

Agenda item 3.4.

Paragraph 22 of the annotated agenda, Annex 2 to MEP 016 meeting report

Concept note: Revision of methodological standards and tools for application to programmes of activities

Article 6.4 Supervisory Body – **SBM Briefing on the outcomes of MEP 016**

Bonn, Germany, **29 September 2026**



SBM015 requested the MEP to amend the Additionality Standard to cover methodological requirements for activities implemented at larger scales, including programmes of activities (PoAs).

Note: many current standards and tools explicitly state that they are applicable to methodologies for activities undertaken at the project level, and may be amended in the future to also cover those addressing PoAs.

SBM016 requested the MEP to amend the Baseline Standard, the Leakage Standard, and the Additionality Standard to support the transition of PoAs into the Article 6.4 mechanism.

SBM021 requested the MEP to prepare a “Concept note: Revision of methodological standards and tools for application to programmes of activities” and to propose any revisions to any relevant methodological standards and tools needed to make them applicable to PoAs, including, inter alia:

- a) Baseline Standard ;
- b) Additionality Standard;
- c) Leakage Standard;
- d) Suppressed Demand Standard;
- e) Reversals Standard;
- f) Common Practice Tool; and
- g) Investment Analysis Tool.



MEP014 prepared a draft revised version of the standards and tools stated in the previous page as well as the lock-in tool, and a call for public input was launched.

MEP015 prepared a draft revised version of the “**electricity emissions tool**” due to its possible use in clean cooking methodologies, and a call for public input was launched.

- The MEP also agreed to review the use of the term “**Article 6.4 activity**” (meaning either “**Article 6.4 project**” or “**Article 6.4 PoA**” but not a “**component project**”) in all methodological standards and methodological tools to determine whether this term is appropriate or needs to be disambiguated.

MEP016 undertook assessment of the public inputs (see next page: the comments were not incorporated.). Upon further examination, the MEP agreed to recommend the revision of the 5 standards and 4 tools (which are listed as appendices to the concept note).



MEP 014 agreed to launch a call for public input from **3 to 24 July 2026** on the “**Concept note: Revision of methodological standards and tools for application to programmes of activities (MEP014, Annex 02)**”, including its appendices of eight draft revised methodological standards and tools

- 69 comments were received from 15 submitters.

MEP 015 agreed to launch a call for public input from **29 July to 19 August 2026** on the “**Draft methodological tool: Emissions from electricity generation and consumption (MEP015, Annex 02)**”

- 5 comments were received from 1 submitter.

Proposals were **not incorporated** into the draft revised methodological standards and tools because they are related to **matters that extend beyond the scope of the MEP’s current mandate**.



The purpose of the proposed changes to the methodological standards and tools are to:

- a) Allow the Supervisory Body to approve and operationalize mechanism methodologies that apply to PoAs, including PoAs that transition into the Article 6.4 mechanism; and
- b) Ensure that the technical requirements of these methodological standards and tools are aligned with the features of PoAs, as specified in the PoA Standard.

In the proposed revision, the applicability statement is revised to read:

“This version of the methodological [standard] [tool] is applicable to proposed mechanism methodologies for **Article 6.4 projects and Article 6.4 programmes of activities (Article 6.4 PoAs), jointly referred to as Article 6.4 activities**”.

This revision makes the methodological [standard] [tool] applicable to both Article 6.4 projects and Article 6.4 PoAs. References to relevant rules pertaining to PoAs are also included, where applicable, together with other editorial revisions.



Upon discussion and advice from the regulatory team, the MEP evaluated the original use of the terms “Article 6.4 activity” (and derivations thereof) and either:

- a. **Retained the original term where it refers to an Article 6.4 activity in a generic manner**, regardless of whether the Article 6.4 activity is an Article 6.4 project or PoA, or;
- b. **Replaced the original term with “Article 6.4 projects or CPs” where the reference requires consideration of CP-specific matters** in the case of Article 6.4 PoAs
 - The use of the term “Article 6.4 activity” is not appropriate for any reference to a CP in the case of a PoA, but is appropriate for referring generically to a PoA;
 - CP-specific matters include demonstration of additionality, setting the baseline, calculating leakage, calculating grid emission factors, etc.

The proposed revisions specify if the requirements of the standards/tools shall be addressed at the level of the A6.4 activity (project or PoA) or A6.4 project or CP.

In addition, where the term “PDD” is used, it has either been retained (where it refers only to an Article 6.4 project) or expanded, as appropriate, to include “PoA-DD” and/or “CP-DD”.



Paras. 16 and 17 of the Leakage Standard stipulate that for REDD+ activities, the methodologies shall require demonstration that the **activity is included in all the elements required of the host Party as per para 71 of decision 1/CP.16*** may have different meanings depending on whether they apply to “A6.4 activity” (projects or PoA), or “A6.4 project or activity (including individual CP).

* national strategy or action plan, national forest emission level, monitoring system, system for providing information on the safeguards,.

Consider the case of PoA with CPs in different countries, where country A has taken the required actions but country B has not.

