

United States Submission on the Second Periodic Review Structured Expert Dialogue 2-3

We appreciate the opportunity to share our views on the preparation for the third meeting of the structured expert dialogue (SED2-3). Since this is the final meeting of the SED for the second periodic review, it is important that we use this opportunity to discuss the latest science to inform the themes while also to look across the sessions to draw out key findings. This will help parties to be able to start considering potential outcomes for the second periodic review during the joint contact group. In addition, we would like to offer some specific input on the structure, sources of information, and potential questions for experts.

Structure

A primary purpose of the structured expert dialogue is to allow for parties and experts to be able to engage. In order to enable this exchange, it is important that there is sufficient time for both presentations and questions. There are two- three hours sessions allocated for SED2-3, which means that the time needs to be used constructively. This can be best accomplished by ensuring that the sources of information and the expert presentations are focused on the mandated themes of the second periodic review. This close alignment will help parties to understand how the information being shared specifically relates to the themes and will enable more considered questions during the session. If possible, providing the presentations in advance of the session can also help parties to begin to process the information and prepared questions in advance. We agree with the proposal to not have a poster session for SED2-3 as it will allow parties to focus on the presentations and content within the session.

There are several, potentially overlapping, mandated science events during the June session. This includes the IPCC Special Events on the Working Group II and Working Group III reports, the Research Dialogue, and the first technical assessment of the Global Stocktake (GST). We encourage, to the extent possible, that the sequencing of these different events be organized to allow for the most efficient presentation of information and to avoid duplication. This means having the IPCC Special Events early in the session and the SED2-3 sessions before the GST technical assessment sessions. The topics covered during the Research Dialogue should also provide complementary information for both the SED2-3 and the GST technical assessment. The sequencing of these different events also needs to try and avoid overlaps so that both parties and experts can fully participate in each event. Similarly, we also encourage the co-facilitators and secretariat to coordinate with the co-facilitators of the GST to identify opportunities for efficiencies in the information being presented, recognizing that the mandate for the periodic review and the GST are separate and distinct.

Sources of Information

The SED is a technical process and should focus on providing the best available scientific information for the themes. Moreover, given that the time available is limited, it makes it even more important to ensure that the most relevant information is the focus. The IPCC provides the best available and most relevant scientific information and therefore should be the primary input for SED2-3. There is a lot of content to cover and adding other reports for consideration will only dilute the ability of parties to be able to engage with experts on the IPCC findings as they pertain to the themes of the periodic review. Given that the IPCC reports are going to be a

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primary input into multiple mandated events, we again encourage the co-facilitators to work closely with the IPCC experts that will be presenting to have the information directly align with the mandate of the periodic review (5/CP.25, paragraph 4) to further help keep the discussion focused on information pertinent to the SED. This will also help to ensure that there is sufficient time to fully consider both IPCC reports.

Given that this is the final SED for the second periodic review, it will be useful for parties to be able to engage in a crosscutting discussion with experts from the full IPCC sixth assessment cycle which would include all three working groups and the special reports. We would encourage that during one of the sessions there is time allocated for a panel discussion where some of the key findings that crosscut the three reports can be presented and considered by parties. The IPCC Synthesis Report will not be available as a source of input for the second periodic review, but otherwise the full content of the sixth assessment cycle will be available and having the IPCC experts provide some of the synthesized findings from throughout the cycle would be very constructive.

Potential Topics for Experts

The mandate of the second periodic review (5/CP.25, paragraph 4) provides the necessary guidance for the topics and questions for SED2-3. We trust that the co-facilitators can work with the identified experts to ensure that the presentations are focused on these themes within the mandate. Given the information provided during SED2-1 and SED2-2, it could be helpful to place some emphasis on:

- *Progress made in relation to addressing information and knowledge gaps.* The IPCC experts could provide parties with specific examples and insights on scientific advancements that have occurred between the fifth assessment cycle and the sixth assessment cycle. What are the most significant knowledge gaps that have been addressed? What knowledge gaps have emerged during this assessment cycle and what information is needed to fill those gaps?
- *Challenges and opportunities for achieving the long-term global goal.* The IPCC experts could provide parties with specific examples and insights based on the sixth assessment cycle about opportunities for identifying pathways that align with the long-term temperature goal. This could include discussion about the role of non-CO2 greenhouse gas emissions, sector specific actions to reduce emissions, creating enabling conditions for co-benefits in mitigation and adaptation.
- *Assess the overall aggregated effect of the steps taken by Parties in order to achieve the long-term global goal.* The IPCC experts could discuss the need for greater ambition and collective progress including their findings on the role of international cooperation in creating the enabling conditions for progress.