority themes covered during most workshops.

The LEG has also prepared technical papers and publications related to adaptation, including:

- *Best practices and lessons learned in addressing adaptation in the LDCs through the NAPA*, Volumes 1, 2 and 3 – includes examples in the agriculture sector;²⁵
- Information paper on how the process to formulate and implement NAPs can be supported in LDCs – covers capacity building and support, access to finance, etc. that could be used in the agriculture sector;²⁶
- Strengthening gender considerations in adaptation planning and implementation in the least developed countries – recognizes the particular role of women in agriculture.²⁷

²¹ Decision 19/CP.19, Work of the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention: <https://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2013/cop19/eng/10a02.pdf>

²² Decision 20/CP.22, Work of the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention: <https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/docs/2016/cop22/eng/10a02.pdf?download>

²³ SBI. 2018. *Review of the terms of reference of the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention* [online]. Bonn. <https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/114.pdf?download>

²⁴ UNFCCC. LEG regional training workshops [online]. Bonn. <https://unfccc.int/topics/resilience/resources/leg-training>

²⁵ LEG. 2011. *Best practices and lessons learned in addressing adaptation in the LDCs through the NAPA Vol. 1* [online]. Bonn. https://unfccc.int/resource/docs/publications/ldc_publication_bbl_2011.pdf; LEG. 2012. *Best practices and lessons learned in addressing adaptation in the LDCs through the NAPA Vol. 2* [online]. Bonn. https://unfccc.int/resource/docs/publications/ldc_publication_bbl_2012.pdf; LEG. 2013. *Best practices and lessons learned in addressing adaptation in the LDCs through the NAPA Vol. 3* [online]. Bonn. https://unfccc.int/files/adaptation/application/pdf/50301_leg_unfccc_bpl_vol3.pdf

²⁶ LEG. 2015. *Information paper on how the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans can be supported in the least developed countries* [online]. Bonn. https://unfccc.int/files/adaptation/application/pdf/50301_07_unfccc_support_for_naps.pdf

²⁷ LEG. 2015. *Strengthening gender considerations in adaptation planning and implementation in the least developed countries* [online]. Bonn. https://unfccc.int/files/adaptation/application/pdf/50301_05_unfccc_gender.pdf

Technology executive committee (TEC)

The TEC is the policy arm of the Technology Mechanism, which was established at COP16 in 2010 to enhance climate technology development and transfer to developing countries. It focuses on identifying policies that can accelerate the development and transfer of low-emission and climate resilient technologies. The committee engages with many stakeholders within the wider climate community through several means. These include calls for inputs and invitations to take part in TEC meetings, task forces, workshops, thematic dialogues, expert meetings and side events.

The TEC meets at least twice a year and holds climate technology events to support efforts to address technology-related policy issues. Its key outputs are its annual technology-related recommendations to the COP. Through these, the TEC highlights proven measures that countries may take to speed up climate technology action. The TEC also produces policy briefs, called TEC Briefs, and other technical documents to enhance information sharing on climate technology efforts. Among those published recently, three have a specific focus on agriculture and climate adaptation technologies:

- *Technologies for Adaptation in the Agriculture Sector* – addresses the application of adaptation technologies in the context of agriculture, highlighting lessons learned, identifying examples of agricultural technologies and their suitability, enablers and barriers, outlining the roles of stakeholders and offering recommendations for policy formulation.²⁸
- *Technologies for Adaptation in the Water Sector* – covers technologies employed for addressing decreases in water availability (drought and scarcity), particularly in rural and developing country contexts. It draws upon existing examples of water technologies to highlight lessons learned and provide recommendations for policy, while bearing in mind the principles for effective adaptation.²⁹
- *South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation on technologies for adaptation in the water and agricultural sectors* – highlights challenges, best practices, lessons learned, and the roles of stakeholders in replicating and transferring such technologies; it is set in the context of country efforts to implement their NAPs, NDCs and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).³⁰
- *Compilation of good practices in effective knowledge-sharing and practical learning on climate adaptation technologies through South-South and triangular cooperation* – presents case studies that provide insights on a broad range of knowledge-sharing and practical learning approaches on adaptation technologies applied in South–South and triangular cooperation; common trends, good practices, barriers and enabling factors can be drawn from these cases.³¹

²⁸ TEC. 2014. *Technologies for Adaptation in the Agriculture Sector* [online]. Bonn. http://unfccc.int/ttclear/misc_/StaticFiles/gnwoerk_static/TEC_column_L/544babb207e344b88bdd9fec11e6337f/bcc4dc66c35340a08fce34f057e0a1ed.pdf

