DRAFT TEXT
on

SBI 65 agenda item 11
Matters relating to the least developed countries

Version 12/11/2026 11:30

1. The Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) welcomed the report by the secretariat on the 50th meeting of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group,[1] held in Nairobi from 24 to 27 August 2026, including the summary therein of the views expressed at the meeting held during NAP Expo 2026 on enhancing the provision of support to the least developed countries (LDCs) for implementing national adaptation plans (NAPs).[2]

2. The SBI expressed appreciation to the Least Developed Countries Expert Group for its continued provision of support to the LDCs for formulating and implementing national adaptation plans and acknowledged the milestone of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the inception of the LDC work programme, the Least Developed Countries Expert Group and the Least Developed Countries Fund.

3. The SBI welcomed the successful conduct of the regional 'training of trainers' workshop for African LDCs and small island developing States, held from 18 to 21 August 2026 in Nairobi and aimed at strengthening national capacities for formulating, implementing, monitoring and reporting on NAPs, including by providing training on the application of NAPX,[3] and developing a pool of trainers to support continued capacity-building at the national level.

4. The SBI also welcomed the submission of NAPs since SBI 64, by Angola and Guinea, noted with appreciation the ongoing efforts of many of the LDCs in formulating and implementing NAPs and encouraged the LDCs that have not yet done so to initiate the process to formulate and implement their NAP.

5. The SBI noted that, as at 11 November 2026, of the 44 LDCs, 29 had prepared NAPs and submitted them on NAP Central,[4] 2 had draft NAPs that they expected to finalize and submit in 2026,[5] 11 were in the process of formulating NAPs with support from various organizations[6] and information from 2 LDCs regarding their NAPs was pending.[7]

6. The SBI also noted that:

(a) As at 30 June 2026, 40 LDCs had at least one Adaptation Fund project,[8] of which 8 LDCs with submitted NAPs had at least one single-country project[9] and 10 LDCs with submitted NAPs had at least one regional project;[10]

(b) As at 31 July 2026, 126 projects supporting the implementation of adaptation and cross-cutting priorities in the LDCs, in the amount of USD 4.63 billion, had been

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[1] FCCC/SBI/2026/27.
[2] As per decision 15/CP.30, para. 14.
[3] NAPX is an adaptation data model used to map the contents of a NAP as typed, evidence-linked entities. See https://napexchange.org.
[4] Angola, Bangladesh, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Guinea, Haiti, Kiribati, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Mozambique, Nepal, Niger, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tuvalu, United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia. The NAPs are available at https://napcentral.org/submitted-naps.
[5] Malawi and Mali.
[6] Comoros, Djibouti, Eritrea, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Mauritania, Rwanda, Senegal, Solomon Islands, Uganda and Yemen.
[7] Afghanistan and Myanmar.
[8] Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, South Sudan and Timor-Leste are the LDCs that did not have an Adaptation Fund project.
[9] Bangladesh, Benin, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Ethiopia, Nepal, Somalia and Zambia.
[10] Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, Kiribati, Nepal, Niger, Togo and Zambia.

approved by the Green Climate Fund, of which 28, amounting to USD 956 million, had been approved for 17 direct access entities, while 39 approvals had been provided under the Fund's Project Preparation Facility in the amount of USD 30.6 million to support the formulation of large-scale adaptation projects.

7. The SBI further noted the approval by the Least Developed Countries Fund between January 2026 and June 2026 of grant funding in the amount of USD 85.60 million for 2 global projects and 15 country projects.

8. The SBI continued consideration of the stocktake of the progress of the work of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group and its terms of reference with a focus on the evolving needs of the LDCs,[11] taking into account the draft decision texts[12] prepared by the co-facilitators for this agenda item at SBI 64.

9. The SBI recommended draft decisions on the stocktake of the progress of the work of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group and its terms of reference for consideration and adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its thirty-first session and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement at its eighth session (for the text of the draft decisions, see document FCCC/SBI/2026/L.X/Add.1 and 2 respectively).

