

Agenda item 3.1.

Paragraph 17 of the annotated agenda, Annex 5

Glossary: Article 6.4 mechanism terms

Article 6.4 Supervisory Body – 20th meeting

Bonn, Germany, 16 to 20 February 2026



- The Supervisory Body at its 11th meeting, when considering the regulatory documents for programmes of activities, also noted that the secretariat will be developing a Glossary of Article 6.4 mechanism terms containing common and key terms used in these documents to promote ease of use.



- The purpose of the development of the Glossary of terms is to provide a list of terms relating to the Article 6.4 mechanism to facilitate a common understanding of terminology used in the Article 6.4 mechanism documentation and consistency across the mechanism's documentation.



Key issues and proposed solutions

- As per the “Decision and documentation framework” (A6.4-INFO-GOV-005), the glossary belongs to the Article 6.4 supplementary documents that contain non-mandatory supplemental information and represent Tier 4 in the hierarchy of documents.
- Being a Tier 4 type of document, the Glossary of terms is subordinate to Tiers 1 to 3 documents including the Paris Agreement, CMA decisions, Article 6.4 mechanism standards, procedures as well as Article 6.4 mechanism tools.
- The Glossary of terms is to be read in conjunction with the Article 6.4 rules and requirements. If a term is defined in the glossary and also in the Article 6.4 mechanism rules and requirements, the definition contained in the Article 6.4 mechanism rules and requirements shall take precedence in case of any inconsistency.



The Glossary of terms compiles three types of terms and definitions:

- Terms and definitions sourced from already adopted Article 6.4 rules and regulations including CMA decisions;
- Terms and definitions which are adapted from the Clean Development Mechanism having the same meaning;
- Terms and definitions which are newly formulated in the context of Article 6.4 mechanism.



Key issues and proposed solutions

- The MEP at its 10th meeting, provided input to the draft “Glossary: Article 6.4 mechanism terms”, which includes common and key terms used in the various Article 6.4 rules and regulations applicable to the Article 6.4 mechanism activities. Some term definitions were identified as :
 - Needing improvement
 - ➡ Terms identified as needing improvement were flagged for further work when their respective parent documents are next revised.
 - Being defined slightly differently across various standards.
 - ➡ Where definitions differed, the most recent version of the definition was included in the glossary.



- Provide stakeholders with a consolidated list of terms and definitions of Article 6.4 mechanism and clarify the most used terms and definitions.
- Ensure consistency of terminology use across regulatory documents.



Recommendations to the Supervisory Body

- The Supervisory Body may wish to adopt the draft “Glossary: Article 6.4 mechanism terms” as presented with modifications as appropriate.



- The Glossary will be kept up to date and new terms and definitions will be added and modified on a continuous basis as the regulatory framework under the Article 6.4 mechanism continues to develop.



- As a participating member in SHIFT-CM, the American Forest Foundation has engaged in developing guidance alongside research priorities to support the emergence of the next generation of carbon markets. This includes developing a glossary of updated definitions, that were agreed upon by a wide range of experts, academics, standards, and practitioners within SHIFT-CM, and also by the technical advisory groups AFF.
- The American Forest Foundation urges the SBM to consider harmonizing its definitions alongside SHIFT-CM. Specifically, to consider the following definitions regarding durability: Durability Threshold, Estimated Durability, Guaranteed Durability and Realized Durability.
 - ➡ These terms are not used in the 6.4 regulatory documents and introduce new concepts
 - ➡ Recommend not to include these terms in the glossary.



