

Experience and good practice in reviewing BR1 and NC6: policies and measures

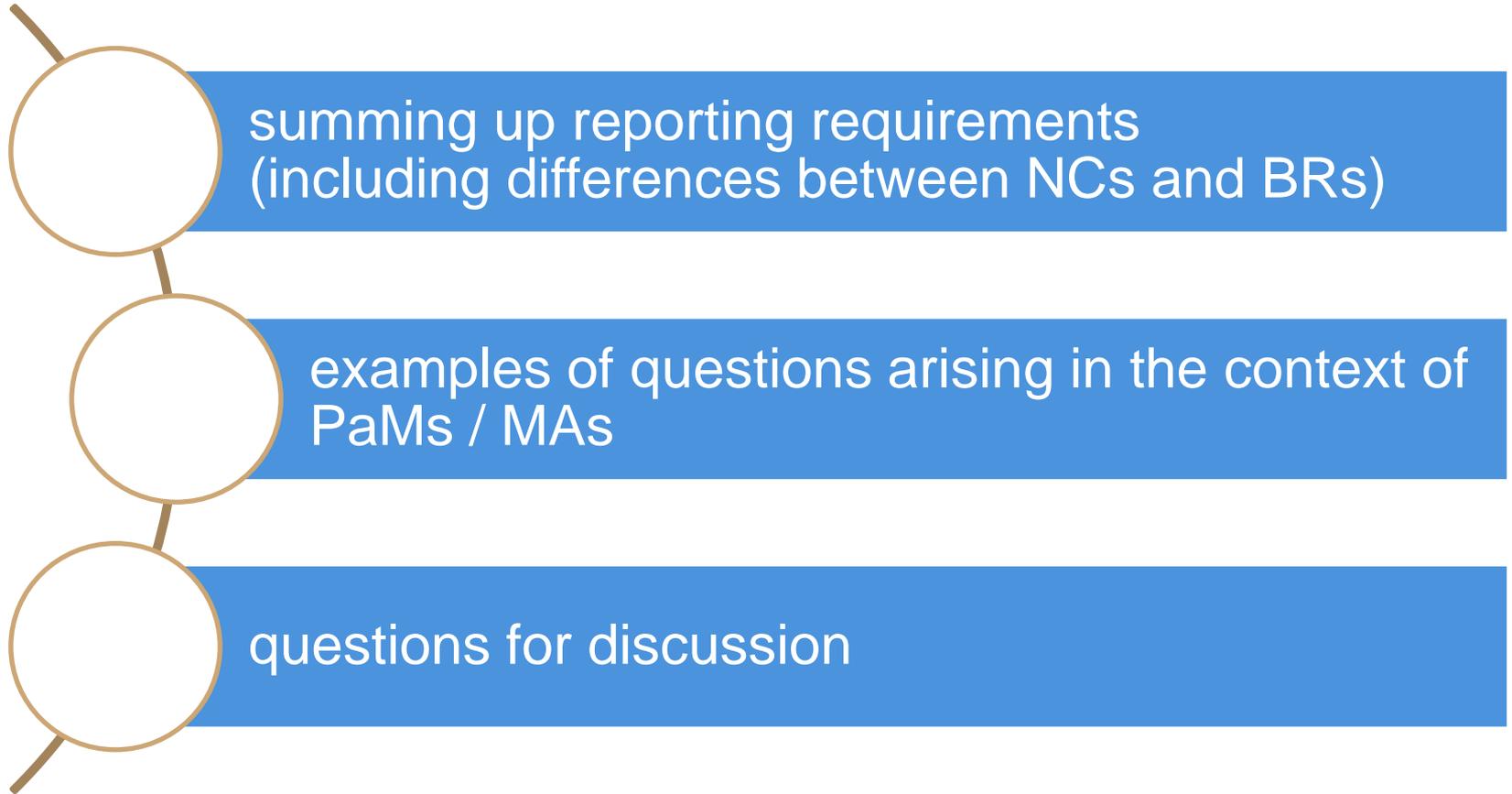
2nd BRs and NCs lead reviewers meeting



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Overview of presentation



Reporting requirements: National communications

National communications: PaM reporting requirements for Annex I Parties (4/CP.5)

