

## Third meeting of Lead Reviewers for the review of Biennial Reports and National Communications

“Training programme for review experts for the technical  
review of Biennial Reports and National Communications  
of Parties included in Annex I to the Convention”

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Bonn, Germany



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# Presentation outline

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- Background
- Training programme for review experts of biennial reports and national communications
- Training activities in 2015 and 2016
- Points for consideration



# Background

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- SBSTA 39 (November 2013):

- Requested the secretariat to **make the materials available by electronic means** for the **experts participating in reviews in 2014**.
- Develop a **formal training programme** for consideration at SBSTA 40.

- 1st LR meeting (April 2014):

- LRs noted the need to **formalize current training materials** developed by the secretariat in a training programme for **consideration of SBSTA 40**.
- Addressing the **training needs of new and experienced experts**.
- Including an **assessment of their qualifications**, to ensure necessary competence for their participation in ERTs for the reviews of BRs and NCs.

- SBSTA 40 (June 2014):

- Requested the secretariat to **make available in the second half of 2014**, on a trial basis, **online courses for experts participating in reviews**.
- Courses **available on a trial basis** until the training programme is adopted at COP 20.



# Background

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- SBSTA 41 and COP 20 (December 2014):
  - Requests the secretariat to develop and implement the “Training programme for review experts for the technical review of biennial reports and national communications of Parties included in Annex I to the Convention”, including the examination of experts.
- 2nd LR meeting (March 2015):
  - LRs noted the scope and focus of the courses and the examination requirements, which new review experts and LRs must pass in accordance with the requirements.
  - The LRs considered that experienced review experts and LRs should acquire the new practical skills and knowledge for reviews provided in the training courses.
  - The LRs noted that experienced review experts would benefit from taking the general and cross-cutting course and its examination, and courses and examinations of their expertise.
  - The LRs strongly encouraged these experts to undertake the indicated courses.



# Training programme (decision 15/CP.20)

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## Details:

- Courses intended to **train review experts for the technical review** of biennial reports and national communications of Annex I Parties.
- **All training courses will be available online** through the Internet and upon request, available to trainees all year round, without facilitation by instructors.
- For trainees **without easy access to Internet courses will be distributed electronically.**
- At the request of any Party, the training courses will also be made **available to others interested** in the review process.



# Training programme (decision 15/CP.20)

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## Examinations:

- All training courses will **include an examination** and its procedures will be standardized, objective and transparent.
- The examination will **take place online**.
- **In exceptional circumstances, other arrangements for examinations will be made**, provided that examinations take place **under supervision of the secretariat** and that this does not require additional resources.
- Experts who **do not pass an examination at the first attempt may retake the examination once only**, provided that the expert fulfilled all of the tasks assigned in a timely manner and that this does not require additional costs.
- New experts who **successfully complete the training programme and pass the examinations will be invited to participate** in a centralized or in-country review, working with experienced review experts.



# Training programme (decision 15/CP.20)

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- Courses of the training programme:

1. **General and cross-cutting aspects of the review of national communications and biennial reports:**

*Target audience:* New review experts and lead reviewers.

*Examination requirements:* New review experts and **lead reviewers must pass the examination.** Online examination.

2. **Technical review of targets and of policies and measures, their effects and their contribution to achieving those targets:**

*Target audience:* New review experts reviewing targets and PaMs and LR.

*Examination requirements:* New review experts **must pass the examination.** Online examination.



# Training programme (decision 15/CP.20)

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## 3. Technical review of GHG emissions, emission trends, projections and the total effect of PaMs:

**Target audience:** New review experts reviewing emission trends, projections and the total effect of PaMs, and lead reviewers.

**Examination requirements:** New review experts **must pass the examination**.  
Online examination.

## 4. Technical review of the provision of financial support, technology transfer and capacity-building:

**Target audience:** New review experts reviewing the provision of financial support, technology transfer and capacity-building, and lead reviewers.

**Examination requirements:** New review experts **must pass the examination**.  
Online examination.





# Training activities in 2014 – 2016: Milestones

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- First and second round of BRs and NCs reviews in 2014:
  - Training materials offered in electronic format in the VTR covering the four courses of the training programme.
  - **147 reviewers (73 from non-Annex I Parties and 74 from Annex I Parties) had access.**
- Third round of reviews of BRs and NCs in 2015:
  - **Online training materials and examinations offered in an e-learning format covering the four courses of the training programme (pilot training for 3 ERTs: March – April 2015).**
- Reviews of BR2s in 2016:
  - **Online training materials and examinations offered in two rounds covering four courses of the training programme (all experts: September 2015 and January – February 2016).**
  - ❑ Online training materials and examinations **will be offered** covering four courses of the training programme (**all experts: second half of 2016**).
  - ✓ There are financial constrains for offering the courses more often and without limited study periods



# Training activities in 2015 – 2016: Results

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Contacted approximately 460 experts. Participated 59 % (271 experts).

- **First round (March – April 2015):**
  - Participated 13 experts.
  - **11 passed** one or more examinations.
- **Second round (September 2015):**
  - Participated 173 experts.
  - **114 passed** one or more examinations.
- **Third round (January – February 2016):**
  - Participated 85 experts.
  - **76 passed** one or more examinations.
  - **TOTAL: 201 experts passed one or more examinations (74.2 %).**
  - **Of 74 LR, 38 passed the mandatory exam on “General and cross-cutting aspects of the review of BRs and NCs” (51.4 %).**



# Training activities in 2015 – 2016: Results

	General	At least one thematic module	General + at least one thematic module
Examination participants	195	184	164
Experts passed the exams	177	146	135

**49.8%**

	M1	M2	M3	M4
Average score	83.4	68.4	78.7	76.7
Pass rate	90.8%	68.4%	78.7%	77.9%

## Feedback from experts, both new and experienced: POSITIVE

- Focus on the reporting and review requirements
- Examples from published review reports
- Exercises for drafting findings and report



# Points for consideration

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- Welcome the **information on training activities** in 2015 and 2016.
- Note the **scope and focus** of the training courses and the **examination requirements**.
- Note that training materials helped to **enhance knowledge on substantive matters and approaches for review**, and **facilitated a consistent approach in reviews** across Parties.
- Consider that **experienced experts and LRs should enhance their expertise** by acquiring new practical skills and knowledge **provided in training courses**.
- Reiterate that **experienced experts will benefit** from **taking the general and cross-cutting course and examination**, as well as **courses and examinations related to their expertise**.
- Recommend/strongly reiterate encouragement that **experienced experts and in particular LRs undertake the relevant courses and pass the relevant examinations**.



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**Thank you !!!**