Draft decision -/CP.31

[Matters relating to the least developed countries

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling decisions 5/CP.7, 29/CP.7, 7/CP.9, 4/CP.10, 4/CP.11, 8/CP.13, 6/CP.16, 5/CP.17, 12/CP.18, 3/CP.20, 1/CP.21, 19/CP.21, 16/CP.24, 7/CP.25, 15/CP.26, 9/CP.27, 10/CP.27, 15/CP.29, 15/CP.30, 11/CMA.1, 19/CMA.1, 1/CMA.5, 1/CMA.6 and 12/CMA.7,

Recognizing the specific needs and special situations of the least developed countries referred to in Article 4, paragraph 9, of the Convention,

Having considered the report on the 50th meeting of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group[1] and the synthesis report by the secretariat on the progress of the work of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group,[2]

Recognizing the evolving nature of the adaptation architecture under the Convention and the Paris Agreement,

1. *Welcomes* the progress of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group in implementing its work programme for 2026–2027[3] under its current mandate[4] and *expresses appreciation* for its sustained contribution to advancing adaptation efforts in the least developed countries;

2. *Recognizes* that the current mandate of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group, which includes providing technical guidance and capacity-building to the least developed countries for formulating and implementing national adaptation plans, supporting the least developed countries in accessing adaptation finance, developing knowledge products facilitating adaptation reporting, and collaborating with other UNFCCC constituted bodies, partner organizations in fulfilling COP and CMA mandates is comprehensive, well structured and fundamentally fit for purpose;

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[11] See decision 15/CP.26, paras. 2–4.

[12] Available at https://docs.unfccc.int/documents/10000207.

1 [1] FCCC/SBI/2026/27.

[2] FCCC/SBI/2026/11.

[3] Contained in document FCCC/SBI/2026/8, annex II.

[4] See document FCCC/SBI/2026/11, annex.

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3.

Option 1: Reaffirms the obligation of developed country Parties, consistent with Articles 4, paragraphs 3 and 4, of the Convention to provide scaled-up, adequate predictable and grant-based financial support for adaptation in developing countries, consistent with the Convention;

Option 2: No text

4. *Notes* the broad range of challenges faced by the least developed countries in the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans, including limited technical capacity to undertake the stages in the process, inadequate systems for monitoring and evaluating progress in implementing national adaptation plans, limited access to scientific information on climate adaptation, limited knowledge of risk assessment related to climate adaptation and insufficient technical capacity to translate national adaptation plans into implementable actions and *also notes* the importance of addressing those challenges in a holistic manner in order to facilitate the formulation and implementation of national adaptation plans;

5. *Acknowledges* that the following areas in which the least developed countries need assistance to progress in implementing their national adaptation plans constitute, inter alia, the priority areas for the provision of support by the Least Developed Countries Expert Group:

(a) Translating nationally identified adaptation priorities into coherent, programmatic, portfolio-based approaches to implementing national adaptation plans, including by using nationally validated registers of priorities, catalogues of concept notes and the NAPX toolkit of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group, as appropriate;

(b) Costing and sequencing the implementation of identified adaptation priorities, undertaking feasibility studies, developing coherent investment programmes and preparing implementation-ready adaptation project proposals and pipelines, with the early engagement of delivery partners;

(c) Navigating evolving climate financing, [in line with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances,] matching national priorities for adaptation with suitable readiness support, financing windows and delivery partners, and facilitating follow-up throughout the submission, approval, disbursement and implementation processes related to accessing finance;

(c) *Alt.*: Navigating evolving climate financing, matching national priorities for adaptation with suitable readiness support, financing windows and delivery partners, and facilitating follow-up throughout the submission, approval, disbursement and implementation processes related to accessing finance

(d) Presenting national priorities for adaptation that have been translated into projects that are ready for funding to relevant financing forums convened by multilateral development banks and other international financial institutions, bilateral partners, philanthropic organizations and the private sector in order to complement finance provided by developed country Parties and support received from partners to the least developed countries;

(e) Strengthening capacity and institutional arrangements at the national and local level to coordinate and manage adaptation programmes, including channelling financial and technical resources to the subnational level for and monitoring the results of those programmes, drawing, as appropriate, on the roster of experts from the least developed countries maintained by the Least Developed Countries Expert Group, as well as experts from universities, including those included under the Least Developed Countries Universities Consortium on Climate Change, and regional institutions;

(f) Integrating the targets under the United Arab Emirates Framework for Global Climate Resilience and the Belém Adaptation Indicators, which are to be used on a voluntary basis for tracking progress in achieving those targets, into country-driven adaptation planning

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processes, while respecting the country-driven nature of national adaptation plans and avoiding additional reporting burdens;

(g) Using climate information services and applying frontier technologies, including artificial intelligence and remote sensing, as appropriate, to strengthen the design, implementation and monitoring of adaptation actions;

(h) Tracking progress in implementing national adaptation plans, identifying unresolved barriers in implementing national adaptation plans, and generating, synthesizing and communicating evidence on adaptation from country experiences, national adaptation plans, biennial transparency reports and existing national processes and reporting arrangements, as appropriate, while avoiding additional reporting burdens;

