

Structure and template for the Annual Review Reports

12th Meeting of Lead Reviewers

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Overview

1. Background
2. Key drivers for change to the ARR template
3. Introducing the suggested 2015 ARR template
 1. Approach
 2. Content
4. Elements of possible LR conclusions



Secretariat mandate

(paragraph 48 to the annex to decision 13/CP.20)

The secretariat shall develop review tools and materials and templates for review reports under the guidance of the lead reviewers

Conclusions of the 12 Meeting of LRs (Para. 29):

The LRs encouraged the secretariat...to explore whether there is a need to make further revisions to the ARR template for the reviews starting in 2015 based on any decisions adopted in COP20/CMP10 on the new review guidelines under the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol. They requested the secretariat to present suggestions on this, if any, at the next annual LR meeting and to communicate these suggestions to the LRs not later than one week before the meeting



Key Driver for Change in the ARR template: 13/CP.20

Broadly:

- The new UNFCCC Annex I inventory reporting (24/CP.19) and review guidelines (13/CP.20) affect the scope, procedures and output of the review process.

Specifically:

- Report should have **more tables and less text**
 - ❖ “...should include standardized tables whenever possible” including for previous recommendations – *para. 97*
 - ❖ The report should not extensively duplicate publically available information- *para. 96* or information in the tables- *para. 97*
- Report needs to be done **faster**: “...should be completed within 20 weeks” – *para. 90*
- Report needs to be **shorter**: “...shall be as concise as possible and make every effort not to exceed 30 pages”- *para. 98*



Other drivers for change: LRs, ERTs, Parties

□ Some responses to the 2014 Review Process Questionnaire on ARR

Keep it simple
and to the
minimum
required

Do not duplicate
overview and
conclusions: no
need and
introduces error

Only have
paragraphs
related to
findings!

Eliminate as much
duplication as
possible with the
Party's NIR and
CRF

Structure so ARR
paragraphs can
easily be extracted
from transcript...or
exported to excel

More extensive use of
tables instead of text
would make ARR
more consistent and
speed up analysis of
previous
recommendations.

Streamlining template
to incorporate tick
boxes for satisfactory
completion of
requirements, rather
than lengthy
narratives.

Is there really a
need to
summarize each
sector before
going into the
recommendations

2015 ARR template: Approach to development

- ❑ Use decision 13/CP.20 as the basis to generate the template
 - ❖ Build from the requirements in the annex to the decision, not walking backwards from the current 2014 ARR template to remove sections no longer relevant
- ❑ Develop the template for the Convention first, as the guidelines for reporting and review for the Kyoto Protocol not yet finalized
 - ❖ Additional sections to be added upon reaching a decision on 5,7,8
- ❑ Consider experience gained elsewhere in drafting similar review reports
 - ❖ EU and the SIAR



Suggested 2015 ARR template

☐ Latest DRAFT template



Guidance

- ❑ Some guidance included in the text to orient users, but need for new guidance, outside of Table 3, is limited:
 - ❖ The detailed “findings” table (Table 5) would be developed based on the ERT’s underlying analysis of issues, consistent with current practice.
 - ❖ Will need specific guidance on how to handle “is a recommendation resolved”
- ❑ Use of “recommend”, “encourage”, “strongly”.
 - ❖ Recommend and encourage to be used as in years past; “strongly” considered for the following situations
 - ✧ Reiterations for three years
 - ✧ Issues of accuracy and completeness



Test case: 2014 Final ARR in suggested 2015 ARR format

In preparation for this meeting, the final 2013 and 2014 ARRs for one Party were applied to the template to see how it works.

- ❑ Possible improvements the new ARR template could bring
 - ❖ Reduce opportunity for inconsistencies across the report
 - ✧ Direct link between overview table and findings
 - ✧ No duplication with both a summary and conclusions table
 - ❖ Better tracking of implementation of previous recommendations
 - ❖ Better link with review transcript; ERT's/ LRs could focus on issues (i.e. Review Transcript), not drafting a report
 - ❖ Reduce QA time:
 - ✧ Where recommendations from previous review reports still exist, issue won't need to be described again (and QA'ed again). ERTs only provide assessment and rationale.
 - ✧ No need to check accuracy of "tiers" and uncertainty (and other publically available info)
 - ❖ ARR was shorter (41 → 31 pages (2013 ARR) and 37 → 29 pages (2014 ARR))
 - ❖ Last three bullets suggest faster preparation of final reports (impt. given 20 week deadline)



Questions

- ❑ ARR assumes no “reiterated recommendations” for 2015 (i.e. clock starts over). Views?
 - ❖ E.g. para. 83 (include prominent para. for issues identified in past reviews).
 - ❖ ERT’s will still review previous recommendations to see status of implementation. In the ARR, though, these findings would not be “reiterated”.

- ❑ How to handle the case where a previous recommendation was partially implemented?
 - ❖ This presumes that if the specific issue identified (e.g., incorrect EF applied) is addressed, then issue is “resolved”. If the ERT finds the EF was correct, but not transparently described, the EF issue is “resolved” but there is a new “transparency issue”.

- ❑ Are issues identified related to TACCC a recommendation or encouragement?
 - ❖ “The annual GHG inventory should be transparent, consistent, comparable, complete and accurate.” Para. 3 of annex to 24/CP.19
 - ❖ Issues will be identified as a failure to follow the requirements and definitions in 24/CP.19. Issues will also be identified as failure to follow general IPCC good practice for any other category that the Party included in its national estimates in accordance with the UNFCCC Annex I inventory reporting guidelines. These may be further subdivided as issues of TACCC.
 - ✧ Under what circumstances would an ERT use “failure to follow general IPCC GPG”?



Next Steps

- ❑ Will take note of comments today and continue to accept guidance on the suggested ARR template through March
- ❑ Final 2015 ARR template will be made available with preliminary review materials at least one month prior to review.
 - ❖ Will be made available for each Party, pre-filled to the extent possible.
 - ❖ Material that is not editable by the ERT will be locked.



Possible elements of LR conclusions

- ❑ Recognize that there is a need to change the ARR template to reflect the updated UNFCCC Annex I inventory review guidelines (decision 13/CP.20), in particular to include standardized tables whenever possible, and to not repeat information in those tables in text, or to extensively duplicate information already publically available.
- ❑ Provide reaction to the suggested updates to the ARR template as presented by the secretariat during the 12th Meeting of Lead Reviewers for use in the 2015 ARR cycle.
- ❑ Acknowledge that the ARR presented during the meeting reflects only elements of a Convention review. The ARR template will need to be further modified to reflect any agreement on reporting and review under the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol.