²⁹ TEC. 2014. *Technologies for Adaptation in the Water Sector* [online]. Bonn. http://unfccc.int/ttclear/misc_/StaticFiles/gnwoerk_static/TEC_column_L/0cac6640a3b945c08e7a54f8e496223e/55e192e14cd6495f975f4098843baf7e.pdf

³⁰ TEC. 2017. *South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation on technologies for adaptation in the water and agricultural sectors* [online]. Bonn. http://unfccc.int/ttclear/misc_/StaticFiles/gnwoerk_static_brief9/0690de2775954709aaac85ced2c8fb57/2ccc6a9fa019437dac534c3c1c282652.pdf

³¹ TEC. 2017. *Compilation of good practices in effective knowledge-sharing and practical learning on climate adaptation technologies through South-South and triangular cooperation* [online]. Bonn. http://unfccc.int/ttclear/misc_/StaticFiles/gnwoerk_static_brief9/a5fbac8997e84fef84a47d81dba46279/3762bead33cd42e989361241cfbb6fc7.PDF

Climate technology centre and network (CTCN)

Also created in 2010, the CTCN is the implementation body of the Technology Mechanism. It facilitates the transfer of technologies by providing technical assistance, creating access to information and knowledge and fostering collaboration between climate technology stakeholders.

The CTCN is hosted by the United Nations Environment Programme in collaboration with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, and is supported by 11 partner institutions. The Centre facilitates a network of national, regional, sectoral and international technology centres, networks, organizations and private sector entities. The CTCN is accountable to and under the guidance of the Conference of the Parties through the CTCN Advisory Board.

Technical assistance is provided by the CTCN in response to requests submitted by developing countries via their nationally-selected focal points, or National Designated Entities (NDEs). Upon receipt of such requests, the Centre mobilizes its global Network of climate technology experts to design and deliver a customized solution tailored to local needs. The CTCN does not provide funding directly to countries, but instead supports the provision of technical assistance provided by experts on specific climate technology sectors, including the agriculture sector, to achieve adaptation and mitigation goals.

The CTCN delivers five main types of technical support on climate technologies:

- Technical assessments, including technical expertise and recommendations related to specific technology needs, identification of technologies, technology barriers, technology efficiency, as well as piloting and deployment of technologies;
- Technical support for policy and planning documents, including strategies and policies, roadmaps and action plans, regulations and legal measures;
- Trainings;
- Tools and methodologies; and
- Implementation plans.

Various webinars on agricultural technologies for adaptation and mitigation to climate change were organized by the CTCN in the past.³²

Adaptation committee (AC)

The Adaptation Committee was established at COP16 as part of the CAF to promote the implementation of enhanced action on adaptation in a coherent manner under the Convention through various functions, including:

- providing technical support and guidance to the Parties;
- sharing relevant information, knowledge, experience and good practices;

³² CTCN. *Recorded webinars* [online]. Copenhagen. <https://www.ctc-n.org/news-multimedia/recorded-webinars>

- promoting synergy and strengthening engagement with national, regional and international organizations, centres and networks;
- providing information and recommendations, drawing on adaptation good practices, for consideration by the COP when providing guidance on means to incentivize the implementation of adaptation actions, including finance, technology and capacity-building; and
- considering information communicated by Parties on their monitoring and review of adaptation actions, support provided and received.

Decision 1/CP.16 on the Cancun Agreements, in its paragraph 14 a), specifies that adaptation actions to be undertaken by Parties include projects and programmes in the areas of water resources; health; agriculture and food security; infrastructure; socioeconomic activities; terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems; and coastal zones.³³

Standing committee on finance (SCF)

The SCF was also established through decision 1/CP.16. Its mandate is to assist the COP in exercising its functions with respect to the financial mechanism of the Convention in terms of the following:

- improving coherence and coordination in the delivery of climate change financing;
- rationalization of the financial mechanism;
- mobilization of financial resources; and
- measurement, reporting and verification of support provided to developing country Parties.

By providing support for adaptation and mitigation initiatives in a wide range of sectors, including agriculture, the SCF has so far been indirectly working on issues related to agriculture. At its 17th meeting held in Bonn, Germany on 10–12 April 2018, the SCF was invited to consider the mandates and further guidance received at COP23 with a view to agreeing on its workplan for 2018. The SCF agreed that working groups should continue with their respective work on the following topics:

- 2018 Biennial Assessment and Overview of Climate Finance flows;
- Measurement, reporting, and verification of support beyond the Biennial Assessment and Overview of Climate Finance;
- 2018 Forum;
- Draft guidance to the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism;
- Coherence and coordination: financing for forests; and
- Gender and Climate Finance.

