Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017

Questions and Answers, 10 May 2017

Q1. Paris Rulebook: Provide an overview of how the secretariat supports the development of the Paris Rulebook across the different programmes and objectives of these programmes, where relevant.

The term rulebook has been used in communications and in the budget document as a reference to the tasks that need to be completed as part of the work programme resulting from the relevant request contained in decision 1/CP.21, and later reiterated through decision 1/CMP.1. These tasks were assigned to different bodies including APA, SBSTA and SBI and the results are to be used to support or enable the operationalization of the Paris Agreement. In supporting the work of these bodies and Parties, the secretariat has distributed the secretariat supports to the work of these bodies to different programmes in accordance with their functions and competencies.

The overall coordination of this work is provided through the combination of the following managerial measures:

(a)   The overall coordination at the level of the UNFCCC management team, whereby all programmes at the level of their Directors under the leadership of the ES coordinate their support strategies/approaches, following the decisions from Parties and the related guidance from the UNFCCC Executive Secretary;

(b)   The coordination of support at the level of the UNFCCC negotiating bodies (SBI, SBSTA, APA, COP, CMA) is implemented by the Coordinators of these bodies, whose approaches/actions are guided by the Director for the Intergovernmental Affairs, assisted through the operation of an internal cross-body coordination committee (the IPC - Intergovernmental Planning Committee); the coordination effort covers, as appropriate, linkages across the negotiating bodies and the relevant work of the constituted bodies;

(c)   The work on the specific negotiation items is led by appointed "lead officers" who are nominated by the relevant UNFCCC programmes to lead those negotiations, based on their professional competence and experience. The lead officers are supported, as necessary, by other staff in their programmes or, for broader items (such as the global stocktake or the transparency framework under the APA), the item support team includes staff from other, non-leading UNFCCC programmes, to ensure the availability and quality of support for the relevant topical areas.

(d)   As part of negotiations support work, the UNFCCC staff supporting different PA rule book issues meet on an "as needed" basis to coordinate work and discuss/address linkages across different agenda items. This internal coordination effort underpins the UNFCCC support to the Presiding Officers of the SBI, SBSTA and APA in their efforts to ensure coherence in the progress of negotiations under these bodies.

These arrangements are illustrated in the diagrams below.

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Paris Agreement Work Programme: overview

APA	SBI	SBSTA
3. Further guidance relating to the mitigation part of NDCs: lead = MDA	Registry under Article 4.12 (NDCs): lead = MDA	Technology framework (Article 10.4): lead = FTC
4. Further guidance for the adaptation comms: lead = Adaptation	Registry under Article 7.12 (adaptation): lead = Adaptation	Guidance on cooperative approaches (Article 6.2): lead = SDM
5. MPGs for the transparency framework: lead = MDA	Scope and modalities for periodic assessment of Technology Mechanism: lead = FTC	Rules, modalities and procedures for mechanism (Article 6.4): lead = SDM
6. Inputs/modalities for the global stocktake: lead = Adaptation	Common time frames for NDCs (Article 4.10): lead tbd	Framework for non-market approaches (Article 6.8): lead = SDM
7. Rules for committee on implementation and compliance: lead = LA	Enhancing implementation of training, public awareness, public participation and access to information: lead tbd	Modalities for the accounting of financial resources (Article 9.7): lead = FTC
8-1. Adaptation Fund: lead = FTC		
8-2. Possible additional matters: lead = LA	Modalities, work programme and functions of the forum on the impact of the implementation of response measures: lead = MDA	

Specific arrangements undertaken by individual UNFCCC programmes are detailed below, for the FTC and MDA programmes. The support provided by the Adaptation programme (leading on 3 issues) and the SDM programme (leading on 3 issues) is organized similarly to the organizational setup detailed below for FTC and MDA.

