

# **Informal coordination group for capacity-building under the Convention and the Paris Agreement (ICG)**

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## **Summary Report of the First Meeting**

**(held on 8 June 2021, 14:00-16:30 CET)**

### Meeting highlights:

- The first meeting of the informal coordination group for capacity-building under the Convention and the Paris Agreement (ICG) identified several avenues for coordination and collaboration:
  - The representative of the Standing Committee on Finance (SCF) suggested to explore the possibility of organizing a joint event with the PCCB, building on the SCF's needs determination report due to be available prior to COP26, and pointed to potential opportunities for coordination and collaboration in relation to the SCF Forum. The SCF representative also recalled the annual provision of draft guidance to the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism, in accordance with established process for Parties.
  - A representative of the Facilitative Working Group (FWG) of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform (LCIPP) highlighted that the outcomes of their training series, on building capacities to meaningfully engage with indigenous peoples and local knowledge, is potentially of relevance to all ICG members.
  - The representative from the Consultative Group of Experts (CGE) identified opportunities for coordination with the PCCB in their work related to needs assessments.
  - A representative from the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage (WIM ExCom) noted opportunities for collaboration and coordination through the work of the Expert Group on Action and Support of which the PCCB is a member.
  - ICG members decided that, going forward, a representative from the Enhanced Lima work programme on gender will be invited to the ICG.
  - The PCCB offered to assist all ICG members in the dissemination of capacity-building related activities and outcomes.

- ICG members will be consulted via a PCCB survey on their efforts to address capacity gaps and needs.
- ICG members stressed the importance of institutional capacity building, knowledge management and stakeholder engagement in the context of a discussion on PCCB recommendations on enhancing coherence and coordination of capacity-building to the Conference of the Parties (COP) and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA). The PCCB will share their draft recommendations with ICG members for further inputs in due course.

## **I. Background**

### *ICG establishment and objective*

The [2021-2024 workplan](#) of the PCCB sets out the establishment of the ICG. The workplan further stipulates regular coordination meetings of the ICG including on the margins of existing sessions.

The purpose of the ICG is to create a conducive space for representatives of constituted bodies, operating entities and relevant processes under the Convention and the Paris Agreement to coordinate climate change related capacity-building plans and activities, and allow for better sharing of information, coherence, and identification of opportunities.

### *ICG membership*

The ICG currently (as at June 2021) comprises 32 members from 14 constituted bodies, operating entities and relevant UNFCCC processes. The full list of members is available on the dedicated [ICG website](#).

### *First ICG meeting*

The first ICG meeting was held on Tuesday, 8 June 2021, 14:00–16:30 CET, on the margins of the 5<sup>th</sup> PCCB meeting. The meeting agenda can be found in Annex I. The meeting was co-moderated by Roberta Ianna (lead of PCCB working group 1) and Mahawan Karuniasa (member of PCCB working group 1).

Invited participants included the PCCB co-chairs, members of PCCB working group 1, and ICG members, including nominated representatives of the Adaptation Committee, Adaptation Fund Board (AFB) secretariat, CGE, Climate Technology Centre and Network, WIM ExCom, FWG, Global Environment Facility (GEF) secretariat, Green Climate Fund (GCF) secretariat, Katowice Committee of Experts on the Impacts of the Implementation of Response Measures (KCI), Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG), SCF, Technology Executive Committee, and representatives of the Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE) process.

The list of participants of the first ICG meeting is contained in Annex II of this report.

In preparation of the first ICG meeting, the PCCB prepared two documents.

- The first concerns an overview of references to the ICG and is meant to guide ICG members in understanding the mandate and the scope of work of the group.
- The second document concerns a forward-looking overview of capacity-building activities undertaken by constituted bodies, operating entities and relevant processes represented in the ICG. ICG members actively contributed to the development of this document.

These two documents, as well as other ICG related documents, are available on the dedicated [ICG webpage](#).

## **II. Meeting Summary**

### *Coordination efforts in the ICG*

Following welcoming remarks by the PCCB and a round of introductions, the ICG members turned to agenda item 2 which focused on coordination efforts to be undertaken by the ICG.

Members of the ICG agreed that the forward-looking overview of capacity-building activities and plans of bodies, entities and processes represented in the ICG serves as a very good basis for the group's coordination efforts. It was agreed that the document should be updated twice yearly ahead of each ICG meeting, to ensure that the entries contained in it remain up to date.