SCF representatives were appointed to each thematic area.

The SCF also initiated discussions on its overall approach to maintaining linkages with the constituted bodies. Possible areas of cooperation for 2018 in line with the SCF's existing activities

³³ Decision 1/CP.16, The Cancun Agreements: Outcome of the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention: <https://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2010/cop16/eng/07a01.pdf>

are adaptation, technology, capacity-building, and loss and damage. The SFC agreed to continue consideration of those linkages at its 18th meeting, which will take place on September 9-11, 2018 in Bangkok, Thailand. At present, the SCF mainly cooperates with the Adaptation Committee, the Least Developed Countries Expert Group, the Technology Mechanism, the Financial Mechanism, the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention, and the Paris Committee on Capacity Building. Some, if not all, of these constituted bodies will take part in the implementation of the KJWA, along with the subsidiary bodies. Additionally, following some revisions from the UNFCCC secretariat, the SCF will continue consideration of the COP23 mandates table, which contains the KJWA.³⁴

Pursuant to decision 7/CP.23 paragraph 12, the Standing Committee on Finance will integrate financing for forest-related considerations into its 2018 workplan for a second consecutive year and continue work on this matter in the context of the overall issue of improving coherence and coordination in the delivery of climate change financing, taking into account all relevant decisions on forests.

Paris committee on capacity building (PCCB)

The PCCB was established at COP21 in 2015 as part of the adoption of the Paris Agreement to address gaps and needs, both current and emerging, in implementing capacity-building activities in developing country Parties and further enhancing capacity-building efforts, including with regard to coherence and coordination in capacity-building activities under the Convention.³⁵

The first meeting of the PCCB was held in Bonn, Germany, in conjunction with SBSTA46. At SBSTA46, the discussion of issues relating to agriculture made reference to capacity building in the following areas: early warning and contingency planning for agricultural systems, risk and vulnerability assessment of agricultural systems, climate risk finance and insurance for agricultural systems, climate information services, and disaster risk reduction planning and implementation.³⁶

At COP23, the PCCB decided to continue its 2017 focal theme of capacity-building activities for the implementation of NDCs in the context of the Paris Agreement in 2018. In doing so, the PCCB will aim to take stock of all capacity-building activities undertaken for the implementation of NDCs and make that information available for Parties and non-Party stakeholders. The PCCB will also aim to strengthen collaboration with the wide range of stakeholders involved, including academia and the private sector, for example by inviting submissions from these diverse stakeholders. In addition, the PCCB will aim to provide an analysis of capacity-building needs and gaps in the context of NDC implementation and to possibly recommend guidelines on how to conduct capacity gap and needs assessments and on how to enhance related capacity-building efforts by Parties.³⁷

³⁴ Standing Committee on Finance. 2018. *Background paper on the 2018 workplan of the Standing Committee on Finance* [online]. Bonn. http://unfccc.int/files/cooperation_and_support/financial_mechanism/standing_committee/application/pdf/bn_2018_workplan_scf_17_27_mar.pdf; Standing Committee on Finance. 2018. *Report of the Seventeenth meeting of the Standing Committee on Finance* [online]. Bonn. https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/Report%20of%20the%20meeting_SCF%2017_27042018_Final_rev.pdf

³⁵ Decision 1/CP.21 para. 71, Adoption of the Paris Agreement: <https://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2015/cop21/eng/10a01.pdf#page=10>

³⁶ SBSTA. 2017. SBSTA 46 agenda item 5 – *Issues relating to Agriculture. Non-paper by the Co-facilitators* [online]. Bonn. https://unfccc.int/files/meetings/bonn_may_2017/application/pdf/sbsta46_i5_agriculture_nonpaper.pdf

³⁷ SBI. 2017. *Annual technical progress report of the Paris Committee on Capacity-building* [online]. Bonn. <https://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2017/sbi/eng/11.pdf>

6. Outlook on the interlinkages between the Paris Agreement and the KJWA

The adoption of the Paris Agreement in 2015, which aims to strengthen the global response to climate change by keeping a global temperature rise this century well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, added a new dimension to the consideration of agriculture and food security under the UNFCCC. The agreement not only reiterates the need to ensure that food production is not threatened while reducing greenhouse gas emissions, but also recognizes the fundamental priority of safeguarding food security and ending hunger, as well as the particular vulnerabilities of food production systems to the impacts of climate change. By encompassing the more inclusive concept of food security and its four dimensions – the physical availability of food, the economic and physical access to food, food utilization, and stability of the other three dimensions over time – the Paris Agreement increased the scope of actions to be taken.

