

Elements Paper on Biennial Reports for Durban Outcome

The Bali Action Plan initiated discussions on developing a more transparent MRV process to enhance understanding of global GHG emissions and the mitigation targets and actions Parties have committed to implement. To demonstrate a shared commitment to these objectives, Paragraphs 46 and 66 of the Cancun agreement set out a work program to implement more frequent and robust reporting as well as processes for international assessment and review (IAR) and international consultations and analysis (ICA).

Biennial reports should be succinct and focused updates of national communications and include information on current emissions, mitigation targets and/or actions and provision and receipt of support. The reports should be short and streamlined, generally in the range of 10-15 pages, and wherever possible include tabular information.

In order to ensure the 2013/2015 Review of our long term objective is effective, we will need information on the majority of emissions and the status of implementation of the most significant mitigation targets and actions. While developed countries will take the lead, all countries with significant emissions or mitigation targets/actions should submit biennial reports to inform the 2013/2015 Review. A first round of biennial reports from all Annex I Parties and from those non-Annex I Parties with greater capability and/or contribution to global emissions will be an essential part of informing the 2013/2015 Review.

We recognize that many developing countries, particularly LDCs and SIDS, face challenges with respect to reporting, and would therefore not expect them to submit in the first round of biennial reporting. The timing, quality and completeness, of reports will vary according to each country's capability, as agreed in Paragraph 60(c) of the Cancun Agreements.

COP 17 in Durban, South Africa offers a critical milestone. To keep on track we must leave Durban with clear agreement on 1) the guidelines for the first biennial reports and the date they will be submitted and; 2) a specific process for elaborating further guidelines. Such an agreement would provide Parties with the necessary certainty to initiate their first biennial reports as we work to perfect the guidelines over time.

Biennial Report Guideline Elements

Annex I

1. **National GHG Inventory** - summary tables and summary information on national inventory arrangements (in addition to full annual inventory submitted separately)
2. **Mitigation target and actions**
 - a) Description of target and updated information on any major policies and measures used in implementation, including:
 - Description
 - Coverage (sectors, sinks, gases, etc...)
 - Base year
 - LULUCF approach
 - Information on the use of international or domestic emission reduction credits (e.g. offsets) or allowances, as well as information on rules/documentation/verification of such units.
 - b) Progress in emission reductions and implementation of major policies and measures, including, where possible, supplementary information on emission reductions/removals achieved;
3. **Projections** – Updated summaries of projections with and without actions and with optional additional measures, including any updates from full national communications;

4. **Information on support provided**, including:

- By recipient country;
- By thematic area and sector;
- By channel, including operating entities of the financial mechanism and other bilateral, regional and multilateral channels; and
- If available, on private sector financial flows leveraged by public finance and catalyzed through public policies; and
- Explanation of methodologies and assumptions used to calculate the figures provided.

Non-Annex I

1. **National GHG Inventory**

Guidelines for the first biennial report:

- For the year [2010] [X-2] [X-3]
- Continue using UNFCCC NAI Greenhouse Gas Inventory Software (based on 1996 IPCC Guidelines and 2000 Good Practice Guidance and 2003 Good Practice Guidance for LULUCF) to calculate and report GHG emissions and removals, and report key category analysis
 - Parties are encouraged to report six gases
 - Parties are encouraged to use higher tier methods for key categories
 - Parties are encouraged to use 2006 IPCC Guidelines
- Should provide all sector spreadsheets and summary tables (Dec. 17/CP. 8)
- National inventory report to include information on the compilation of the inventory, including, inter alia, a summary of institutions, data sources and methods.

In Durban, Parties should agree on the process, content and guidelines for subsequent biennial reports and other related reporting.

2. **Mitigation actions** - for each listed action or suite of actions (both supported and unsupported):

- Description:, including information on the nature of the action, base year, coverage (sectors, sinks, gases, etc...), quantitative goals and progress indicators;
- Information on the progress of implementation, and the results so far:
 - Estimated outcomes (metrics depending on type of action);
 - Estimated emission reductions, to the extent possible; and
 - Information on methodologies and assumptions (specific to the mitigation action, including where relevant, methods for determining BAU, or other metrics).
- Information on the use of international or domestic emission reduction credits (e.g. offsets) or allowances as well as information on any rules/documentation/verification of such units.

3. **Domestic MRV** - description of system of domestic MRV, with any updates from previous reports.

4. **Support received**: For mitigation actions funded by international finance (e.g. the GEF, Green Climate Fund, multilateral or regional institutions or programs, or developed country parties) technology, and capacity building support received for such actions, the proportion of costs from various sources of funding, the mitigation and/or other results achieved, and, as appropriate, relationship to the needs identified in the Party's low-carbon development strategies.