SBM comments

Term	Def in the glossary	Def in source document	Proposal by SBM member	Proposed way forward
First transfer	Refers to an action with respect to A6.4ERs that triggers the application of a corresponding adjustment in the structured summary reported by the host Party, as referred to in paragraph 2 of the annex to decision 2/CMA.3	Registry procedure: refers to an action with respect to AERs that triggers the corresponding adjustment to the accounting of the host Party as referred to in paragraph 2 of the annex to decision 2/CMA.3	“An action with respect to A6.4ERs that triggers the application of a corresponding adjustment, reported in the Agreed Electronic Format and included in the structured summary reported by the host Party, as referred to in paragraph 2 of the annex to decision 2/CMA.3.”	The definition should be consistent with the definition in an approved regulatory document, in this case the registry procedure. It was planned to bring both the registry procedure and the Glossary at this SBM meeting with the revised definition. However, it was decided that the registry procedure will be submitted at SBM 20. Therefore, two options; either to go back to the definition in the registry procedure and amend the definition once the registry procedure is revised. <u>Or</u> , remove the definition from the Glossary.
Activities involving removals	Activities involving processes by which greenhouse gases are removed from the atmosphere <u>as a result of deliberate human activities</u> and are either destroyed or durably stored through anthropogenic activities.	Para 9b Removal standard: Activities involving removals meet the requirements referred to in paragraph 10. Any examples in this standard relating to specific activity types or categories are for illustrative purposes only and do not have the force of decisions by the Supervisory Body regarding their use under the Article 6.4 mechanism, unless explicitly so <u>stated</u> :	Activities involving processes by which GHGs are removed from the atmosphere as a result of deliberate human activities and are either destroyed or durably stored through anthropogenic <u>activities</u> . (Same as glossary)	The proposal is <u>similar to</u> the draft glossary so keep the definition in the glossary.



Term	Def. in the glossary	Def. in source document	Proposal by SBM member	Proposed way forward
Removals	The outcomes of processes by which GHG are removed from the atmosphere <u>as a result of deliberate human activities</u> and are either destroyed or durably stored through anthropogenic activities. (Para. 9a of the removal standard).	Para. 9(a) Removal Standard: Removals are the outcomes of processes by which greenhouse gases are removed from the atmosphere <u>as a result of deliberate human activities</u> and are either destroyed or durably stored through anthropogenic activities;	The outcomes of activities involving processes by which GHG are removed from the atmosphere <u>as a result of deliberate human activities</u> and are either destroyed or durably stored through anthropogenic activities.	The proposed definition is slightly different from the one in the source document. Proposal to keep the source document definition and request the MEP to refine the definition at the next revision of the Removal Standard. This term has been flagged for improvement.



SBM comments

Term	Def. in the glossary	Def. in source document	Proposal by SBM member	Proposed way forward
Carbon dioxide removal	The anthropogenic activities removing CO ₂ from the atmosphere and durably storing it in geological, terrestrial, or ocean reservoirs, or in products. It includes existing and potential anthropogenic enhancement of biological, <u>geochemical</u> or chemical CO ₂ sinks, but excludes natural CO ₂ uptake not directly caused by human activities (Para 8b Removal Standard)	Para 8b Removal Standard: Carbon dioxide removal (CO ₂ ; CDR) as anthropogenic activities removing CO ₂ from the atmosphere and durably storing it in geological, terrestrial, or ocean reservoirs, or in products. It includes existing and potential anthropogenic enhancement of biological, <u>geochemical</u> or chemical CO ₂ sinks, but excludes natural CO ₂ uptake not directly caused by human activities. (IPCC AR-6 WG III report, technical summary).	Activities involving processes by which CO₂ is removed from the atmosphere as a result of deliberate human activities and is either destroyed or durably stored through anthropogenic activities. (same definition as activities involving removals)	The proposed definition is different from the source document. It is to be noted that the definition comes from IPCC. Two options, either keep the definition from the source document or remove the term from the glossary until the Removal standard is revised. This is also a term that has been flagged for improvement.
Article 6.4 activity	An activity that meets the requirements of Article 6, paragraphs 4–6 of the Paris Agreement, rules, <u>modalities</u> and procedures of the Article 6.4 mechanism (RMPs), and any further relevant decisions of the CMA. (Para 1a of 3/CMA3 Annex)	(Para 1a of 3/CMA3 Annex): An “Article 6, paragraph 4, activity” is an activity that meets the requirements of Article 1 6, paragraphs 4–6, these rules, modalities and procedures, and any further relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA):	An activity that meets the requirements of Article 6, paragraphs 4–6 of the Paris Agreement, the RMPs, and any further relevant decisions of the CMA and is registered by the SBM.	The definition in the glossary is verbatim from 3/CMA3.