Finance, Technology and Capacity Building Programme (FTC)

The overall purpose of the FTC programme is to facilitate the provision of support to developing country Parties, providing them with the means to enhance mitigation action and increase resilience to climate change. The programme focuses on achieving this by supporting: the implementation of the multilateral climate finance architecture; international cooperation on climate technology development and transfer; and the implementation of the capacity-building framework and workplan as specified in document FCCC/ SBI/2017/4/Add.1, paragraph 67. Currently, there are 7 tasks, out of which 5 are led by FTC and 2 are led by other programmes with substantive inputs from FTC. The tasks and the support provided include:

FTC led support

1. Elaboration of the technology framework established by Article 10 of the Paris Agreement (SBSTA)

   Supports provided by FTC include: support to the SBSTA Chair and co-facilitators of negotiation group by preparing briefing notes and background information and support Parties during negotiation, made a brief presentation at SBSTA44 regarding the evolution of technology development and transfer activities under the UNFCCC process, and preparation of an information note mapping climate technology development and transfer activities and initiatives under and outside the Convention relevant to the implementation of the Paris Agreement for SBSTA45 (FCCC/SBSTA/2016/INF.9).

2. Scope and modalities for the periodic assessments of the Technology Mechanism in relation to supporting the implementation of the Paris Agreement (SBI).

   Support provided by FTC include: support the SBI Chair and co-facilitators of negotiation group by preparing briefing notes outlining key strategic and technical issues including views submitted from Parties and observer organizations as background information for them to guide the work of the negotiation group, and preparation of a compilation and synthesis report of views submitted by Parties and observer organizations on this matter for SBI46 (FCCC/SBI/2017/INF.2).

3. Modalities for the accounting of financial resources provided and mobilized through public interventions in accordance with Article 9, paragraph 7, of the Paris Agreement (SBSTA)

   Support provided by FTC include: support the SBSTA Chair and co-facilitators of negotiating group, including preparation of briefing notes outlining key strategic and technical issues including views submitted by Parties and observer organizations as background information for them to guide the work of the negotiation group; preparation of technical papers (e.g. FCCC/TP/2017/1); and, organization of mandated workshops (e.g. in-session workshop organized in conjunction with SBSTA 45).

4. The process to identify the information to be provided by Parties in accordance with Article 9, paragraph 5, of the Paris Agreement (COP)

   Support provided by FTC include: support to co-chairs of the negotiating group, including preparation of briefing notes; organization of mandated events (e.g. Roundtable discussions in conjunction with SBs46); and, preparation of technical documentation (e.g. summary report of the Roundtable).

5. Matters relating to the adaptation fund serving the Paris Agreement (APA)

   Support provided by FTC include: support to APA co-chairs and co-facilitators, including preparing of briefing notes; preparatory work of the APA on the Adaptation Fund serving the Paris Agreement by conducting analysis of relevant governance and institutional arrangements in order to respond to inquiries by Parties and the APA Co-Chairs; and analysis of submissions from Parties to capture views on linkages to other areas to ensure that Parties views are taken into account when preparing any support to negotiations.

Other programmes led the support with substantive inputs from FTC

6. Modalities, procedures and guidelines for the transparency framework for action and support referred to in Article 13 of the Paris Agreement (work under the APA)

   While MDA leads overall support for negotiation and focuses its support on the development of the modalities, procedures and guideline transparency framework for action, FTC focuses its support in providing substantive inputs on the development of the modalities, procedures and guideline of the transparency of framework for support. This includes support to negotiations, preparation of chapters on transparency of support provided, mobilized and received in technical documents (e.g. FCCC/APA/2017/INF.2), as well as support in the organization of mandated workshops (e.g. APA Transparency workshop in March 2017). Additionally, the FTC facilitates access to relevant information to Parties, including through a one-stop-shop website dedicated to information on developments related to transparency of support: http://unfccc.int/8892.php

7. Matters relating to the global stocktake referred to in Article 14 of the Paris Agreement (work under the APA)

   The overall support is led by Adaptation with substantive support from FTC and MDA programmes. FTC focuses its support in providing substantive support on matters relating to means of implementation and support regarding finance, technology and capacity building in the context of the global stock under the APA.

Mitigation, Data and Analysis programme

MDA supports the intergovernmental process in relation to measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) and mitigation issues, including on reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries (REDD-plus), methodological issues relating to greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories, agriculture and other sectoral

approaches including emissions from aviation and maritime transport, and the impacts of response measures. Under the Paris Agreement, MDA leads the secretariat's support to Parties and the negotiation process in relation to NDCs, long-term low-emission development strategies, the transparency framework and response measures. The workplan of MDA for the biennium of 2018–2019 can be found in document FCCC/ SBI/2017/4/Add.1, see paragraphs 47–66. For the PA rule book, MDA leads for 4 tasks and provides support to other 3 tasks.

