

Work programme under the framework for non-market approaches referred to in Article 6, paragraph 8, of the Paris Agreement

Round-table discussion among Parties held on 5 November 2017

SBSTA 47, agenda item 11(c)

Informal document by co-facilitators of the round-table

Mandate and background

Pursuant to paragraph 125 of document FCCC/SBSTA/2017/4,¹ a round-table discussion among Parties was held in conjunction with the forty-seventh session of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) in relation to the work programme under the framework for non-market approaches referred to in Article 6, paragraph 8, of the Paris Agreement. The round table was held on 5 November 2017 in Bonn, Germany.

Pursuant to paragraph 126 of the same document, this informal document has been prepared by the co-facilitators of the round table, having consulted with Parties during the round-table discussions, in order to factually reflect the views expressed by Parties during the round table.

To help guide discussions, the SBSTA Chair and the co-facilitators together developed guiding questions and invited Parties to consider those questions in their discussions. The questions were published in the “Information note for participants at the round-table discussions among Parties for Article 6 of the Paris Agreement SBSTA items 11 a to c”.² Several other issues and discussion points were identified by Parties as relevant to the discussions and raised by them during the round table.

A number of groups and Parties made presentations at the round-table discussion.³ Other Parties intervened and explained their views during the round table, without making presentations. Parties engaged in asking clarifying questions of each other regarding the presentations and views expressed. The views expressed by groups and Parties covered a broad range of relevant issues, including but not limited to the guiding questions suggested by the SBSTA Chair and the co-facilitators.

Issues presented and discussion topics

The views expressed by Parties are clustered below around the topics discussed at the round table. Owing to limited time, not all topics that are relevant to the work programme under the framework for non-market approaches were discussed and some were covered only briefly; thus this informal note is not exhaustive of all issues.

¹ Available at <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2017/sbsta/eng/04.pdf>.

² Available at http://unfccc.int/files/na/application/pdf/information_note_2_-_questions_to_be_addressed_in_presentations.pdf.

³ See http://unfccc.int/paris_agreement/items/10143.php (note: not all groups and Parties presenting used visual aids such as PowerPoint presentations).

a. Actions under the work programme

Some Parties said that action under the work programme should include adoption of a long-term work programme that enables, inter alia, sharing of non-market approaches utilized by Parties, identifying best practices and potential for global application, and broadening of the participation of non-Party stakeholders such as experts, international organizations, civil society and business.

Some Parties proposed an adaptation benefit mechanism that offers a role for the private sector in a manner that rewards the achievement of adaptation benefits while encouraging investment in much needed goods and services and bringing technology, capacity and finance. Those Parties expressed the view that this proposal could be enhanced through the framework.

Some Parties said that non-market approaches are everything that Parties can do together that does not involve a transfer and that this is an open list of activities.

Some Parties said that a key criterion of the activities of the work programme is to avoid duplication of work already being conducted under the UNFCCC and other forums.

Some Parties supported the development of a needs-based registry and matchmaking facility.

Some Parties supported information-sharing processes at the national, regional and international levels and the development of tools to address negative socioeconomic impacts of Article 6 activities.

b. Organizing the work programme

Some Parties supported a stepwise process for the work programme over the period until 2020, which includes: step 1, identifying existing non-market approaches; step 2, identifying existing linkages, synergies, coordination and implementation already occurring between those non-market approaches, and positive experience; step 3, identifying opportunities for enhancement of existing linkages, creation of synergies, and coordination and implementation of non-market approaches; step 4, assessing the results of the previous steps and drawing conclusions on how to enhance existing linkages and create synergies; and step 5, proceeding to the practical enhancement of linkages and creation of synergies through some relevant governance of the framework for non-market approaches, while avoiding duplication.

Some Parties proposed identifying initial thematic areas of focus. Some Parties said that the purpose of the work programme under the framework is to carry out non-market approaches.

Some Parties proposed a review of the work programme in 2023 in order to review, and if needed, improve its effectiveness.

Some Parties proposed combining the above approaches to organizing the work programme to establish the long-term work programme.

c. The draft decision on the work programme

Some Parties supported that the work programme should include overarching issues, non-market approaches under the framework, governance of the framework, functions of the framework, transparency and interlinkages.

Some Parties said that the draft decision could include recognition of the important role of non-market approaches in achieving the Paris Agreement objectives, define specific elements of the work programme and refer to work done under the UNFCCC on exploring the implementation of non-market approaches at the national and international levels.

Some Parties said that the draft decision could cover specific themes addressing the purpose of the framework, the scope of the work programme, modalities of work, initial thematic areas for consideration, time frames for consideration and a process for identifying thematic areas of focus.

Parties, in their presentations, gave examples of non-market approaches. Some Parties said that the work programme should address approaches rather than specific issues.

d. The organizational arrangements for the framework

Some Parties recognized a need for organizational arrangements to assist in the implementation of nationally determined contributions in a coordinated and effective manner, as referred to in Article 6, paragraph 8, such as a committee and forum. Some Parties said that the organizational arrangements will be identified during the work programme and could end up being a committee, forum or sharing approach. Some Parties proposed establishing a 'committee for the future' under the guidance of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement.

Some Parties proposed a best practice sharing approach, through workshops, written submissions, presentation of case studies, technical papers, synthesis reports, workshop summaries and recommendations.

Some Parties supported the incorporation of the technical examination processes (TEPs) and technical expert meetings into the Article 6, paragraph 8, work programme as this would leverage the foundation of TEPs and enable the free flow of information through showcasing ideas, demonstrating best practices and sharing lessons learned for technology transfer and capacity-building.

e. Reporting

Some Parties supported the development of guidance on transparency and reporting for Parties using non-market approaches.

Some Parties proposed reporting on quantified or unquantified mitigation co-benefits, adaptation co-benefits, health co-benefits, resources raised or released to address other priorities and needs, clean energy or transport development achieved, etc., leveraged from the use of synergistic non-market approaches.