


An Overview of Parties' Submissions on the Review Guidelines for GHG Inventories

2nd Technical workshop on the review guidelines of BR and NC, including National Inventory Reviews
8-10 April 2014, Bonn

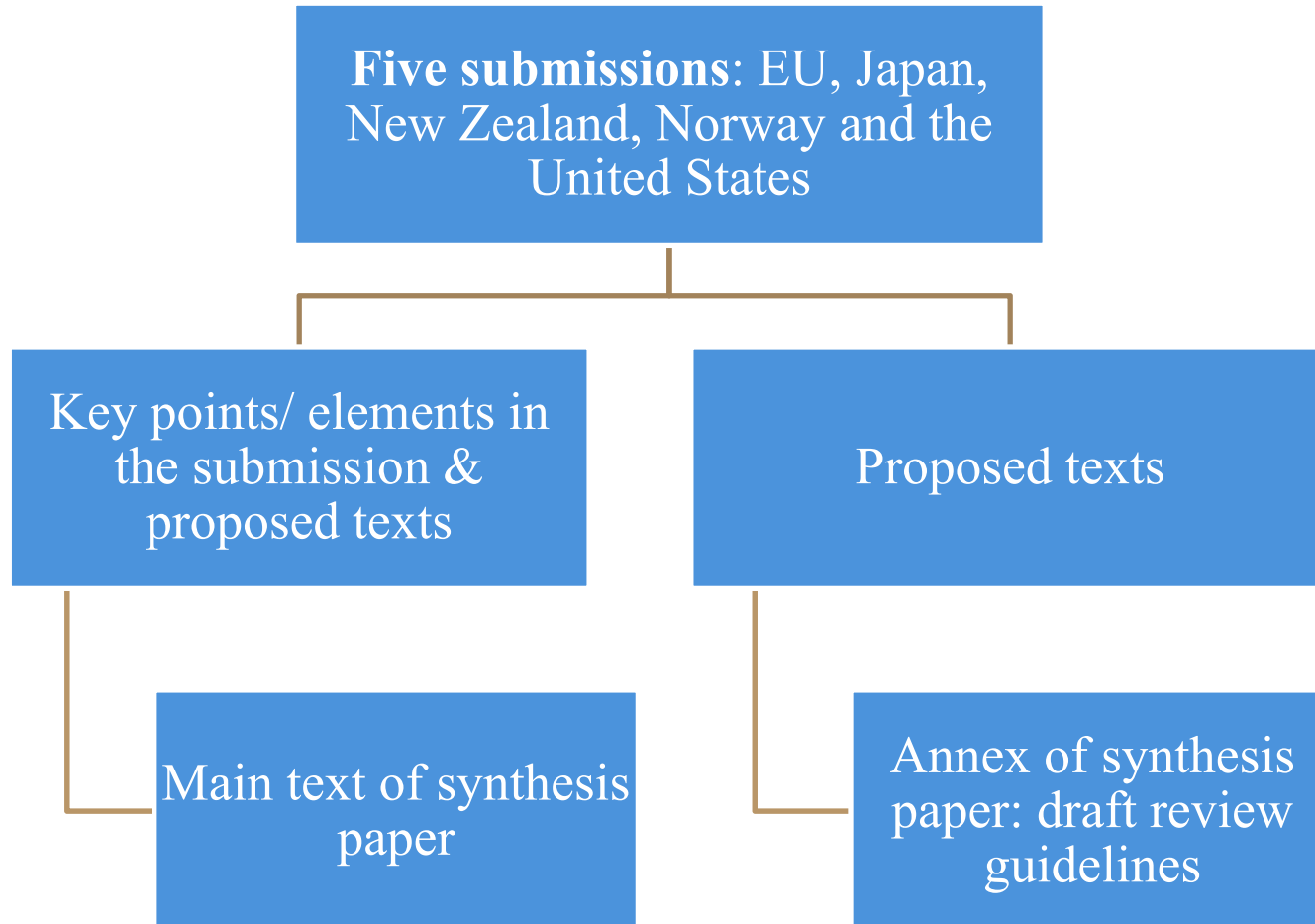


Outline of presentation

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1. Overview of submissions
 2. Guiding principles
 3. Structure and outline
 4. Key elements of draft revised review guidelines
 5. Summary of submissions



