

Sixteenth Meeting of the SBSTA Research Dialogue

Note by the Chair of the SBSTA

25 May 2024

This note provides information on the mandated sixteenth meeting of the SBSTA research dialogue (RD16). The event will aim to provide an opportunity for participants to have a direct exchange with experts on the latest science and research and research needs, particularly for developing countries.

The meeting will take place on Tuesday 4 June 2024 from 14:00 to 16:00 (CEST), in room New York.

Further information relating to this event is available on the UNFCCC's website and will be updated regularly: <https://unfccc.int/event/sixteenth-meeting-of-the-research-dialogue>.

I. Introduction

1. The research dialogue¹ provides a forum between the scientific community, Parties and non-Party stakeholders to convey research findings and lessons learned and discuss needs for research and research capacity building, particularly those of developing countries, to support the implementation of the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement. Themes for each meeting of the dialogue are guided by submissions, as well as the mandates and ongoing work under the UNFCCC. Information on previous meetings of the research dialogue is available online.²
2. RD16 will inform the negotiations on research and systematic observation. I encourage Parties to use the information highlighted by this year's dialogue as well as information from other relevant events in that work.

II. Approach

1. Theme

3. The SBSTA invited Parties and relevant organizations to submit their views on possible themes for RD16 by 14 March 2024. 12 submissions were received from Parties and observers.³
4. Taking into account the submissions, ongoing activities under the Convention and the Paris Agreement, previous themes of the RD, this year's RD will focus on the development of new nationally determined contributions (NDCs), in particular how to transition to low-emission and resilient development reflecting the outcome of the first global stocktake (GST) and synergies and trade-offs with sustainable development.
5. I want to highlight related work programmes such as the New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance (NCQG),⁴ the UAE–Belém work programme,⁵ and the Just Transition work programme,⁶ where themes regarding finance, adaptation and just transition

¹ See decisions 9/CP.11 and 16/CP.17.

² See <https://unfccc.int/topics/science/events-meetings/research-dialogue>

³ See <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/submissionsstaging/Pages/Home.aspx> (search "research"). 12 submissions were received, 8 from Parties: Belgium on behalf of the EU and its member states, Brazil on behalf of Grupo SUR, Chile, Japan, Malawi on behalf of the LDCs, Samoa on behalf of AOSIS, United Kingdom and United States of America; and 4 from observers: Silver Lining, University of Exeter, WCRP and the Woodwell Climate Research Center.

⁴ <https://unfccc.int/NCQG>

⁵ <https://unfccc.int/topics/adaptation-and-resilience/workstreams/gga>

⁶ <https://unfccc.int/event/first-dialogue-under-the-united-arab-emirates-just-transition-work-programme-2024>

are considered and discussed in detail. Additionally, a workshop discussing the findings of AR6 on climate emission metrics was held at SBSTA 58.⁷

6. Findings of RD16 will inform the first GST annual dialogue that will take place on 6 and 7 June.⁸

2. Guiding questions

7. As per recent practice, I propose the following guiding questions for RD16:

1. What research findings, particularly at regional level, can inform the development of ambitious NDCs?
2. What are specific research needs, at global, regional and national level, and associated research capacity building needs, particularly for developing countries?

3. Agenda

8. The meeting will take place on Thursday 4 June 2024 from 14:00 to 16:00 (CEST)⁹, in the WCCB New York plenary. Following short presentations, Parties, research organizations and observers are invited to engage with experts and each other and to make interventions from the floor, including on their regional and/or national research as well as research needs.

Time	Session	Facilitator/presenter
14:00-14:10	Opening	Nathalie Flores Gonzales, SBSTA Vice-Chair
14:10-15:50	Development of new NDCs: transitioning to low-emission and resilient development <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Acting on the outcome of the global stocktake and aligning with 1.5 C pathways• Synergies and trade-offs with sustainable development	3 presentations (IPCC Chair, 2 additional ones) followed by plenary discussion
15:50-16:00	Closing	Nathalie Flores Gonzalez, SBSTA Vice-Chair

III. Next steps

9. Information on the dialogue including a detailed programme will be posted online at <https://unfccc.int/event/sixteenth-meeting-of-the-research-dialogue>.

10. I will prepare an informal summary report of RD16, which will be made available before the next session of the SBSTA (November 2024).

⁷ https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/sbsta2023_inf02.pdf

⁸ <https://unfccc.int/event/annual-global-stocktake-dialogue>

⁹ Note that SBSTA 60 features a record number of mandated events, including some that are one-off. Given time and space constraints, RD16 will only feature a 2h plenary session. It is envisioned that RD17 will feature more interactive elements such as a poster session or break-out groups.