A. Selection of PaMs: Parties ...

13. **shall** communicate information on policies and measures adopted to implement commitments,
14. **should** prioritize those having the most significant impact,
should clearly distinguish adopted and planned PaMs from implemented ones;
15. **should** report on PaMs by gvt. at national, state, provincial, regional and local level,
should report PaMs for international transport in the transport sector;
16. **should** report on policies and practices leading to increased GHG levels,
should provide the rationale for such actions;

B. Structure of section describing PaMs: Parties ...

17. **shall** organize reporting of PaMs by sectors, subdivided by GHG,
should consider the following sectors: energy, transport, industry, agriculture, forestry and waste management;
shall give each sector its own textual description of principal PaMs (section D),
shall supplement this information by a separate table for each sector; in this table
should mark the PaMs included in the 'with measures' projection and
should use the terms 'implemented', 'adopted', 'planned' for the status of the PaM;
18. **should** refer to descriptions of PaMs in earlier NCs and focus on alterations;



Reporting requirements: National communications (cont.)

C. Policy making process: Parties ...

20. **should** describe the overall policy context;
21. **should** describe how progress with PaMs is monitored and evaluated, which **should** include reporting on institutional arrangements;

D. PaMs and their effects: Parties ...

22. **shall**, for each PaM, include information on (a) name and short description, (b) objectives, (c) GHG affected, (d) type, (e) status of implementation, (f) implementing entity;
should present this information concisely,
should focus on key purposes when describing objectives of the PaM and
should describe the objectives in quantitative terms (to the extent possible);
should note if the PaM is planned, adopted or implemented, 
should specify the government level when describing the responsible entity;
23. **should** include a quantitative estimate of the impacts of PaMs and 
should give this information for particular years;
25. **shall** provide information on how they believe their PaMs modify longer-term trends in anthropogenic GHG emissions;



Reporting requirements: Biennial reports

Biennial reports: reporting requirements (2/CP.17) on mitigation actions (MAs)

A. Mitigation actions and their effects: Each Annex I Party ...

shall provide information on its MAs, including on the PaMs it has implemented or plans to implement since its last NC or BR;

shall organize the reporting of MAs by sector (energy, industrial processes and product use, agriculture, LULUCF, waste and other sectors) and by gas;

shall provide information on changes in its institutional arrangements;

is encouraged to provide information on the assessment of the economic and social consequences of response measures.

Table 3 of the CTF: contains similar requirements as the tables for PaMs in NC, but years for which effects are to be reported are updated



Reporting requirements: NCs and BRs compared

- NC7 not later than 1 January 2018 (9/CP.16)
- In years when the full NCs are submitted, BRs should be presented as an annex to the NCs or as a separate report; in the other years, they are stand-alone reports.