SBM comments

Term	Def. in the glossary	Def. in source document	Proposal by SBM member	Proposed way forward
Pending account	-	-	Account in the Article 6.4 mechanism registry where A6.4ERs are first issued for subsequent distribution	Registry procedure will be revised at the next SBM meeting and will contain definition of all types of accounts in the registry.
holding account	-	-	account in the Article 6.4 mechanism registry designated to hold A6.4ERs (or CERs) for a Party or an authorized entity	Registry procedure will be revised at the next SBM meeting and will contain definition of all types of accounts in the registry.
Sustainable Development Goals	A set of 17 interlinked global goals designed to be a blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all. They were established by the United Nations in 2015 as part of the 2030 Agenda for SD. The 17 SDGs build upon the successes of the Millennium Development Goals while incorporating new areas such as climate change, economic inequality, innovation, sustainable consumption, and peace and justice, among other priorities. (Para 19(e) of the A6.4 SD Tool)	Para 19(e) of the A6.4 SD Tool: A set of 17 interlinked global goals designed to be a blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all. They were established by the United Nations in 2015 as part of the 2030 Agenda for SD. The 17 SDGs build upon the successes of the Millennium Development Goals while incorporating new areas such as climate change, economic inequality, innovation, sustainable consumption, and peace and justice, among other priorities;	A set of 17 interlinked global goals designed to be a blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all. They were established by the United Nations in 2015 as part of the 2030 Agenda for SD. The 17 SDGs build upon the successes of the Millennium Development Goals while incorporating new areas such as climate change, economic inequality, innovation, sustainable consumption, and peace and justice, among other priorities.	If SBM agrees, this could be amended as removing the second part will not have an impact on the definition. The SD tool to be revised at its next planned revision.



SBM comments

Term	Def. in the glossary	Def. in source document	Proposal by SBM member	Proposed way forward
Active crediting period	The first crediting period of an Article 6.4 activity and any subsequent crediting period that has been renewed. (Def para 3 (a) of the Standard: Addressing non-permanence and reversals in mechanism methodologies)	Para. 3 (a) of the Standard: Addressing non-permanence and reversals in mechanism methodologies: The first crediting period of an Article 6.4 activity and any subsequent crediting period that has been renewed.	The first crediting period of an Article 6.4 activity and any subsequent crediting period that has been renewed.” Is it “and” or an “or”? Can two consecutive crediting periods be simultaneously “active”?	Def: The first crediting period of an Article 6.4 activity or any subsequent crediting period that has been renewed. We will amend to use “or” because only one crediting period can be active at the time. This can be considered as editorial and reflected in the reversal standard at the next revision.
Best available technology	-	-	The definition text is in italics and not consistent with the rest of the document.	Will be corrected
Overall	-	-	Various references to CMA decisions are made for some definitions but not for others. A consistent approach would be useful across all definitions, <u>e.g.</u> which SBM standard(s) it is from, or to drop them all, and attempt to explain these terms in “plain English” (i.e. without referencing CMA decisions etc.). If the document is developed “for the ease of use of these terms” – I’m not necessarily sure how helpful it is to refer to CMA decision texts.	The definitions are taken from regulatory document sources which sometimes refer to CMA decisions. The Glossary is not supposed to be a layman document.

SBM comments

Term	Def. in the glossary	Def. in source document	Proposal by SBM member	Proposed way forward
Overall	-	-	<p>Once published, making explicitly clear the document's tier 4 status (<u>i.e.</u> not inadvertently rewriting CMA decisions, standards, etc.) will be important.</p> <p>It would be helpful to note it can be updated/iterated by the secretariat (<u>i.e.</u> it is a living document and any inadvertent errors missed at this point can/should be corrected on an ongoing basis). <u>E.g.</u> comments from Jacqui highlight that some amendments may be needed to tidy things up etc. and it's quite a big document/lot of cross-checking required.</p>	<p>The following sentence could be added to para. 2 of the Glossary: The Glossary will be revised as new terms are defined or existing definitions of terms are improved in the corresponding regulatory documents.</p>
PACM	-	-	<p>There is no reference in the document to "Paris Agreement Crediting Mechanism (PACM)". If this is a plain English explainer <u>surely</u> we would want to refer to this in a glossary as an alternative (or main?) name it is known as?</p>	<p>The Paris Agreement Crediting Mechanism (PACM) was adopted as part of the external facing branding for the mechanism. The SBM agreed it would be used in external communications but not in official documents. For official documents, it's still the Article 6.4 mechanism.</p>

