

WORK OF THE AWG-LCA CONTACT GROUP

Agenda item 3.2.2

Nationally appropriate mitigation actions by developing country Parties

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Possible elements of modalities and procedures for international consultation and analysis

Non-paper by the co-facilitators

I. Objectives

1. The objectives of the international consultation and analysis (ICA) of the biennial [update] reports are as follows:
 - (a) To facilitate the capacity-building efforts in developing country Parties;
 - (b) To increase the transparency of [domestically funded] nationally appropriate mitigation actions of developing country Parties [and their effects];
 - (c) To make information on emissions make available to Parties;
 - (d) To assist developing country Parties in overcoming difficulties in developing, implementing, reporting and verifying NAMAs through the sharing of best practices; and
 - (e) [To facilitate the information required by the Conference of the Parties to assess the implementation of the Convention];
 - (f) To assist Parties in addressing technical difficulties faced in preparation of the reports.

II. Principles

2. The principles that provide the basis for the ICA are as follows:
 - (a) Be non-intrusive, non-punitive, non-confrontational and respectful of national sovereignty;
 - (b) Be a facilitative and cooperative process based on interactive dialogue;
 - (c) Fully involve the Party concerned;
 - (d) Take into account the wider economic and development needs of the Party concerned, as well as its national circumstances;
 - (e) [Ensure][Promote] universal participation with flexibilities for Small Island Developing States and Least Developed Countries;
 - (f) Not be overly burdensome on the Party concerned in terms of time, human and financial resources;

(g) Discussions regarding the appropriateness of domestic policies and measures do not form part of the ICA process;

(h) ICA will not be more onerous than international assessment and review process for developed country Parties; and

(i) ICA will not impose new commitments on developing country Parties.

III. Process and scope

1. Process

Option 1

3. The ICA process will consist of the following two steps and will be completed within a fixed timeframe:

(a) A technical analysis of biennial update reports by a team of technical experts;

Or

(a) *bis* A technical analysis of biennial update reports through written questions and answers between the Party concerned and other Parties, facilitated by the secretariat. The technical analysis process will consist of questions posed in writing, by other Parties, on the biennial update reports to which the Party concerned will reply in writing. Subsequently, the secretariat will compile a synthesis of this exchange between Parties. This synthesis report would become a part of the SBI agenda, enabling international consultations.

(b) International consultations on biennial update reports and expert analysis reports under the Subsidiary Body for Implementation.

2. Scope

4. ICA will be based on the biennial update reports of developing country Parties that coincide with national communications of Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention submitted every four years.

A. Technical analysis

1. Objectives

5. The objectives of the technical analysis are the following:

(a) To determine whether the information required has been submitted;

(b) To determine whether a Party's actions are implemented [and effective] in achieving their objective;

(c) To understand methodologies used and assumptions made; and

(d) To identify difficulties faced by the Party concerned with respect to development, implementation, reporting and verification of nationally appropriate mitigation actions and upon request provide recommendations where possible.

2. Inputs

6. The technical analysis of biennial update reports will focus on:

(a) Greenhouse gas inventories and inventory reports ;

(b) Information on mitigation actions, their effects and associated methodologies and assumptions;

(c) Status of implementation of mitigation actions;

(d) [Any new information on the Party's] domestic measurement reporting and verification system; and

(e) Information on support received.

3. Process

7. At the commencement of an ICA cycle for each developing country Party, the secretariat will assemble a technical experts team of five to eight members, drawing from Party-nominated experts, balanced as to expertise and developed/developing country Party participation. The members of the expert team would serve in their personal capacity.

Option to paragraph 7 above:

A single pool of 50 experts will be constituted for completing both ICA and IAR processes, balancing representation from developed and developing countries and to be hosted by the UNFCCC secretariat.

8. The team will be supported by the secretariat staff.

9. The team will be led by two experts, one from a developing Party and the other from a developed country Party.

10. Two to three experts will focus on the analysis of national GHG inventories.

11. The technical analysis of the biennial [update] reports by technical experts will take place in consultation with the Party concerned, in a manner that contributes to capacity building.