6. *Decides* to establish, under the guidance of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group, a national adaptation plan implementation platform to facilitate the direct provision, at the request of countries, of coordinated support from partners to the least developed countries for the priority areas referred to in paragraph 5 above, including by linking national adaptation priorities with technical support providers, financing entities and delivery partners;

7. *Requests* the Least Developed Countries Expert Group to consider how to operationalize the national adaptation plan implementation platform and, in support of its operationalization, how to strengthen collaboration, coordination and avoid duplication of efforts under initiatives such as the National Adaptation Plan Implementation Alliance, the National Adaptation Plan Global Network and UN4NAPs, as well as with the Adaptation Fund, the Green Climate Fund and the Least Developed Countries Fund on relevant work, and to report thereon to the Conference of the Parties through the report of the meeting of the Group (November 2027), for consideration and approval at its thirty-second session;

8. *Invites* the Adaptation Fund, the Green Climate Fund, the Least Developed Countries Fund, accredited entities, implementing agencies and other relevant partners, as appropriate and within their respective mandates, to collaborate with the Least Developed Countries Expert Group in supporting the operationalization of the national adaptation plan implementation platform;

9. *Also invites* the Least Developed Countries Expert Group to identify initial activities that may be undertaken via the national adaptation plan implementation platform with the least developed countries and relevant partners using available financial and technical resources and to include information thereon in the reports on the meetings of the Group;

10. *Requests* the Least Developed Countries Expert Group to include in the reports on the meetings of the Group information, on support provided by developed country Parties for implementing national adaptation plans by the least developed countries, including support mobilized, disbursed and delivered, and on adaptation priorities that remain unsupported;

11. *Appreciates* the commitment of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group to integrate gender-responsive approaches into its work and *encourages* the Group to make continued efforts in this regard, including in support of the implementation of the Belém gender action plan for 2026–2034[5] and by taking into account gender related provisions under the United Arab Emirates Framework for Global Climate Resilience;[6]

12. *Requests* the Least Developed Countries Expert Group to prepare a synthesis adaptation priorities identified by the least developed countries in their national adaptation plans, through a programmatic lens, which is to include information on arrangements for implementing national adaptation plans and on existing support and further opportunities for supporting the implementation of national adaptation plans;

13. *Also requests* the Least Developed Countries Expert Group, building on the synthesis referred to in paragraph 12 above and taking into account the priority area for support referred to in paragraph 5(a) above, to explore and identify the most effective approaches for

[5] Decision 7/CP.30, annex.

[6] Decision 2/CMA.5, paras. 10(b) and 13.

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improving access by the least developed countries to adaptation finance and enhancing their access to readiness support, taking into account existing support arrangements, initiatives and mechanisms, and avoiding the duplication of effort, as well as approaches for implementing its work programme of the LEG;

14. *Encourages* the Least Developed Countries Expert Group to continue providing targeted support to individual least developed countries on an ongoing basis, particularly to those that have not yet submitted a national adaptation plan;

15. *Also encourages* the Least Developed Countries Expert Group to continue holding NAP Expos in conjunction with UNFCCC climate weeks, wherever appropriate, to ensure the NAP Expos are accessible to a broad range of stakeholders;

16. *Further encourages* the Least Developed Countries Expert Group to enhance its provision of scientific information and climate risk assessment knowledge on climate adaptation, drawing on its roster of experts, peer learning platforms such as NAP Expos, and resources from universities in the least developed countries, as well as practical tools such as the NAP AI Studio, with a view to supporting the formulation and implementation of national adaptation plans and reducing the burden of this process on the least developed countries;

17. *Requests* the Least Developed Countries Expert Group to further strengthen its collaboration with the Adaptation Committee, the Facilitative Working Group of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform, the Paris Committee on Capacity-building and other constituted bodies under the Convention and the Paris Agreement, as well as with the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism and with the Adaptation Fund, and to explore opportunities for collaboration with new partners, including representatives of relevant adaptation-related initiatives, research communities, networks and regional platforms, that can support the implementation of its current mandate;

18. *Also Requests* the Least Developed Countries Expert Group to continue making efforts to enhance the transparency of its meetings;

19. *Invites* Parties and relevant organizations to continue providing financial and technical resources for supporting the implementation of the work programme of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group;

20. *Takes note* of the estimated budgetary implications of the activities to be undertaken by the secretariat referred to in paragraphs [X and XX] above;

21. *Requests* that the actions of the secretariat called for in this decision be undertaken subject to the availability of financial resources.