MDA led support
1. Further guidance in relation to the mitigation section of decision 1/CP.21. (APA)

Support provided by MDA includes: support to the APA Co-Chairs and co-facilitators of negotiation group by preparing briefing notes and background information, support to Parties during negotiations as required, compiling/summarizing the views provided by Parties in their submissions, and preparing a round table on this issue to take place on 6 May 2017.

2. Modalities, procedures and guidelines for the transparency framework for action and support referred to in Article 13 of the Paris Agreement (APA).

Support provided by MDA includes: support to the APA Co-Chairs and co-facilitators of negotiation group by preparing briefing notes and background information, support to Parties during negotiations as required, compiling/summarizing the views provided by Parties in their submissions, and preparing a workshop on this issue that took place on 16–18 March 2017, including the preparation, under the guidance of the APA Co-Chairs, of a workshop report.

3. Development of modalities and procedures for the operation and use of a public registry referred to in Article 4, paragraph 12, of the Paris Agreement (SBI)

Support provided by MDA includes: support to the SBI Chair and co-facilitators of negotiation group by preparing briefing notes and background information, support to Parties during negotiations as required, including provision of technical information and data on the operation and functionality of the interim NDC registry.
4. Impact of the implementation of response measures (SBI and SBSTA jointly), for all sub-items in the agendas of the SBI and SBSTA

Support provided by MDA include: support to the SBI Chair and co-facilitators of negotiation group by preparing briefing notes and background information, support to Parties during negotiations as required, including support to mandated events, support to the work of the ad hoc technical expert group, preparation of technical notes and documents as required.

Other programmes led the support with substantive inputs from MDA

5. Matters relating to the global stocktake referred to in Article 14 of the Paris Agreement (APA)

While Adaptation leads overall support for negotiation and coordinates Parties' deliberations on inputs and modalities of the global stocktake, MDA focuses its support on the mitigation-related aspects of the global stocktake, including the related data requirements. This includes support to negotiations, input to the preparation of briefing notes or other technical materials, and contribution to the compilation of Parties views on matters relating to the stocktake.

6. Modalities and procedures for the effective operation of the committee to facilitate implementation and promote compliance referred to in Article 15, paragraph 2, of the Paris Agreement (APA)

The overall support is led by LA with substantive support mostly from MDA.. LA focuses its support the overall coordination of the negotiations and on matters directly relating to the operation of the committee, whereas MDA provides feedback regarding the relevant linkages with the transparency framework and the relevant experience gained from the operation of the existing MRV framework.

Q2. Paris Rulebook: Provide an overview of how the secretariat supports the Sustainable Development Goals Agenda across the different programmes and objectives of these programmes, where relevant.

The secretariat engages in collaborative activities, initiatives and programmes with other international organizations including in support of the Sustainable Development Goals. A summary of the collaboration of the UNFCCC with other international organizations is in document SBSTA/2017/INF.2**.**

The secretariat supports various activities towards the implementation of the SDGs, with a specific focus on the implementation of goal 13 ("Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts"), and is also closely engaged in activities with relevant agencies on the achievement of goals 4, 5, 7 and 15. Examples thereof include:

> (a)   SBSTA 45 requested the secretariat, in the context of the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change (NWP), to explore opportunities to strengthen partnerships with regional centres and networks, local and municipal governments, the private sector, scientific organizations, academia, organizations representing indigenous and traditional communities, spiritual and religious groups, gender constituencies, youth organizations and the mass media, and the linkages with the SDGs, as appropriate.[1] To this end, among other planned activities, the secretariat will continue the NWP interview series, focusing on activities that NWP partners are undertaking towards the implementation of the SDGs;[2]

> (b)   As an active observer agency along with other United Nations organizations, the secretariat supports the work of the Inter-agency Expert Group on SDG Indicators[3] in the development of the global indicator framework for monitoring and reporting on progress made in the implementation of the SDGs. The secretariat is the custodian agency for various indicators under goal 13, and works in close collaboration with UNISDR, WMO, UNEP, OECD, the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, FAO, IEA, WHO and UNESCO regarding the provision of support to IEAG-SDGs, the preparation of workplans for the further development of indicators, and the provision of inputs to support the preparation of the Secretary-General's annual SDG reports.

Q3. Functions of the UNFCCC Secretariat: How will the secretariat ensure coordination and consistency of the support provided regarding its support of the work of three governing bodies, two permanent subsidiary bodies and the APA as well as an increased array of constituted bodies (cf. paragraph 140)?