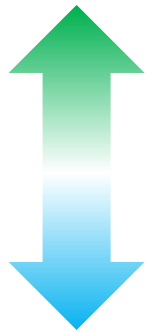
- a) Applying the requirements to an **“Article 6.4 activity”** would mean that the **CPs located in host Party A would not satisfy these requirements until both host Parties take the required actions;** and
- b) Applying the same requirements to an **“Article 6.4 project or CP”** would mean that the **CPs located in host Party A would satisfy these requirements, independent of host Party B’s approach to REDD+ implementation.**



Key issues and proposed solutions (3) options

In the baseline and additionality standard (both paragraph 10), three options were provided where;

High discretion /
workload for
participants



Low discretion /
workload for
participants

- a. Methodologies **Require each CP** to demonstrate additionality / determine its applicable baseline / BAU scenarios **following the same requirements as a6.4 projects.**
- b. Methodologies **establish requirements for how activity participants determine the criteria** for including a CP in the PoA to enable each CP to demonstrate additionality / determine its applicable baseline and BAU scenarios.
- c. **Methodologies define eligibility criteria at the level of methodology** that enables each CP to demonstrate additionality / determine its applicable baseline and BAU scenarios.



Key issues and proposed solutions

Proposed changes and amendments to the Glossary

Term	Proposed revision
Applicability conditions	Conditions that specify contexts, configurations and cases in which a mechanism methodology can be applied to a proposed Article 6.4 activity project or CP while ensuring environmental integrity
Best Available Technology	The practice or technology in a given scope that: (a) provides a similar output as the Article 6.4 activity project or CP ; (b) represents an economically feasible and environmentally sound course of action; (c) is available in the baseline geographical area, meaning accessible off the shelf, or via a tendering or direct contracting process, or by direct implementation by an end user within the boundary of potential Article 6.4 activity project or CP ; and (d) results in the lowest emissions or largest removals per unit of output among all practices and/or technologies that fulfil the conditions (i) to (iii)
Business as usual	Plausible reference benchmark or scenario for GHG emissions or removals prior to or in the absence of the implementation of the proposed Article 6.4 activity project or CP . It may be at a scenario, emission or removal level, or an emissions or removals intensity.
Crediting baseline	The reference emissions or removals level against which the volume of emission reductions or net removals achieved by the Article 6.4 activity project or CP is quantified
Crediting deficit	A net increase in GHG emissions resulting from an Article 6.4 activity project or CP caused by factors other than reversals
Level of service	The quality, reliability and scale of an output provided by an Article 6.4 activity project or CP and/or in the baseline scenario, as specified in the mechanism methodology
Output	Each good or service provided by the Article 6.4 activity project or CP in the activity scenario and/or in the baseline scenario, as specified in the mechanism methodology
Related sources, sinks and reservoirs	GHG sources, sinks and reservoirs that have material or energy flows into, out of, or within the Article 6.4 activity project or CP



The proposed revisions to the methodological standards and tools to incorporate PoA specific requirements will enable the development and implementation of mechanism methodologies applicable to Article 6.4 PoAs.

Specifically, the proposed revisions to the methodological standards and tools will enable the Supervisory Body to approve and operationalize the draft mechanism methodologies:

- (a) “Energy efficiency measures in household cooking”; and
- (b) “Cooking energy transitions”

Note: Total 418 CDM project activities are slated for transition to PACM

- (a) Cookstoves (AMS-I.E, AMS-II.G): 41 of 46 are PoAs
- (b) Other: 36 of 372 are PoAs

Calculation based on UNFCCC data



Subsequent work may be needed to:

Identify elements of the “**Information note: Elements related to non-permanence and reversals for inclusion in relevant regulatory documents**” and adapt them for Article 6.4 PoAs, for example by amending the “Procedure: Article 6.4 activity cycle procedure for programmes of activities” (e.g., to specify how activity participants shall monitor, report, and remediate reversals related to CPs); and

Incorporate the proposed revisions to the methodological standards and tools into an updated version of the “**Standard: Article 6.4 activity standard for programmes of activities**” and the “**Procedure: Activity cycle procedure for Article 6.4 Programme of activities**”, as appropriate.



Following the mandate from SBM 021, the MEP agreed to revise the mechanism methodologies and methodological tools:

- a) “Mechanism methodology: Flaring or use of landfill gas”;
- b) “Mechanism methodology: Electricity generation from renewable sources connected to an electricity system”;
- c) “Methodological tool: Emissions from solid waste disposal site”;
- d) “Methodological tool: Project emissions from flaring”;
- e) “Methodological tool: Mass flow of a greenhouse gas in a gaseous stream”; and
- f) “Methodological tool: Determination of the technical lifetime of equipment”.



The MEP agreed to recommend that the Supervisory Body:

- a) Consider this concept note and adopt the draft revised methodological standards and tools included as appendices;
- b) Review the matter identified in paragraph 18 above, select which of the two approaches is appropriate for revising paragraphs 16 and 17 of the Leakage standard, and request the secretariat to implement appropriate technical and editorial changes to implement the selected approach; and
- c) Consider the proposed changes to the Glossary and request the secretariat to update the Glossary.