As a matter of fact, in communicating their [Intended] Nationally Determined Contributions, Parties gave considerable importance to the agriculture, land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF) sectors. A FAO analysis highlighted that 89 percent of countries' mitigation contributions cover agriculture and/or LULUCF. In addition, among the 131 countries that included priority areas for adaptation and/or adaptation actions related to the agricultural sectors in their (I)NDCs, 97 percent refer to crops and livestock, 88 percent refer to forests and 64 percent refer to fisheries and aquaculture.³⁸ This demonstrates a strong commitment from Parties to implement adaptation and mitigation actions in sectors that are especially vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. It also indicates a growing recognition of the importance of climate action in the agricultural sectors as part of the global response to climate change. As such, the party-driven process of NDC implementation and action can inform discussions under the KJWA by highlighting needs, gaps and opportunities in the agriculture sector. In turn, the KJWA might translate into more ambitious adaptation and mitigation contributions at the national level as Parties are requested to submit the next round of NDCs by 2020.

³⁸ FAO. 2016. *The agriculture sectors in the Intended Nationally Determined Contributions: analysis* [online]. Rome. <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i5687e.pdf>



7. Conclusion

The adoption of decision 4/CP.23 on the KJWA represents a major step forward in the negotiations on agriculture under the UNFCCC. Its implementation will require the combination of efforts from both subsidiary bodies, as well as from constituted bodies under the Convention and other relevant stakeholders.

By reviewing the mandates of each constituted body as well as providing an overview of previous agriculture-related work, this paper demonstrates that all constituted bodies have a role to play in the implementation of the KJWA in light of their experiences. Agriculture is inherent in the work of the UNFCCC; this review has revealed that each of its subsidiary and constituted bodies considered has worked either directly or indirectly on issues related to agriculture in the past, and could do so again in the future.

In May 2018, Parties agreed on the Koronivia roadmap,³⁹ which structures the joint work against a timeline that leads up until COP26 (end 2020). As a first step along this path, Parties will address “Modalities for implementation of the outcomes of the five in-session workshops on issues related to agriculture and other future topics that may arise from this work” (i.e. KJWA element a). The outcomes of this discussion will further inform how the remaining five thematic KJWA elements (b-f) will be implemented going forward. The timeline of submissions and workshops set out in the Koronivia roadmap presents a good opportunity for the UNFCCC constituted bodies to provide relevant and timely support in the implementation of the KJWA. As progress is made, the respective roles of the subsidiary and constituted bodies would both become clearer and may evolve.


³⁹ See figure 1 on p.5.



Annex I

FAO submissions under the SBSTA item on “issues related to agriculture” (2012-18)

Submission title	Session	FAO submission
Issues related to agriculture, as outlined in paragraph 69 and 70 of the Outcome of the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention	Bonn, May 2012 SBSTA 36	Available here
In-session workshop on the current state of scientific knowledge on how to enhance the adaptation of agriculture to climate change impacts while promoting rural development, sustainable development and productivity of agricultural systems and food security in all countries, particularly in developing countries	Warsaw, Nov 2013 SBSTA 39	Available here
Good practices and lessons learned related to processes and structures for linking national and local adaptation planning; and addressing the issues of ecosystems, water resources and health in the Agriculture Sector	Lima, Dec 2014 SBSTA 41	Available here
In-session workshop on the development of early warning systems and contingency plans in relation to extreme weather events and their effects such as desertification, drought, floods, landslides, storm surge, soil erosion, and saline water intrusion	Bonn, June 2015 SBSTA 42	Available here
In-session workshop on the assessment of risk and vulnerability of agricultural systems to different climate change scenarios at regional, national and local levels, including but not limited to pests and diseases	Bonn, June 2015 SBSTA 42	Available here
In-session workshop on the identification of adaptation measures, taking into account the diversity of the agricultural systems, indigenous knowledge systems and the differences in scale as well as possible co-benefits and sharing experiences in research and development and on-the-ground activities, including socioeconomic, environmental and gender aspects	Bonn, May 2016 SBSTA 44	Available here
In-session workshop on the identification and assessment of agricultural practices and technologies to enhance productivity in a sustainable manner, food security and resilience, considering the differences in agroecological zones and farming systems, such as different grassland and cropland practices and systems	Bonn, May 2016 SBSTA 44	Available here
Submission in relation to the Koronivia joint work on agriculture (4/CP.23)	Bonn, May 2018 SBSTA & SBI 48	Available here



The Koronivia joint work on agriculture and the convention bodies: an overview

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