Overview of submissions



Guiding Principles

- a) **Implement revised Annex I reporting guidelines**
- b) **Enhance the cost-effectiveness and efficiency of reviews**
 - Process could be streamlined without compromising quality
 - “At some point in time most or all Parties will have achieved a level of accuracy consistent with IPCC Guidelines”
 - Limit duplication in review process of BR, NC, inventories
- c) **Focus on important issues** (e.g. significance threshold)
- d) **Promote consistency** (reflect QA/QC, clarify when an inventory is “good enough”, use lead reviewer meeting)
- e) **Improve timeliness of reviews**
 - Strictly adhere to timing and page limits.
 - Review entire process.



Structure and outline of the review guidelines for GHG inventories

- **Proposals broadly followed outline of decision 19/CP.8**
 - a) Three Parties also included a section on “identification of issues”
 - b) Some considered annex to decision 22/CMP.1 as a good basis for drafting review guidelines for national inventory arrangements
- One Party noted that the revised **guidelines should be based on the provisions of the Convention** itself, informed by experience of Parties, ERT members and the secretariat.
- One Party noted that review guidelines under Kyoto Protocol are also under discussion and that deliberations **should consider both processes** to increase efficiency and functionality of the review process.



Key elements: 1. Purpose

- **Parties submitting views generally in agreement**
 - a) Ensure COP has adequate and reliable information;
 - b) Provide an objective, consistent, transparent, thorough and comprehensive assessment of quantitative and qualitative information;
 - c) Compare reported information with the requirements of the UNFCCC reporting guidelines
 - d) Assist Parties in improving their GHG inventories



Key elements: Frequency and stages of the review process

Current approach: 3 stages

Initial check, S&A (I, II), individual inventory review

Option 1

Annual review of individual inventory, same stages (2)

Option 2

Individual review on annual basis, streamlined stages and modified structure:

1. Stages 1 and 2 combined into single series of std. checks
2. Annual review alternates between desk review and centralized review

Option 3

Individual review on biennial basis, same stages

- One Party suggested to divide Parties in half, each half reviewed in a given year
- One Party suggested individual review should happen in year when there is not review of BR.

ERT may request more in-depth review in next year.



Key elements: Structure: desk, centralized, in-country?

Current approach:

In country every five years; remaining almost exclusively centralized reviews

Option 1

No desk reviews: only centralized and in-country:

In – country every 8 years.

Option 2

Same operational approach; desk as contingency

Proposed in context of both annual and biennial reviews

Option 3

Same operational approach; greater reliance on desk reviews:

1. Annual reviews alternate between desk and centralized
2. If after three years, no significant issues move to all desk reviews (with periodic in-country)



Key elements: Number of Inventories to be reviewed

Current approach:

Dec 19/CP.8: CR- up to eight GHG inventories, DR- up to five

In practice: CR 4, DR: rare

Desk

Where DR is more of a contingency: 2-5 Parties/review

Where annual reviews alternate b/w DR/CR: 8 Parties

Centralized

4-5 Parties

Encouragement for Parties to consider other formats; e.g. larger number of sectoral experts and more targeted focus, allowing for larger number of Parties to be reviewed.



Key elements: Scope of the review

- **Broadly, Parties reaffirmed that the current checks and assessments carried out are appropriate**
 - a) Greatest difference was whether there should be one or two steps for standardized check's
- **Proposals to remove the following from initial check/S&A**
 - a) Reporting of HFCs, PFCs, and SF6 by individual chemical species; ratio of actual to potential
 - b) Whether all emissions are reported without adjustments relating, for example, to climate variations or trade of electricity;
 - c) Whether emissions from fuel used in international transportation are reported separately from national totals;
 - d) Whether tables on uncertainties presented.
 - e) Application of documentation on national self verification procedures



Key elements: Scope of the review (2)

❖ Proposals regarding scope of individual review

- Add check to examine national inventory arrangements;
- Add check to compare the AD of the Party with external authoritative sources;
- Refocus current check on recalculations to focus on recalculations that exceed 2 per cent for individual categories and 0.5 per cent of national total emissions