In its effort to ensure coherent and coordinated support, the secretariat is guided by the imperative of ensuring real-world impact. The governing bodies and their subsidiaries as well as the targeted limited-membership bodies were established for a purpose and the support by the secretariat is driven by that purpose.

Coordination and coherence is promoted through a combination of strategic oversight, close alignment with the thrust of the substantive work programme and close cooperation among the staff assigned.

Internal coordination bodies such as the Intergovernmental Planning Committee and a network among the tems supporting the constituted bodies are examples of coherence tools.

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[1] FCCC/SBSTA/2016/4, paragraph 19.

[2] Further information and video clips can be found in the December 2016 NWP eUpdate, available at http://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NWP/News/Pages/SDG-video-.aspx.

[3] Further information on the Inter-agency Expert Group on SDG indicators is available at https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/iaeg-sdgs/.

The secretariat will in the first year of the biennium (2018) do its utmost to assist the Presidencies and the Chairs of the subsidiary bodies in delivering the complex and interlinked outcomes planned for that year. This will include support for joint effort among the Chairs to ensure coherence across bodies.

Q4. Functions of the UNFCCC Secretariat: What are the costs associated with the Professional-level liaison stationed at UN Headquarters (cf. paragraph 42)?

Cost items	Yearly cost in EUR	Cost for the biennium in EUR
Standard salary costs for one professional at the P-4 level	136,220	272,440
Increased post adjustment	32,400	64,800
Office operating expenses	15,000	30,000
Shipment cost and relocation grant (1 time)		24,300
Total		391,540

Q5. Functions of the UNFCCC Secretariat: Provide more information about the secretariat's function as custodian agency for SDG indicators (cf. paragraph 109)?

The UNFCCC secretariat is supporting the Inter-agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators (IAEG-SDGs) created by the United Nations Statistical Commission and UNDESA in the development of the global indicator framework for measurement and reporting on progress of the implementation of the SDGs.
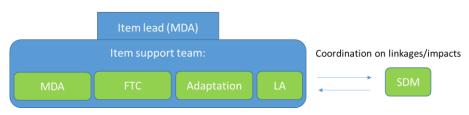
The UNFCCC secretariat is currently custodian agency, acting as facilitator of the work of all relevant agencies, for tier III indicators 13.2.1; 13.3.1; 13.3.2; 13.a.1 and 13.b.1. As custodian agency for these indicators, the UNFCCC secretariat, along with other relevant agencies, has been providing advice and contributing to the development of workplans as requested by the IAEG-SDGs, to support the development and eventual finalization of the indicators. All content provided by the UNFCCC secretariat in these workplans reflects progress made under the UNFCCC process, in consideration of the UNFCCC's unique acknowledgement in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Sustainable Development Goals, that the UNFCCC is the primary international, intergovernmental forum for negotiating the global response to climate change.

Q6. Functions of the UNFCCC Secretariat: How does the secretariat deal with the cross-cutting nature of transparency, especially under the new transparency framework of the Paris Agreement?

Support to "transparency" in general has two specific facets: support to the negotiations on the transparency framework under the Paris Agreement and support to the implementation of transparency-related arrangements.

For support to the negotiations on the transparency framework, the secretariat applies its usual approach to supporting broad negotiation items, by forming a support team drawing from relevant programmes, whereby one programme is assigned leading/coordinating role in the negotiations support (in this case, it is the MDA programme), and other programme providing substantiate and technical support by thematic area. For example, for the negotiations on the transparency framework the FTC programme supports the work relating to transparency of support provided, mobilized and received, and the Adaptation programme supports the work relating to the adaptation-related part of the information to be reported/reviewed. In addition to the day-to-day work of the transparency support team, discussions on linkages are conducted as needed, for example with the relevant staff of the SDM

programme on potential linkages with the implementation of cooperative approaches under the Paris Agreement. These arrangements implemented for the support of the negotiations on the transparency are illustrated in the figure below.