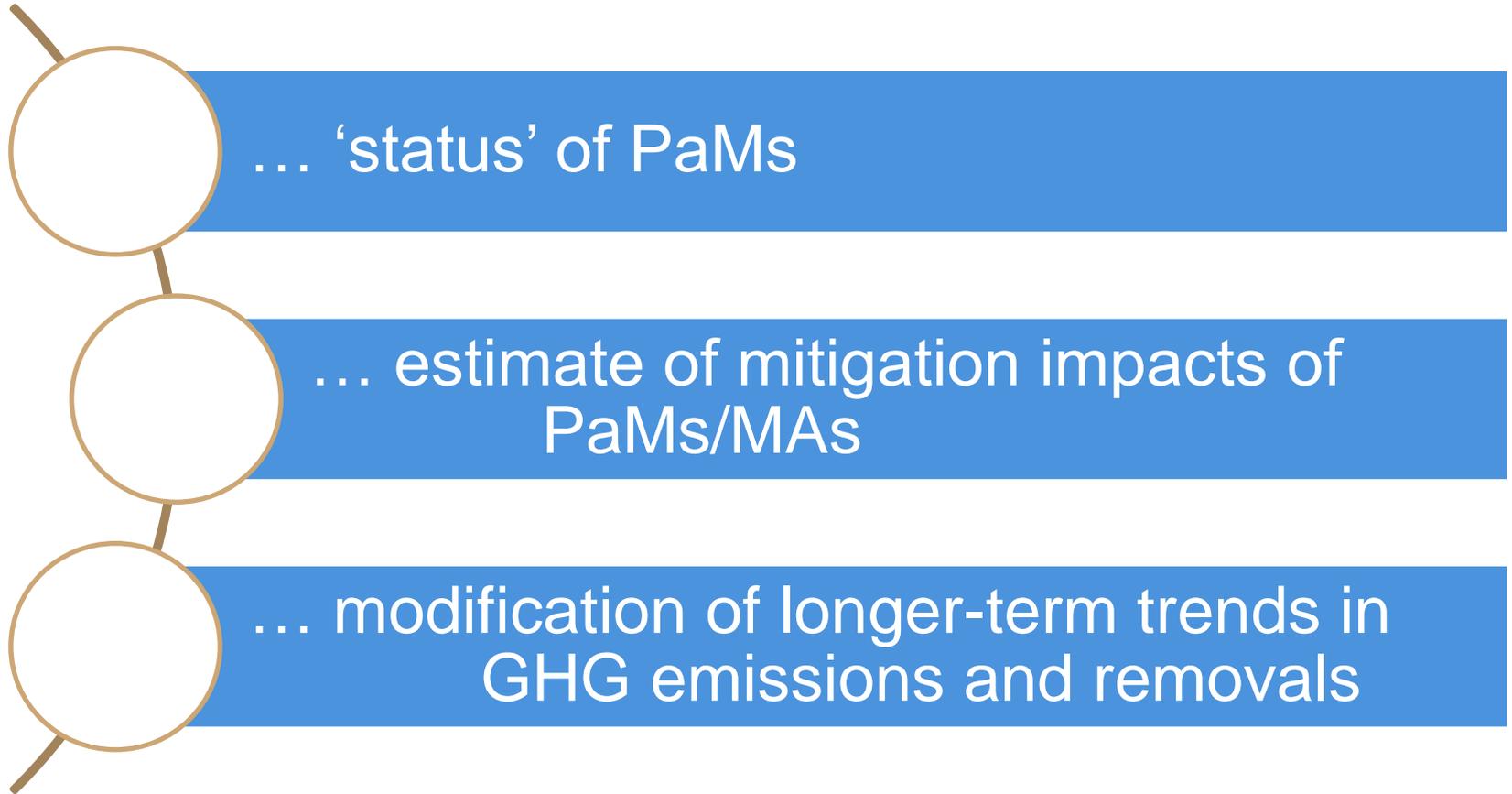
Reporting requirements for NCs are much more detailed, although the **mandatory elements** largely correspond to the ones in the BRs.

Differences:

- In BRs, also the PaMs planned to be implemented are a mandatory requirement;
- In BRs, the sectors by which reporting is to be organized are listed in a mandatory requirement; (remark: the sector list that 'should' be used in CTF table 3 differs from that mandatory list: CRF list vs. 'policy oriented' list)
- Whereas in NCs, reporting on institutional arrangements is a 'should'-requirement, in BRs changes in institutional arrangements are a mandatory requirement.



Examples: Issues with information on ...



Examples of issues: ‘status’ of PaMs

Reporting on the ‘status’ of PaMs is a mandatory requirement in NCs and in BRs; However, terms to be used are not mandatory, but recommended:

‘Planned’, ‘adopted’, ‘implemented’ – seems straightforward:

“Implemented policies and measures are those for which one or more of the following applies:

- (a) national legislation is in force; (b) one or more voluntary agreements have been established;
- (c) financial resources have been allocated; (d) human resources have been mobilized.

Adopted policies and measures are those for which an official government decision has been made and there is a clear commitment to proceed with implementation.

Planned policies and measures are options under discussion and having a realistic chance of being adopted and implemented in future.” (Footnote 1 on p. 83 of NC reporting guidelines)

But questions remain: How about measures with existing legal basis needing continuous future funding? When does implementation start?