❖ Formalize additional procedures currently undertaken

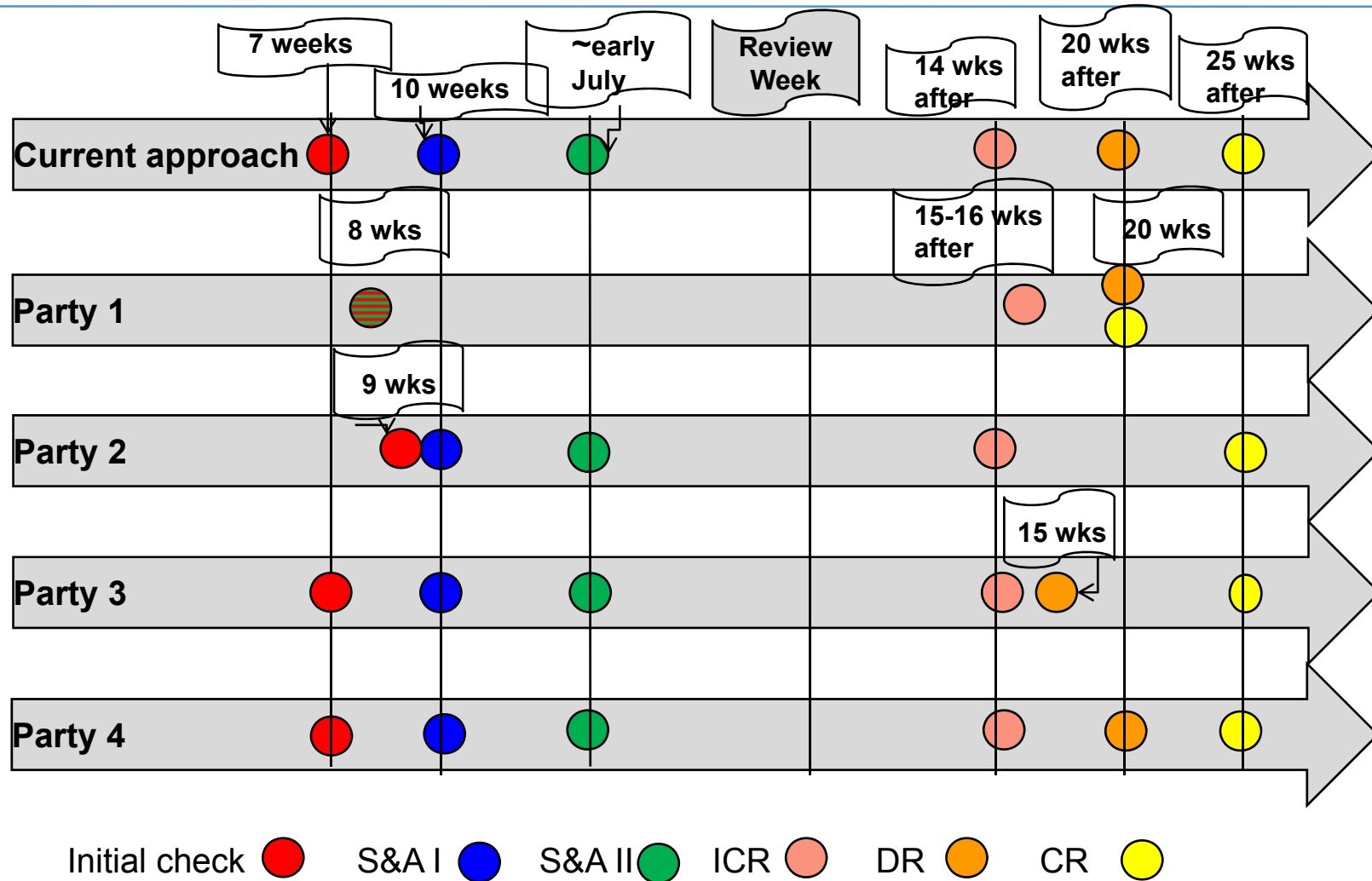
- ❖ Sending preliminary questions to the Party two weeks before review
- ❖ Provide early feedback to Parties
- ❖ Reflect QA/QC procedures and tools

❖ Introduce elements of KP review

- ❖ ERT identifies significant potential problems related to mandatory requirements
- ❖ Allow Party to respond with clarifications, corrections, or explanations
- ❖ If no response provided, include quantitative assessment in annual report.