On a more substantive note, ICG members shared views on the definition of capacity-building activities, as it relates to the question of what activities should be taken up in the forward-looking overview and coordinated in the ICG.

While a number of members were concerned that too broad an approach may lead to an overload of activities being included and that the focus should be on making progress on activities which are specifically focused on capacity-building, most members were of the view that a broad definition is desirable at this stage, as it allows to capture a large set of activities that can potentially benefit coordination and gives justice to the fact that capacity-building is often integrated into activities that also have other objectives.

After these initial exchanges, members turned to opportunities for coordination and collaboration.

The participating ICG member from the SCF highlighted the SCF's first report on the determination of the needs of developing country Parties related to implementing the Convention and the Paris Agreement. A collaboration with the PCCB was proposed to be explored, for instance in the form of a joint event, to discuss the capacity-building needs identified in the report and ways forward to address these.

The SCF representative further emphasized the strong capacity-building focus of the SCF Forum, welcomed the PCCB and any other ICG members to actively participate in the Forum and related activities, and offered to send additional information after the meeting. The focus

of the upcoming Forum will be on finance for nature-based solutions and capacity-building is highlighted as a key enabler for this.

One of the FWG representatives in the ICG noted the intention to integrate the engagement with the ICG into the next three-year workplan of the FWG, with a view to ensuring its continued collaboration and participation in the ICG.

Moreover, the same ICG member highlighted a series of trainings carried out by the FWG that focused on building capacities to engage with indigenous peoples and knowledge systems. These trainings were identified to be potentially relevant to all ICG members. The FWG representative noted that the training recordings and summaries are available for other ICG members to disseminate in their networks, and that the FWG will organize an event in July on the same topic to which all ICG members are invited.

A participant representing the CGE highlighted the CGE's work on capacity-building needs assessments. The CGE is currently drafting reports and highlighted that these could be particularly relevant for other members. The PCCB offered to support the CGE and other ICG members in the dissemination of activities and outcomes through its communication channels.

A representative from the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage made an intervention identifying opportunities for collaboration and coordination with the PCCB in relation to enhancing relevant action and support for averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage through the work of the Expert Group on Action and Support to which the PCCB is a member.

Last but not least, it was agreed during the discussion that, going forward, a representative of the Enhanced Lima work programme on gender will be invited to join the ICG, given the strong focus on capacity-building under the Gender Action Plan.

#### *Efforts to address gaps and needs*

Under agenda item 3, ICG members briefly discussed an upcoming PCCB survey to be circulated to ICG members shortly after the meeting for inputs by their respective bodies, entities or processes.

The survey is undertaken under activity B.1 in the PCCB workplan with the aim to gather information on efforts to address capacity gaps and needs undertaken by those actors represented in the ICG or other key stakeholders in their area of work.

More specifically, the survey will also seek any recommendations from ICG members for other bodies, entities or processes represented in the ICG on the basis of findings and lessons learned from their work, as well as suggestions for how the PCCB can support other ICG members in their efforts.

From mid-August onwards, the PCCB will analyse all survey inputs received to identify key efforts, tools, best practices, lessons learned and recommendations and share these with all ICG members and, as appropriate, on the UNFCCC capacity-building portal and through the PCCB network.

*PCCB recommendations on enhancing coherence and coordination to the COP and CMA*

Under agenda item 4, ICG members then turned to discussing the recommendations the PCCB could provide this year to Parties related to enhancing coordination and coherence of capacity-building.

The PCCB has been mandated by the COP and CMA to provide recommendations to Parties on how to improve coherence and coordination of capacity-building and avoid duplication of efforts. As per the workplan, these recommendations are to take into account inputs from the ICG and will be communicated through the PCCB's annual technical progress report.

ICG members gave valuable, initial inputs during the discussion that the PCCB will consider in preparing its recommendations for 2021. At the same time, ICG members concurred that since the work of the ICG towards enhancing coherence and coordination of capacity-building is just starting, the inputs provided by the group on these PCCB recommendations will likely grow in quantity and quality over time.