Draft decision -/CMA.8

Matters relating to the least developed countries

The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement,

Recalling decisions 5/CP.7, 29/CP.7, 7/CP.9, 4/CP.10, 4/CP.11, 8/CP.13, 6/CP.16, 5/CP.17, 12/CP.18, 3/CP.20, 1/CP.21, 19/CP.21, 16/CP.24, 7/CP.25, 15/CP.26, 9/CP.27, 10/CP.27, 15/CP.29, 15/CP.30, 11/CMA.1, 19/CMA.1, 1/CMA.5, 1/CMA.6 and 12/CMA.7,

Recognizing the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances, as reflected in Article 2, paragraph 2, of the Paris Agreement,

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Having considered the report on the 50th meeting of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group[1] and the synthesis report by the secretariat on the progress of the work of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group,[2]

Recognizing the evolving nature of the adaptation architecture under the Convention and the Paris Agreement,

1. *Welcomes* the progress of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group in implementing its work programme for 2026–2027[3] under its current mandate[4] and *expresses appreciation* for its sustained contribution to advancing adaptation efforts in the least developed countries;

2. *Recognizes* that the current mandate of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group, which includes providing technical guidance and capacity-building to the least developed countries for formulating and implementing national adaptation plans, supporting the least developed countries in accessing adaptation finance, developing knowledge products facilitating adaptation reporting, and collaborating with other UNFCCC constituted bodies, partner organizations in fulfilling COP and CMA mandates is comprehensive, well structured and fundamentally fit for purpose;

3. *Notes* the broad range of challenges faced by the least developed countries in the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans, including limited technical capacity to undertake the stages in the process, inadequate systems for monitoring and evaluating progress in implementing national adaptation plans, limited access to scientific information on climate adaptation, limited knowledge of risk assessment related to climate adaptation and insufficient technical capacity to translate national adaptation plans into implementable actions and *also notes* the importance of addressing those challenges in a holistic manner in order to facilitate the formulation and implementation of national adaptation plans;

4. *Acknowledges* that the following areas in which the least developed countries need assistance to progress in implementing their national adaptation plans for which current support is insufficient or does not reach all least developed countries, constitute, inter alia, the priority areas for the provision of support by the Least Developed Countries Expert Group:

(a) Translating nationally identified adaptation priorities into coherent, programmatic, portfolio-based approaches to implementing national adaptation plans, including by using nationally validated registers of priorities, catalogues of concept notes and the NAPX toolkit of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group, as appropriate;

(b) Costing and sequencing the implementation of identified adaptation priorities, undertaking feasibility studies, developing coherent investment programmes and preparing implementation-ready adaptation project proposals and pipelines, with the early engagement of delivery partners;

(c) Navigating evolving climate financing, [in line with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances,] matching national priorities for adaptation with suitable readiness support, financing windows and delivery partners, and facilitating follow-up throughout the submission, approval, disbursement and implementation processes related to accessing finance;

(c) *Alt.*: Navigating evolving climate financing, matching national priorities for adaptation with suitable readiness support, financing windows and delivery partners, and facilitating follow-up throughout the submission, approval, disbursement and implementation processes related to accessing finance

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[1] FCCC/SBI/2026/27.
[2] FCCC/SBI/2026/11.
[3] Contained in document FCCC/SBI/2026/8, annex II.
[4] See document FCCC/SBI/2026/11, annex.

(d) Presenting national priorities for adaptation that have been translated into projects that are ready for funding to relevant financing forums convened by multilateral development banks and other international financial institutions, bilateral partners, philanthropic organizations and the private sector in order to complement finance provided by developed country Parties and support received from partners to the least developed countries;

(e) Strengthening capacity and institutional arrangements at the national and local level to coordinate and manage adaptation programmes, including channelling financial and technical resources to the subnational level for and monitoring the results of those programmes, drawing, as appropriate, on the roster of experts from the least developed countries maintained by the Least Developed Countries Expert Group, as well as experts from universities, including those included under the Least Developed Countries Universities Consortium on Climate Change, and regional institutions;

(f) Integrating the targets under the United Arab Emirates Framework for Global Climate Resilience and the Belém Adaptation Indicators, which are to be used on a voluntary basis for tracking progress in achieving those targets, into country-driven adaptation planning processes, while respecting the country-driven nature of national adaptation plans and avoiding additional reporting burdens;

(g) Using climate information services and applying frontier technologies, including artificial intelligence and remote sensing, as appropriate, to strengthen the design, implementation and monitoring of adaptation actions;

(h) Tracking progress in implementing national adaptation plans, identifying unresolved barriers in implementing national adaptation plans, and generating, synthesizing and communicating evidence on adaptation from country experiences, national adaptation plans, biennial transparency reports and existing national processes and reporting arrangements, as appropriate, while avoiding additional reporting burdens;

