

Letter to Parties and Observers

Sharm El Sheikh, 16 November 2022, 7:30pm

Delegates, observers, colleagues and friends,

On Monday, 14 November, I outlined the three tracks of work for the second week of the Sharm El Sheikh Climate Change Conference:

1. **Continued technical negotiations** on items under the governing bodies and on the issues forwarded from the subsidiary bodies facilitated by teams of co-facilitators;
2. **Continued Presidency consultations**, including on the overarching cover decisions as well as on issues I raised during the opening plenaries of the COP, CMP and CMA; and
3. **Ministerial consultations**, which would focus on key, outstanding political issues.

In this update note, I would like to provide Parties and observers with an overview of progress made and plans for going forward to ensure a successful and timely outcome of the Sharm El Sheikh Climate Change Conference.

Ministerial consultations

In keeping with longstanding UNFCCC tradition, I invited pairs of Ministers to lead informal consultations on outstanding issues benefitting from political guidance, particularly those that the subsidiary bodies could not resolve. In choosing Ministers to undertake this important task, I have tried to ensure a balanced representation; not only among developed and developing countries but also gender balance.

I have asked:

- Ministers **Barbara Creecy from South Africa** and **Dan Jørgensen from Denmark** to facilitate consultations on the Mitigation Work Programme;
- Ministers **Aminath Shauna from the Maldives** and **Teresa Ribera from Spain** to facilitate consultations on the global goal on adaptation;
- Ministers **Bupendra Yadav from India** and **Chris Bowen from Australia** to facilitate consultations on issues relating to finance, in particular the new collective quantified goal on climate finance;
- Ministers **Grace Fu from Singapore** and **Espen Barth Eide from Norway** to facilitate matters on Article 6 of the Paris Agreement and other related mechanism issues; and finally

- Ministers **Maisa Rojas from Chile** and **State Minister Jennifer Morgan** from Germany to continue facilitating consultations with regards to financing for loss and damage.

The consultations by the Ministers are carried out through informal meetings to allow for maximum flexibility. The Ministers may wish to issue informal documents under their own authority, should they feel this will help progress our work. I have asked the designated ministerial co-facilitators to work towards rapidly progressing on texts that reflect consensus, underlining that the mode and pace of work must push work forward. I have asked all facilitation teams to keep me informed on progress on a daily basis, including updates on texts. I have asked the Ministers to **present the results of their consultations by Thursday evening**.

Presidency consultations

Presidency consultations have continued on a number of issues.

- The **cover decisions**, with texts being shared tonight.
- **Elections**: I would like to thank Vice President Anne for convening these consultations. I encourage groups to transmit the remaining nominations as soon as possible.
- **Proposal from Georgia on equitable geographical representation**: Parties considered this matter. There are diverging views and no consensus on a way forward could be reached.
- **On the special needs and special circumstances of Africa**, Parties continued their discussions, including considering submissions by Parties. A conclusion has not yet been reached.
- **Consultations on Article 2.1c, doubling adaptation finance, 1.5C and the seventh review of the financial mechanism** are ongoing, however Parties are yet to reach an agreement.
- Consultations on **dates and venues** are almost completed.

Consultations on: **Rules of procedure and decision-making in the UNFCCC and the Report on the high-level ministerial round table on increased ambition of Kyoto Protocol** commitments have concluded.

Technical negotiations

Parties have been making good progress continuing technical work on the issues on the agendas of the governing bodies as well as on those issues forwarded to the Presidency from the subsidiary bodies.

Negotiations have concluded on:

- The report of the Paris Agreement Implementation and Compliance Committee;
- The Kyoto Protocol Compliance Committee;
- Matters relating to the Santiago network under the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts;

- Matters relating to the Adaptation Fund and Report of the Adaptation Fund Board.

Outstanding issues include:

- On **mitigation**, technical work has advanced on the mitigation work programme and new text has been issued this morning for Ministers to consult on.
- On **adaptation**, work continues on the report and review of the Adaptation Committee, the global goal on adaptation (GGA), the national adaptation plans and matters related to LDCs with some issues being forwarded to Ministers.
- On **loss and damage**, Parties have agreed to defer consideration of the governance of the WIM to COP 28. Ministers are engaged on financing for loss and damage matters.
- On **finance**, Parties have been engaging on substance under all agenda items and have produced text on all issues. Parties will continue to advance on the technical work tomorrow. Ministers will provide political guidance on issues related to the new collective quantified goal on climate finance.
- On **mechanisms**, Parties are clearly advancing the work by prioritizing elements that are crucial for the full implementation of Article 6. Some of the elements prioritized will receive ministerial level guidance. Work also continues on matters relating to the CDM and JI.
- Parties have also been constructively engaging on the **Koronivia joint work on agriculture, response measures, gender and climate change as well as on the second periodic review of the long-term global goal under the Convention and of overall progress towards achieving it.**

I ask that **technical negotiations be concluded by mid-Thursday.**

I am committed to ensuring that we are able to adopt all decisions and conclusions on Friday 18 November. I expect only very few issues to remain open by the evening of Thursday 17 November. My priority for Friday 18 November is to bring the work together, including on the cover decisions, and resolve any final outstanding issues, leaving time for document preparation. I plan to hold another stocktaking plenary tomorrow evening, during which I will invite the Ministers to report on their consultations. I will also provide more details on the plans for Friday.

Over the past year and indeed in the course of the past ten days, we have all heard strong messages from science and from people at the frontlines, reminding us of the gravity of the situation, the cost of inaction, and of the need for urgent, impactful progress at these negotiations.

We have also heard strong messages calling for ambition in the outcomes, that translate to delivery in implementation at scale and at speed. Heads of State and Government also showed commitment and political will to change course and show more ambition.

It is now up to us all here to rise to the occasion and respond to the demands and calls from our communities around the world who will accept no less than meaningful outcomes at COP 27.

Time is not on our side, let us come together now and deliver by Friday.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S. Shoukry', with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

H.E. Mr. Sameh Shoukry
Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Arabic Republic of Egypt
COP 27 President