

Review: further definition of its scope and development of its modalities (Agenda item 4)

Informal note by the facilitator

Framing elements

- Recalling the ultimate objective of the Convention, contained in its Article 2,
- Recalling decisions 1/CP.16, in particular paragraph 4 of decision 1/CP.16, which recognized the need to consider strengthening the long-term global temperature goal of holding the increase in global average temperature below 2°C above pre-industrial levels on the basis of the best available scientific knowledge, including in relation to a global average temperature rise of 1.5°C, and that this will require:
 - Collection of data relating to observed and projected impacts of climate change, including impacts associated with warming of 1.5°C or 2°C;
 - Analysis of these impacts and an assessment of factors relevant to whether the observed current and projected impacts would constitute dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system,
- Noting further that any assessment of the adequacy of the long-term temperature goal must be underpinned by robust science and that the scientific integrity of the Review will determine its success,
- Recalling decisions 2/CP.17, paragraphs 157-167, in particular paragraphs 160 and 162, which specify the considerations and inputs to be taken into account during the first review from 2013 to 2015,
- Reaffirming that the review is not a review of the Convention itself and that it aims at assessing the implementation of commitments under the Convention,
- Reaffirming that the review can only be understood in the context of such a review leading to the achievement of the objectives of the Convention under Article 2, with a view to identifying gaps to achieving the ultimate objective of the Convention and enabling the full, effective and sustained implementation of the Convention,
- Reaffirming that the review shall be guided by the principles of the Convention, especially the principles of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, and shall be conducted in accordance with the relevant provisions of the UNFCCC, especially Articles 4.1, 4.2(b), 4.2(d), 4.3, 4.5, 4.7, 4.8, 7.2 (e), 10.2(a), 10.2(b), 12.1, 12.2 of the Convention,

Further definition of the scope of the review

- *Option 1:* Reaffirming that the review [should][must] periodically assess the adequacy of the long-term global goal, in the light of the ultimate objective of the Convention, and overall progress towards achieving it, in accordance with the relevant principles and provisions of the Convention;

- Option 2:
 - Decides that the review should assess:
 - The adequacy of the long-term global goal, in the light of the ultimate objective of the Convention, and the overall progress made towards achieving it, in accordance with the relevant principles and provisions of the Convention;
 - The adequacy of the implementation of the commitments under the Convention, in particular the adequacy and effectiveness of the binding and ambitious emission reduction commitments of Parties included in Annex I to the Convention, and the commitments of Parties included in Annex II to the Convention for the provision of financial resources and the transfer of technology and capacity-building to developing countries, given that the extent of adaptation costs is contingent on meeting the necessary emission reduction commitments;
 - The adverse social and economic impacts on developing country Parties.
- [*Second review: For the second review consider further defining the scope;*]¹

Further definition of the expert consideration of inputs

- Information gathering and compilation phase
 - Length of the phase is continuous throughout the 1st review (2013-2015)
 - Decides that the information gathering and compilation phase referred to in paragraph 164 of decision 2/CP.17 shall be undertaken continuously during the period from the start of the review in 2013 to not later than six (6) months before the conclusion of the review in 2015
 - Requests the subsidiary bodies, beginning in 2013 until the end of 2014, to gather and compile information relevant for conducting the Review, including the sources listed in paragraph 161 of decision 2/CP.17;
 - Also requests the subsidiary bodies to identify information gaps and, where necessary, make requests for the preparation of additional inputs and studies that would be useful for conducting the Review.
 - Sources of information as determined in 2/CP.17, para 161
 - Requests the subsidiary bodies to make full and updated compilations of “information from various sources” available to the review expert group at regular intervals, beginning in late 2013 [in order to inform the initial work of the review expert group in early 2014]².
- Technical assessment and preparation of synthesis reports phase
 - Option 1: Decides to establish a review expert group to provide technical support to the Review in its technical assessment and preparation of synthesis reports phase, and requests the review expert group to:

¹ This bullet is relevant for option 1 under the heading Further definition of the scope of the review.

² This bracketed text is relevant for option 1 under the heading Technical assessment and preparation of synthesis reports phase.

- Commence its substantive work no later than early 2014, noting that by April 2014, all of the IPCC Working Group Reports will be publicly available;
- Meet as many times as necessary, including intersessionally, in order to complete its work and make its assessment/synthesis reports available for consideration by the ADP in early 2015 in order to inform final negotiations on a new Protocol under the Convention;
- Requests the Secretariat to organize the meetings of the review expert group, to support its work, and to disseminate its work product, as required.
- *Option 2a*: Decides to establish a joint SBSTA/SBI contact group to facilitate the assistance from the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI), as referred to in paragraph 162 of Decision 2/CP.17;
- *Option 2b*: A joint contact group of the SBSTA and SBI, supported by workshops and other in-session activities, as appropriate, organized under these subsidiary bodies, upon agreement and supervision by Parties, during the session or back to back with sessions.
- Other guidance to the expert consideration of inputs:
 - Decides that the review shall be conducted transparently and with the full participation of the Parties, which shall be ensured through the provision of adequate funding support from the UNFCCC Secretariat's budget for the participation and representation of all developing country Parties in all phases of the review and in all activities, meetings, workshops, and sessions of the SBI and SBSTA that are part of the review process.
 - Effectiveness and efficiency of the Review:
 - Preparations for the review should be conducted in an effective and efficient manner in order to avoid duplication of on-going work. Therefore, the Conference of the Parties and the Subsidiary Bodies may wish to take into account the results of work conducted under the Convention, its Kyoto Protocol and its Subsidiary Bodies in preparing for the review.
 - Adequate consideration of inputs:
 - SBSTA and SBI Chairs should organise the work of the review in a flexible and appropriate manner in line with decision 2/CP.17, allowing for an adequate and timely consideration of the inputs as they become available.

Other elements

- Ensuring prompt start and timely finalization of the review:
 - The first review should start in 2013 and should be concluded in 2015, when the Conference of the Parties shall take appropriate action based on the review.
 - Requests SBSTA and SBI chairs with the support of the secretariat to take the necessary steps in 2013 for SBSTA and SBI to start the consideration of inputs without delay at their thirty-eighth session.