

## Update on ongoing work related to the 2016-2017 workplan on MRV of support beyond the BA (July 2016)

### Information note by the secretariat

The Standing Committee on Finance will be invited to take note of the update on the ongoing work under the Convention related to its 2016-2017 workplan on measurement, reporting, and verification.

#### I. Background information

1. In 2015, the SCF developed a two-year workplan (2016–2017)<sup>1</sup> to enable improved MRV of support under the Convention.
2. COP 21 endorsed the workplan of the SCF,<sup>2</sup> including work on the MRV of support beyond the BA. Additionally, COP 21 requested the SCF to continue to engage with relevant bodies under the Convention, multilateral and bilateral agencies and international institutions in implementing its workplan on MRV of support beyond the BA.<sup>3</sup> The SCF was also requested, in the context of its workplan on MRV of support, to take into account the work on the methodologies for the reporting of financial information by Parties included in Annex I to the Convention.<sup>4</sup>
3. At its 12<sup>th</sup> meeting, the SCF agreed that the Committee's work this year on MRV of support beyond the BA will be pursued in the context of the 2016 BA, taking into account new developments emanating from the Paris Agreement and decision 1/CP.21.<sup>5</sup> Elements contained in the Paris Agreement and decision 1/CP.21 which are relevant to the 2016-2017 workplan on MRV of support beyond the BA are outlined in the annex of document SCF/2016/12/7.

#### II. Updates on ongoing work related to the 2016-2017 workplan on MRV of support beyond the BA

##### *Modalities for the accounting of financial resources provided and mobilized through public interventions in accordance with Article 9, paragraph 7, of the Paris Agreement (under SBSTA)*

4. COP 21 requested the SBSTA to develop modalities for the accounting of financial resources provided and mobilized through public interventions in accordance with Article 9, paragraph 7, of the Paris Agreement for consideration by COP 24, with a view to making a recommendation for consideration and adoption by CMA 1.<sup>6</sup> Article 9, paragraph 7 of the Agreement stipulates that developed country Parties shall provide transparent and consistent information on support for developing country Parties provided and mobilized through public interventions biennially, and that other Parties are encouraged to do so.
5. SBSTA 44 initiated its consideration of this matter. An in-session presentation was given on related work undertaken by the SBSTA with regard to methodologies for reporting financial information by Annex I Parties; on work by the SCF with regard to the BA and MRV beyond the BA; and on ongoing work under the APA with regard to modalities, procedures and guidelines for the transparency framework for action and support referred to in Article 13 of the Paris Agreement.<sup>7</sup>
6. SBSTA 44 adopted conclusions,<sup>8</sup> including, inter alia,
  - a. An invitation to Parties and observer organizations to submit their views on this matter. In doing so, Parties and observer organizations may wish to consider, inter alia: what are the existing modalities

<sup>1</sup> FCCC/CP/2015/8, Annex VII.

<sup>2</sup> Decision 6/CP.21, paragraph 3.

<sup>3</sup> Decision 6/CP.21, paragraph 4.

<sup>4</sup> Decision 9/CP.21, paragraph 14.

<sup>5</sup> SCF/2016/12/10, paragraphs 30 and 31.

<sup>6</sup> Decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 57.

<sup>7</sup> The presentation is available at <[http://unfccc.int/cooperation\\_and\\_support/financial\\_mechanism/items/8892.php](http://unfccc.int/cooperation_and_support/financial_mechanism/items/8892.php)>.

<sup>8</sup> FCCC/SBSTA/2016/L.5.

for the accounting of financial resources provided and mobilized through public interventions, and what are the challenges and information gaps with respect to these existing modalities; what accounting modalities need to be developed to serve the Paris Agreement, in accordance with Article 9, paragraph 7, of the Agreement, and what are the challenges to the development of these accounting modalities and how can these be addressed; how to ensure that accounting modalities are developed in time to be integrated into the transparency framework established under the Paris Agreement;

- b. A request to the secretariat to organize an in-session workshop in conjunction with SBSTA 45 (November 2016) to inform the work of the SBSTA on this matter, drawing on the submissions and on the relevant finding of bodies under the Convention;
  - c. A request to the secretariat to prepare a technical paper, prior to SBSTA 46 (May 2017), summarizing information from the in-session workshop and submissions.
7. The SBSTA will continue its consideration of this matter at SBSTA 45.

***Modalities, procedures and guidelines for the transparency framework for action and support referred to in Article 13 of the Paris Agreement (under APA)***

8. COP 21 requested the APA to develop recommendations for modalities, procedures and guidelines for the transparency framework for action and support referred to in Article 13 of the Paris Agreement, for consideration at COP 24, with a view to forwarding them to CMA 1 for consideration and adoption.<sup>9</sup> In relation to the work of the SCF, COP 21 also requested the APA to consider, inter alia, information in the BA and other reports of the SCF in developing the modalities, procedures and guidelines.
9. APA 1 launched its work and set out modalities for the organization of its work, including for this substantive item.<sup>10</sup>
10. APA 1 adopted conclusions,<sup>11</sup> which included, inter alia, an invitation to Parties to submit their views, including on this item, and a request to the secretariat to compile the submissions into an information document, with views on each item to be compiled in a separate document. In addition, the APA invited Parties and admitted observer organizations to provide information, views and proposals on any work of the APA before each of its sessions.