Key Elements: Timing of the review



Key Elements: Focus of the review

- Current approach (dec. 19/CP.8) no distinction between key/non key categories
- **General agreement** that reviews should focus on key or significant categories.
- **Additional suggestions:**
 - a) Focus on most recent year submitted, recalculations and recent methodological changes;
 - b) Categorize issues as transparency, completeness, comparability, consistency, and adherence to UNFCCC reporting guidelines
 - c) Linking assessment of “completeness” with significance threshold
 - d) Focus of the review dependent on type (desk versus centralized)



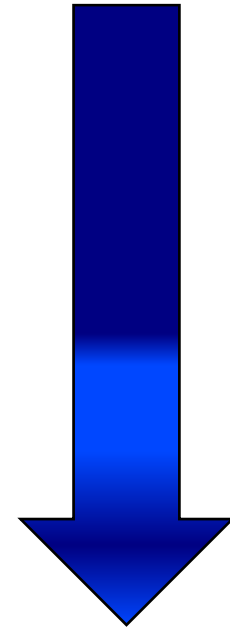
Key Elements: Contents of Report

General agreement that ARRAs should be made more concise through the use of tables and checklists

**# of Parties
recommending**

Additional recommendations:

- Provide clear means of conveying which issues are of high priority
- Classify problems and highlight improvements in terms of TACCC;
- Provide references to the relevant provisions in the 2006 IPCC Guidelines or the UNFCCC reporting guidelines when potential problems are raised;
- Include an evaluation of the overall organization of the national inventory arrangements
- Avoid duplicating information already publicly available



Key Elements: Length of ARR

Dec 19/CP.8	Desk	Centralized	ICR
Dec 19/CP.8	10	10	25-30
Proposals	8	15-20	20-30
Current Practice	40-50	40-50	40-50 (a bit higher than CR)



Other: Roles of LRs, ERTs, Tools

- Roles and responsibilities are covered in general approach to decision 23/CP.19
 - Develop tools to make results of initial checks searchable on web (not PDF), to track responses, to communicate findings / exchanges with Party. Use online conference tools.
 - Several Parties included additional discussions on LRs and ERTs
 - Additional suggestions:
 - a) Refine role of annual LR meeting (interpret IPCC guidelines, review standardized checks, consider review tools and templates, discuss alternative compositions for ERTs).
 - b) Improve documentation of LR meeting (e.g. electronic tools)
 - c) Consider different compositions of ERTs, or sectoral teams.
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THANK YOU!



Overview of Key Elements

	<i>European Union</i>	<i>Japan</i>	<i>New Zealand</i>	<i>Norway</i>	<i>United States of America</i>
Number of stages in the review process	2 (standardized checks and individual review)	3 (initial check, S&A, individual review)	3 (initial check, S&A, individual review)	3 (initial check, S&A, individual review)	3 (initial check, S&A, individual review)
Frequency of individual review	Annual, but more streamlined every other year	Annual	Annual	Biennial for third stage of individual review	Biennial for third stage of individual review
Format of reviews	Alternate annually between DR and CR, periodic ICR	CR or ICR	DR, CR, ICR	Current distribution between CR and ICR	CR and ICR; DR remains as a contingency option
Frequency of in-country review	Every 8 years	Every 8 years	Every 5 years	Every 5 years	Every 4 years
Number of inventories reviewed, by type	DR: 8 CR: 4 (note: explore other compositions; more Parties)	Not indicated	DR: 5 CR: 4	Not indicated	DR: 2 CR: 5
Timing for completion of reports after review week	DR: 20 weeks CR: 20 weeks (21 with potential problems) ICR: 15 weeks (16 with potential problem)	DR: N/A CR: 25 weeks ICR: 14 weeks	DR: 15 weeks CR: 25 weeks ICR: 14 weeks	Not indicated	DR: 20 weeks CR: 25 weeks ICR: 14 weeks
Maximum length of report	DR: 8 CR: 25 pages ICR: 30 pages	DR: N/A CR: 15 pages ICR: 20 pages	DR: not indicated CR: 15 pages ICR: 25–30 pages	Not indicated	DR: 15 pages CR: 15 pages ICR: 25–30 pages