Organisation of UNFCCC support to negotiations on transparency

Item lead (MDA)

Item support team:

MDA   FTC   Adaptation   LA

Coordination on linkages/impacts

SDM

For support to the implementation of transparency-related arrangements, relevant in that respect is the work of the secretariat on the implementation of the MRV (measurement, reporting, and verification) framework. The implementation of MRV framework is led and carried out by the MDA programme, in particular with respect to the coordination of technical reviews or analysis of Parties' communications and reports, and to the organization of multilateral consideration of the outcomes of the MRV processes during SBI sessions. At the same time, in the preparation of mandated documentation, such as the compilation and synthesis reports for the national communications from Annex I Parties, staff from other UNFCCC programmes, Adaptation and FTC in particular, are engaged as part of the broad UNFCCC team preparing such documentation.

Support to the implementation of the transparency-related arrangements also includes facilitating technical assistance to developing countries to help them prepare their national communications and biennial update reports, supporting the establishment of sustainable institutional arrangements and national inventory systems and use of the IPCC 2006 GHG inventory guidelines, and also assisting these countries to participate in the international consultation and analysis process, including through building their capacities. .

Support is also provided to the implementation of the training programmes for technical review and analysis experts that not only ensures human and expert capacity for performing the ongoing MRV activities, but also helps experts to gain essential knowledge to engage in the transparency framework under the PA once the framework is launched.

Q7. Budget Programme 2018-2019 – general questions: Provide a list of planned activities (cf. paragraph 3).

Paragraph 3 of the work programme contained in FCCC/SBI/2017/4/Add.1 refers to performance indicators of activities. Performance indicators are provided together with programme objectives, expected results, baselines, targets, outputs and narratives that describe each programme and its strategies to achieve the objectives effectively and efficiently. Strategy narratives are provided for each programme objective and typically include key programme activities.

 As mandated, the work programme follows the results-based approach for budgeting. Pursuant to this approach comprehensive lists of activities are not presented.

Q8. Budget Programme 2018-2019 – general questions: Which other funding sources besides core budget are envisaged for each objectives of the different programmes?

Resource requirements per UNFCCC trust fund are specified in a dedicated table for each programme in the work programme document (FCCC/SBI/2017/4/Add.1). Most programmes require funding from

the core budget and from the Trust Fund for Supplementary Activities. Please refer to table 5 for the EDM programme as an example. Any non-core requirements for EDM are therefore covered from the Trust Fund for Supplementary Activities. Some programmes (also) require funding from other UNFCCC trust funds. Please refer to table 57 for the ICT programme as an example. The ICT programme requires funding from the core budget, the budget for the ITL, the Trust Fund for Supplementary Activities and the Bonn Fund.

Q9. Budget Programme 2018-2019 – general questions: Where can we find more information on the posts of the AS programme?

Information on the post requirements for the Administrative Services programme is provided in table 13 of the main budget document (FCCC/SBI/2017/4). Please also refer to the note under table 62 of the work programme document contained in FCCC/SBI/2017/4/Add.1.

Q10. Core and Supplementary Sources: Which mandated activities can only be fully implemented if the necessary supplementary resources are made available on time (cf. paragraph 2)?

Please refer to annex I of the main budget document (FCCC/SBI/2017/4) for projects to be funded under the Trust Fund for Supplementary Activities. Details of all projects, including major activities, are available on the UNFCCC website at: http://unfccc.int/files/secretariat/budget/funding_at_the_unfccc/application/pdf/2018.2019_supplementary_funding_requirements_based_on_proposed_core_budget.pdf.

Q11. Core and Supplementary Sources: How will the secretariat raise the amount of supplementary funding from sources other than Parties? Which sources does this include (cf. table 4)?

For the past five years, the secretariat has received financial contributions from private foundations such as the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Rockefeller Foundation and the Bloomberg Foundation, to support its communications efforts and outreach activities to non-Party stakeholders. Through its Momentum for Change initiative, the secretariat has also implemented public-private partnerships, which has generated limited financial contributions from private sector companies such as Ben & Jerry's, Microsoft and Philips Lighting.

The secretariat is currently piloting an initiative to secure partnerships in support of COP 23 (more information here: http://unfccc.int/secretariat/partnerships/items/10286.php). These potential partnerships are covered under a new, more comprehensive framework for partnering with the secretariat, including new guidelines for partnerships (more information here: http://unfccc.int/files/secretariat/partnerships/application/pdf/b_2017_1_unfccc_guidelines_for_partnership_final.pdf)

The secretariat aims to build upon these experiences to achieve its goal of raising USD 3 million as described in table 4 of the work programme of the secretariat for the biennium 2018-2019.