12. [Experts will be authorized to meet directly with Party representatives, request additional documentation or information from the Party and conduct in-country visits, as necessary].

13. The country concerned could respond to the questions or suggestions of the expert team. [The expert team may also solicit information from other Parties or stakeholders if no national reporting were submitted].

4. Output

14. The output of the technical analysis by the technical experts team will be an analysis report. Prior to finalizing the report, the draft analysis report prepared by the expert team will be shared with the Party concerned for review and comment with the aim of resolving any difference of opinion between the expert teams and the Party on the report. The final analysis report, incorporating comments from the Party, should be made available at least two, and preferably four, weeks before the next session of the COP.

B. International consultations

1. Objective

15. The objective of the international consultations is as follows:

(a) To promote transparency of developing country mitigation actions [and GHG emissions] through a facilitative consultation process and to build the capacity of developing country Parties.

2. Inputs

16. The inputs for the international consultations process are the following:

(a) Expert analysis reports referred to in paragraph 14 above [synthesis report];

(b) Biennial [update] reports.

3. Process

17. Following completion of the expert analysis report, a working group established by the SBI, open to all Parties will be convened to conduct international consultations which will consist of the following:

(a) One to three hours session of consultations, which will consist of a brief presentation by the Party concerned, followed by an oral question and answer session between [regional group representatives][Parties] and the Party concerned. Other Parties could participate as observers;

(b) During the two-week period following the consultation process, any Party may submit in writing follow-up questions to the Party concerned within a specified time period, for example two weeks, through the secretariat, to be answered by the Party concerned shortly thereafter, through the secretariat for example within a period of time (for example within two months).

(c) Parties with commonalities and anticipating limited questions in connection to their reports may request to combine into a single session in a joint consultation process.

4. Outputs

18. A summary report, prepared by the secretariat, would be issued to include the following:

(a) A technical expert analysis report referred to in paragraph 14 and 16 (a);

(b) [An objective record of the oral consultations];

(c) [The questions submitted by Parties and their answers, and any observations that the Party concerned wishes to include, which are submitted within two months of the consultations].

(d) Encourages non-Annex I Parties to make use of international consultation and analysis to promote continuous learning and improvements of their mitigation actions.

Option 2

The ICA process will consist of the following two steps:

(a) Consultation on the biennial [update] reports between the team of technical experts and the Party concerned to facilitate provision of capacity-building support; and

(b) Technical analysis of the biennial [update] reports by the team of technical experts..

This process will result in a technical summary report.

OR

Option 2 bis The ICA process will consist of the following two steps:

(a) The SBI will appoint a team of experts . These experts will consult with the Party concerned on the basis of its biennial [update] report.

(b) The experts will prepare a summary report to be presented to the SBI for technical analysis and for possible conclusions.

C. Outcome of international consultations and analysis

19. The summary report would be presented to the SBI which would in turn provide advice and recommendations to the Party concerned.. In response to the recommendations of the SBI, [the Party concerned should submit follow-up reports within a certain period of time].

Option to paragraph 19 above:

The summary report will be noted by the SBI in its conclusions.

D. Frequency and flexibility¹

20. In order to have an efficient, cost-effective and practical system which does not pose excessive burdens on Parties, the secretariat [and other stakeholders], criterion to provide flexibility for participation in the ICA process are needed.

21. It would be important to prioritize the ICA process for all developing country Parties that submit biennial [update] reports in the first round of reporting. However, in order to avoid the process becoming unmanageable, in subsequent rounds of biennial [update] reporting, frequency of the ICA process could be differentiated based on the frequency of submission of biennial [update] reports, which could be based on a Party's [share of global GHG emissions][strong progress in implementation of mitigation actions or recently updated biennial report] and their capabilities.

[Option to paragraphs 21 above]

[Another option could be to select a representative sample of developing countries to undergo ICA on a rotational basis].

¹ The following section will need to be further developed taking into account the following considerations.