In terms of the inputs already provided at the first ICG, a couple of important aspects for the PCCB to consider were highlighted:

- Several ICG members, including those representing the SCF, the KCI and the ACE process, underlined the importance for institutional capacity-building and to ensure that capacity built is also retained. For its recommendations, it was suggested that the PCCB could look at good examples of efforts around the globe that address these aspects.
- The representative from the SCF further offered to support the development of recommendations to this end, including by consulting with other SCF members, if this would be helpful or requested.
- An ICG member from the KCI highlighted good experience of the KCI in building institutional capacity to analyse response measures through engaging with external stakeholders, such as academia and NGOs.
- A representative from the WIM ExCom noted that the five expert groups under the Excom undertake a lot of capacity-building related work and future PCCB recommendations could possibly also draw from the discussions there.
- An ICG member from the AFB secretariat highlighted knowledge management including with regard to lessons learned as an aspect to look at when developing the recommendations.

In terms of next steps, it was announced that PCCB working group 1 will draft recommendations on coherence and coordination based on inputs from the ICG meeting and other relevant PCCB work and will share the draft recommendations for further inputs with the ICG members in July. ICG members are then expected to coordinate their input within their respective body, entity or process. The final recommendations will then be included in the annual technical progress report of the PCCB to the COP and CMA.

### Other matters

The meeting concluded with a short agenda item on “Other matters”, where the PCCB gave an outlook on a number of forthcoming activities in 2021, on which it will seek inputs from or the engagement of bodies, entities and processes represented in the ICG.

These activities include:

- the 3<sup>rd</sup> Capacity-building Hub of the PCCB, which is envisaged to take place during COP 26;
- the PCCB’s toolkit to assist developing countries with assessing capacity gaps and needs assessments with regard to implementing the Paris Agreement; and
- two upcoming calls for submissions on methodologies and tools for implementing capacity-building under the Convention and Paris Agreement, and on enhancing ownership of capacity-building. These two calls will be published in July.

### Closing

PCCB working group 1 lead Roberta Ianna closed the meeting by reiterating the invitation to all ICG members to attend the 5<sup>th</sup> PCCB meeting that started the day after the ICG meeting.

Members were notified that the meeting report would be shared in due course for their review and that the PCCB intended to follow up with individual ICG members on their coordination or collaboration proposals made during the meeting.

The second meeting of the ICG is planned to be held in conjunction with COP 26. Further information will be shared with ICG members in due course.

Roberta Ianna noted that, in addition to the two ICG meetings each year, the PCCB stands ready to facilitate further intersessional exchanges among the whole group, if there is an interest from ICG members for shorter, irregular but more frequent exchanges. Furthermore, she expressed the interest of the PCCB to facilitate intersessional exchanges between a smaller group of members whenever a common interest for coordination on a specific issue or topic is identified.

## **Annex I: Agenda of the first ICG meeting**

1. Welcome and round of introductions.
2. Objective of the ICG and roles of members.
3. Informal coordination based on the forward-overlooking overview of activities:
  - a. Is the overview up-to-date and complete?
  - b. Opportunities for collaboration;
  - c. Opportunities for improved coordination and coherence between activities;
  - d. Capacity-building Hub, particularly the technical session on focusing on key aspects of enhancing coherence and coordination.<sup>1</sup>
4. Efforts to address gaps and needs:
  - a. Update by PCCB;
  - b. Short discussion.<sup>2</sup>
5. Discussion on recommendations to Parties for enhancing coordination and coherence of capacity-building.
6. Other matters.
7. Closure of the meeting.

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<sup>1</sup> FCCC/SBI/2020/13 – Annex 1, PCCB workplan 2021 – 2024 A.3.1.

<sup>2</sup> In the interest of time, ICG members will be asked for comprehensive input *after* the session by means of a survey.

## **Annex II: List of Participants for the first ICG meeting**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Body/entity/process</b>
Michinobu Aoyama	CGE
Thomas Cameron	FWG
Andrea Carmen	FWG
Marzena Chodor	PCCB
Kenel Delusca	LEG
Tshewang Dorji	GEF secretariat
Mattias Frumerie	SCF
Rajiv Garg	CTCN secretariat
Catherine A Goldberg	KCI
Milena Gonzalez Vasquez	GEF secretariat
Juan Pablo Hoffmaister	GCF secretariat
Roberta Ianna	PCCB
Cornelia Jaeger	WIM ExCom
Mahawan Karuniasa	PCCB
Hannah Lyons	PCCB
Farayi Madziwa	AFB secretariat
Silvia Mancini	AFB secretariat
Renilde Ndayishimiye	PCCB
Fleur Newman	ACE
Clifford Polycarp	GCF secretariat
Samantha Rabine	GCF secretariat
Capacity-building Team	UNFCCC