***Revision of the "Guidelines for the preparation of national communications by Parties included in Annex I to the Convention, Part II: UNFCCC reporting guidelines on national communications" (under SBI)***

11. COP 17 requested SBI 40 to begin the revision of the "Guidelines for the preparation of national communications by Parties included in Annex I to the Convention, Part II: UNFCCC reporting guidelines on national communications" (hereinafter referred to as the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on NCs), based on the experiences gained in preparing the first biennial reports and other information, with a view to adopting the revised guidelines by COP 20.<sup>12</sup>
12. SBI 44 continued its consideration of this matter and agreed on the text of the draft revised guidelines except for bracketed text in one of the paragraphs related to the language of national communications.<sup>13</sup>
13. Revisions made to section VIII, "Financial, technological and capacity-building support" include, inter alia:
  - a. Information, including the title of the section, has been harmonized with the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on biennial reports;
  - b. Finance tables have been updated to reflect modifications to the BR CTF tables in decision 9/CP.21.
14. The SBI further agreed to continue its consideration of the bracketed text with a view to finalizing the revised UNFCCC reporting guidelines on NCs at SBI 45 and recommending them for consideration and adoption by COP 22.<sup>14</sup>

---

<sup>9</sup> Decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 91.

<sup>10</sup> Some statements made by Parties at APA 1, including on this item, are available at <http://www4.unfccc.int/submissions/SitePages/sessions.aspx?showOnlyCurrentCalls=1&populateData=1&expectedsubmissionfrom=Parties&focalBodies=APA>.

<sup>11</sup> FCCC/APA/2016/L.3.

<sup>12</sup> Decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 18.

<sup>13</sup> FCCC/SBI/2016/L.22, Annex.

---

*The International Assessment and Review of Biennial Reports and International Consultation and Analysis of Biennial Update Reports*

IAR process for BRs

15. The COP, by decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 13, requested Annex I Parties to submit their second biennial reports (BR2s) by 1 January 2016. 43 BR2s and 43 sets of corresponding common tabular format (CTF) tables have been submitted as of 23 June 2016.<sup>15</sup>
16. At COP 16, Parties decided to conduct international assessment and review (IAR) of BRs from Annex I Parties. IAR includes two steps: a technical review and a multilateral assessment.
17. With regard to the technical review, centralized reviews in two rounds (in March and in June) have been coordinated by the secretariat to cover all Parties that have submitted their BR2s to date. The technical review will result in an individual review report for each developed country Party.
18. Multilateral assessment, based on the technical reviews of their BRs, is planned for SBI 45 and SBI 46, after which the summary reports on the multilateral assessment for these Parties will be published.

ICA process for BURs

19. The COP, by decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 41, requested non-Annex I Parties to submit their first biennial update reports (BUR1s) by December 2014. 32 BUR1s have been submitted as of 23 June 2016.<sup>16</sup>
20. At COP 16, Parties decided to conduct international consultation and analysis (ICA) of BURs from non-Annex I Parties. ICA includes two steps: a technical analysis of BURs by a team of technical experts and a facilitative sharing of views.
21. With regard to the technical analysis, the first round of analysis began in May 2015 and thereafter as a continuous process, with an individual summary report being prepared by the team of technical experts for each Party that is analysed. Two more rounds of technical analysis are planned for 2016, one in September covering 5 Parties and one in December, covering BURs submitted to the secretariat by 21 September 2016.
22. The first workshop for the facilitative sharing of views was convened from 20 to 21 May 2016 during SBI 44, during which 13 non-Annex I Parties were covered. The facilitative discussions covered issues on greenhouse gas emission trends, nationally appropriate mitigation actions, mitigation actions and their effects and support needed and received, as well as capacity-building needs. The outcome of this process will be a record of the facilitative sharing of views, which along with the summary report of the technical analysis of a BUR, will constitute the outcome of ICA for the Party.

---

<sup>14</sup> FCCC/SBI/2016/L.22, paragraph 4.

<sup>15</sup> Available at <[http://unfccc.int/national\\_reports/biennial\\_reports\\_and\\_iar/submitted\\_biennial\\_reports/items/7550.php](http://unfccc.int/national_reports/biennial_reports_and_iar/submitted_biennial_reports/items/7550.php)>.

<sup>16</sup> Available at <[http://unfccc.int/national\\_reports/non-annex\\_i\\_natcom/reporting\\_on\\_climate\\_change/items/8722.php](http://unfccc.int/national_reports/non-annex_i_natcom/reporting_on_climate_change/items/8722.php)>.