5. *Decides* to establish, under the guidance of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group, a national adaptation plan implementation platform to facilitate the direct provision, at the request of countries, of coordinated support from partners to the least developed countries for the priority areas referred to in paragraph 4 above, including by linking national adaptation priorities with technical support providers, financing entities and delivery partners;

6. *Requests* the Least Developed Countries Expert Group to consider how to operationalize the national adaptation plan implementation platform and, in support of its operationalization, how to strengthen collaboration, coordination and avoid duplication of efforts under initiatives such as the National Adaptation Plan Implementation Alliance, the National Adaptation Plan Global Network and UN4NAPs, as well as with the Adaptation Fund, the Green Climate Fund and the Least Developed Countries Fund on relevant work, and to report thereon to the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement through the report of the meeting of the Group (November 2027), for consideration and approval at its ninth session;);

7. *Invites* the Adaptation Fund, the Green Climate Fund, the Least Developed Countries Fund, accredited entities, implementing agencies and other relevant partners, as appropriate and within their respective mandates, to collaborate with the Least Developed Countries Expert Group in supporting the operationalization of the national adaptation plan implementation platform;

8. *Also invites* the Least Developed Countries Expert Group to identify initial activities that may be undertaken via the national adaptation plan implementation platform with the least developed countries and relevant partners using available financial and technical resources and to include information thereon in the reports on the meetings of the Group;

9. *Requests* the Least Developed Countries Expert Group to include in the reports on the meetings of the Group information, on support provided by developed country Parties for implementing national adaptation plans by the least developed countries, including support mobilized, disbursed and delivered, and on adaptation priorities that remain unsupported;

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10. *Appreciates* the commitment of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group to integrate gender-responsive approaches into its work and *encourages* the Group to make continued efforts in this regard, including in support of the implementation of the Belém gender action plan for 2026–2034[5] and by taking into account gender related provisions under the United Arab Emirates Framework for Global Climate Resilience;[6]

11. *Requests* the Least Developed Countries Expert Group to prepare a synthesis adaptation priorities identified by the least developed countries in their national adaptation plans, through a programmatic lens, which is to include information on arrangements for implementing national adaptation plans and on existing support and further opportunities for supporting the implementation of national adaptation plans;

12. *Also requests* the Least Developed Countries Expert Group, building on the synthesis referred to in paragraph 11 above and taking into account the priority area for support referred to in paragraph 4(a) above, to explore and identify the most effective approaches for improving access by the least developed countries to adaptation finance and enhancing their access to readiness support, taking into account existing support arrangements, initiatives and mechanisms, and avoiding the duplication of effort, as well as approaches for implementing its work programme of the LEG;

13. *Encourages* the Least Developed Countries Expert Group to continue providing targeted support to individual least developed countries on an ongoing basis, particularly to those that have not yet submitted a national adaptation plan;

14. *Also encourages* the Least Developed Countries Expert Group to continue holding NAP Expos in conjunction with UNFCCC climate weeks, wherever appropriate, to ensure the NAP Expos are accessible to a broad range of stakeholders;

15. *Further encourages* the Least Developed Countries Expert Group to enhance its provision of scientific information and climate risk assessment knowledge on climate adaptation, drawing on its roster of experts, peer learning platforms such as NAP Expos, and resources from universities in the least developed countries, as well as practical tools such as the NAP AI Studio, with a view to supporting the formulation and implementation of national adaptation plans and reducing the burden of this process on the least developed countries;

16. *Requests* the Least Developed Countries Expert Group to further strengthen its collaboration with the Adaptation Committee, the Facilitative Working Group of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform, the Paris Committee on Capacity-building and other constituted bodies under the Convention and the Paris Agreement, as well as with the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism and with the Adaptation Fund, and to explore opportunities for collaboration with new partners, including representatives of relevant adaptation-related initiatives, research communities, networks and regional platforms, that can support the implementation of its current mandate;

17. *Also Requests* the Least Developed Countries Expert Group to continue making efforts to enhance the transparency of its meetings;

18. *Invites* Parties and relevant organizations to continue providing financial and technical resources for supporting the implementation of the work programme of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group;

19. *Takes note* of the estimated budgetary implications of the activities to be undertaken by the secretariat referred to in paragraphs [X and XX] above;

20. *Requests* that the actions of the secretariat called for in this decision be undertaken subject to the availability of financial resources.

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[5] Decision 7/CP.30, annex.

[6] Decision 2/CMA.5, paras. 10(b) and 13.

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