Examples of issues: ‘status’ of PaMs

Example: Luxembourg, TR report on the BR1 (FCCC/TRR.1/LUX)

“25. [...]he grouping of mitigation actions in the BR1 somehow obscures the implementation status of the single measures. For instance, the group of actions entitled ‘Energy consumption – energy efficiency, housing’ is listed as implemented while in the NC6, some of the PaMs which make up this group of actions are listed as adopted or planned. Furthermore, the indicated start year of implementation is marked as ‘not estimated’ in several instances while for implemented actions the year of implementation can be regarded as the start year. [...] The ERT encourages Luxembourg to enhance the transparency of its reporting by identifying clearly and consistently the implementation status of each mitigation action, consistent with what is reported in the NC6, where appropriate.”

➤ **Consistency contributes considerably to transparency.**



Examples of issues: estimates of mitigation impacts of PaMs/MAs

Estimates of mitigation impacts of individual PaMs for single years are part of the mandatory supplementary tables in NCs; *could* be regarded as mandatory (but the years for which information is to be provided are outdated: 1995, 2000, 2005).

Example: New Zealand, IDR report on the NC6 (FCCC/IDR.6/NZL)

“33. The ERT considers that New Zealand would benefit from estimating the effects of its key PaMs as this would increase the reliability of its climate change policy, improve public awareness on the actions taken (and planned), provide a justification on budgets allocated to specific PaMs and consequently lead to a broader acceptance and support from all stakeholders. Also, the estimation of the effect of PaMs would allow for periodic assessment of existing PaMs and the identification of the possible need for additional PaMs. Thus, the ERT **strongly encourages** New Zealand to report quantitative estimates of the impacts of its individual PaMs to improve the completeness of its reporting and the consistency between the PaMs and projections chapters. [...]”

➤ **Explanation of reasons of reporting requirements – helpful for the Party.**



Examples of issues: estimates of mitigation impacts of PaMs/MAs

In the context of BRs: Estimates of mitigation impacts of individual MAs for single years are part of the CTF table 3 and as such are mandatory; have to be reported for 2020 and for optional year or years deemed relevant by the Party.

In cases where, for methodological reasons, effects of individual PaMs / MAs cannot be assessed, the effects of PaMs / MAs can be estimated as a group (“included elsewhere”).

Question for discussion: Which grouping of PaMs / MAs should be deemed complete reporting?

(indications: well documented; methodological reasons are explained)

Aside: New Zealand, IDR report on the NC6 (FCCC/TRR.1/NZL)

contains a **strong encouragement** to report quantitative estimates of the impacts of its individual PaMs where a **recommendation** could have been given.



Examples of issues: modification of longer-term trends

One of the mandatory reporting requirements for NCs:

“25. Parties shall provide information on how they believe their policies and measures are modifying longer-term trends in anthropogenic GHG emissions and removals consistent with the objective of the Convention.” (NC reporting guidelines)

Some Parties (cf para 80 of discussion paper)

- referred to the expected effects of individual PaMs or total effect of PaMs; or
- assumed that the reporting of projections was sufficient.

Reporting on modifying longer-term trends (in my view) benefits from taking into account that other factors influence these trends:

- external ones like economic output, oil price, population, ...
- other policies impacting on emission trends (infrastructure, planning, ...).

Question for discussion: How should Parties take these other factors into account?



Questions for discussion

■ **Sectors in BR**

Requirement in para 6 of reporting guidelines to use CRF sectors; in CTF table 3, the sectors rather like in NC ; how should these requirements be reconciled?

■ **'Status' of PaMs / MAs**

Should measures with existing legal basis which need continuous future funding (e.g. multiannual subsidy programs) be regarded as implemented?

■ **Estimates of mitigation impacts**

Estimating the effect of individual PaMs / MAs in some cases is not feasible for methodological reasons; which grouping of PaMs / MAs should be deemed complete reporting?

■ **Modification of longer-term trends**

When assessing how policies modify longer-term trends, should Parties take into account policies with other objectives than GHG mitigation, in particular policies increasing GHG emissions?

