



Informal technical expert dialogues, Article 6 of the Paris Agreement

Concept Note

The Bureau at its meeting on 25 February 2021 requested the presiding officers to make available a plan of upcoming activities in preparation for a successful COP 26 in November 2021. Following this guidance, the Chair of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice is, among other activities, undertaking a series of informal technical expert dialogues relating to Article 6 of the Paris Agreement. That series is presented in this concept note.

I. Context

Article 6 of the Paris Agreement contains provisions in relation to voluntary cooperative implementation towards NDCs. In this regard, decision 1/CP.21 requested the SBSTA to elaborate guidance for cooperative approaches referred in Article 6 paragraph 2, rules, modalities and procedures for the mechanism established in Article 6, paragraph 4 and a decision in relation to the framework for non-market approaches for adoption by the CMA. Parties were unable to complete this work for CMA 1 or CMA 2 and decision 9/CMA.2 requested Parties continue this work for CMA.3¹.

II. Objective

The objective of these informal technical expert dialogues is to provide an opportunity to technical experts of Parties to discuss remaining unresolved issues in respect of Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, in an inclusive and transparent manner, over the period April – August 2021.

For each of the informal technical expert dialogues, Parties and observers are invited to make submissions through the Submissions Portal² by the first day of the month in which the relevant dialogue takes place, with the aim of informing other Parties (and observers) of their views and solutions to the unresolved issues.

After each informal technical expert dialogue the SBSTA Chair will prepare a non-paper that has no formal standing and that is not negotiation text, summarising the discussions and related submissions from Parties³.

III. Description

Each informal technical expert dialogue will comprise three hours of discussions by Parties, led by facilitators invited to support the SBSTA Chair, and using guiding questions to support focussed

¹ See reference decisions and evolutions of the draft decision texts here: <https://unfccc.int/process/the-paris-agreement/cooperative-implementation>.

² <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/submissionsstaging/Pages/Home.aspx>

³ Submissions from Observers on any given topic may be summarized in a separate annex to that non-paper, if sufficient Observer submissions are received.



discussions. The guiding questions for each informal technical expert dialogue will be available on the cooperative implementation webpages one week in advance of the discussions⁴. Detailed timings for dialogues held in May onwards will also be communicated on the SBSTA Chair Lobby⁵ and the cooperative implementation webpages.

IV. Proposed Timeline

Date and time (CEST)	Topic
19 April – Time: 13:00-16:00	Article 6 of the Paris Agreement: Financing for adaptation/Share of Proceeds (Article 6.2 and Article 6.4)
20 April – Time: 23:00-02:00	Article 6 of the Paris Agreement: Avoiding double use of emissions reductions achieved outside the nationally determined contribution, Article 6.4.
20 May – Time: TBC 21 May – Time: TBC	Article 6 of the Paris Agreement: Ensuring rapid operationalization of Article 6 (Articles 6.2, 6.4, and 6.8)
11 June – Time: TBC	Article 6 of the Paris Agreement: Enabling ambition in Article 6 instruments
14 June – Time: TBC	Article 6 of the Paris Agreement: Transition of Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) activities to Article 6.4 mechanism

Further informal technical dialogues covering at least the following topics, will be scheduled in due course between July and end of August: implementing overall mitigation in global emissions in the mechanism; use of Kyoto Protocol units towards NDCs; reporting and accounting for 6.2 (including GHG and non-GHG metrics).

V. Contact/Additional Information

Article 6 Paris Agreement: Paris-Agreement-Article-6@unfccc.int

⁴ <https://unfccc.int/process/the-paris-agreement/cooperative-implementation>

⁵ <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/bodies/subsidiary-bodies/subsidiary-body-for-scientific-and-technological-advice-sbsta/sbsta-chair-lobby#eq-1>