

## **SUBMISSION BY FRANCE AND THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION ON BEHALF OF THE EUROPEAN UNION AND ITS MEMBER STATES**

**Subject: Second periodic review of the long-term global goal under the Convention and of overall progress towards achieving it (SBSTA and SBI). Invitation to Parties by the SBSTA and the SBI to submit views on the third meeting of the Second Structured Expert Dialogue (SED2).**

Paris, 24 February 2022

The European Union and its Member States (EU) welcome the second meeting of the Second Structured Expert Dialogue (SED2) of the second Periodic Review (PR2) held during COP26 as well as the formal establishment of the Joint Contact Group (JCG) under the SBSTA and SBI at their fifty-second to fifty-fifth session. The EU wishes to thank the co-facilitators of the SED2 as well as all those who have contributed to the SED2 meetings so far. This submission is being provided in response to the invitation to Parties and Observers in the JCG conclusions (FCCC/SBSTA/2021/L.3)<sup>1</sup> to submit their views on the third meeting of SED2 (SED2.3).

### **1. General Remarks**

It is essential that climate action is informed by and based on the best available science. It is therefore important that we have an effective forum to hear, in particular, from the IPCC but also from other UNFCCC bodies, UN agencies, international organisations that have relevant scientific/technical information and analyses. The EU appreciates the technical nature of the SED and the open non-political dialogue following presentations from experts, so that Parties can enhance their understanding of the information provided and its implications. The PR with its SED has an important role for enabling and reinforcing the science-policy interface with a view to enhance Parties' understanding of the science relevant to the long-term global goal (LTGG) under the Convention and for the PR2 (Decision 5/CP.25, paragraph 4<sup>2</sup>).

The information communicated in the PR2 can assist Parties in the formulation of national climate mitigation strategies and policies. The PR2 and its SED2 are instrumental in increasing global ambition that is needed to meet the LTGG and stay within the temperature limits as defined in Decision 10/CP.21. In this context, the EU would like to share some comments and suggestions for further improving the third, final meeting of SED2.

### **2. Process of the third meeting of the SED2**

We much appreciated the two virtual sessions of the first meeting of SED2 whilst recognising that physical meetings allow for more in-depth dialogues between experts and Parties, particularly in a round table format.

It's important that the key information is provided in open dialogue setting so that it can be captured within the SED2 report as appropriate. Hence, we would see limited value for further virtual poster sessions during SED2.3 if the meeting takes place in a physical setting.

Furthermore, it is important that the timing of the SED2.3 meeting does not overlap with linked matters such as meetings related to PR2 and GST to allow Parties and observers to attend all these as well as events related to

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<sup>1</sup> [SBI2021\\_L.3\\_E \(unfccc.int\)](https://unfccc.int/documents/544444)

<sup>2</sup> [FCCC/CP/2019/13/Add.1 \(unfccc.int\)](https://unfccc.int/documents/544444)

the IPCC reports of WG II and III that should precede the SED2.3 meeting. In addition, we would very much appreciate the presence of both co-facilitators at the SED2.3 meeting

### **3. Content of the third meeting of the SED2**

The EU looks forward to the last meeting of the SED2 during SB 56 this June when the contributions of Working Groups II and III of the Sixth IPCC Assessment Report will be available. The WG II and WG III provide best available science that is highly relevant to the mandate and scope of PR2, and we strongly support exclusively addressing these two reports. The meeting should stay focused on the mandate under the Convention, including covering global long-term pathways beyond 2030 consistent with the long-term global goal. SED2.3 should be complementary to the Technical Dialogue under the Global Stocktake of the Paris Agreement.

Following the SED2.3, we look forward to the JCG providing guidance on the timing for the provision of the final summary report of the SED2 to be considered at the end of 2022.