

Agenda item 3.5

Paragraph 23 of the annotated agenda, Annex 8

Voluntary cancellation platform

Article 6.4 Supervisory Body – Twentieth meeting

Bonn, Germany, 16 to 20 February 2026



Procedural background

- **SBM 013** took note of the concept note on “Repurposing the clean development mechanism Voluntary Cancellation Platform to serve the Article 6.4 mechanism” and agreed to revisit this matter at a future meeting, taking into account the work undertaken related to the Article 6.4 mechanism registry.
- **SBM 018** reconsidered the topic on the functioning of the platform for voluntary cancellation of certified emission reductions to serve the Article 6.4 mechanism and agreed to revisit it at its twentieth meeting.



Purpose

- The purpose of the concept note is to provide recommendations for repurposing the platform to serve the Article 6.4 mechanism following, or in parallel with, the clean development mechanism (CDM) conclusion on 31 December 2026 and in line with the CMP 20 decision on the discontinuation of the cancellation of CERs and any other transactions in the CDM registry and in the voluntary cancellation platform.
- CMP 20 decision



Key issues and proposed solutions

1. The CDM voluntary cancellation platform

- Online e-commerce service launched in 2015 to promote voluntary cancellation for climate action, help closing the pre-2020 emissions gap.
- Enables project participants to offer certified emission reductions (CERs) to the public for voluntary cancellation.
- Linked to the CDM registry via an application programming interface (API). When purchase is completed, a cancellation certificate is sent to the purchaser.
- As of December 2025:
 - a) **16 million CERs** cancelled by users from nearly all countries.
 - b) **293 projects from 34 host countries** have opened an account.
 - c) Currently **108 projects** offering CERs on the platform, representing a **45 per cent increase** as compared to December 2023.



1. The CDM voluntary cancellation platform ... Contd

- Main users are organizations/companies for corporate social responsibility.
- From launch to 2022, the number of cancelled CERs increased steadily, and by more than 40 per cent from 2021 to 2022.
- While in 2023 the number of orders increased, the number of cancelled CERs decreased slightly compared to the previous year.
- Since 2024, however, the number of orders decreased by approximately 13 per cent compared to the previous years, reflecting a noticeable decline in the volume of cancelled CERs by over 25 per cent.
- This development may illustrate the declining market value of CERs in the light of the end of the Kyoto Protocol.



2. Benefits of the platform

For purchasers:

- Free of charge under CDM.
- Can access from multiple devices.
- Can choose from 3 languages (English, French, Spanish).
- Can calculate their emissions and offset them within a single platform.
- Select CERs based on host country, project technology type, vintage and price and receive customizable certificates of cancellation.

For project participants:

- Free of charge under CDM.
- Choose CERs, set prices and receive payment via bank transfer or PayPal.



2. Benefits of the platform ... Contd

From operational point of view:

- Has global reach.
- Offers three payment methods, namely bank transfer, direct payment by PayPal or credit card payment via PayPal.
- Can integrate customised calculators designed to address different sectors and needs, including private users, businesses, and events.
- Can integrate with other platforms, expanding avenues for voluntary cancellations of CERs and user participation in private and business sector.



Key issues and proposed solutions

3. Options for an Article 6.4 voluntary cancellation platform

3.1 Repurposing current platform

- Requires investment in software upgrades for improved functionality, security and scalability, and in development to meet the Article 6.4 requirements.
- To ensure secure and stable transactions, the system requires migration to an updated PayPal based payment module. The platform currently offers three payment methods: Bank transfer, PayPal direct payment, or PayPal credit card.
- While under CDM free of charge, a service fee for vendors could be justified for increased costs related to security patches, premium insurances, listing projects and monitoring orders. A staggered fee model could be considered.



Key issues and proposed solutions

3. Options for an Article 6.4 voluntary cancellation platform ... Contd

3.2 Voluntary cancellation functionality on the Article 6.4 registry via API

The API is made available upon request.

What the API enables:

- Direct voluntary cancellation of A6.4ERs in the Article 6.4 mechanism registry.
- Seamless integration of cancellation functionality into external platforms and applications.

Who can use it:

- Public and private entities.
- Developers building standalone voluntary cancellation platforms.
- Organizations integrating cancellation features into existing tools.



Impacts and key considerations

Repurposing the CDM platform...

- Requires investment but could remain cost-efficient and generate service-fee revenue.
- Allows parallel offering of CERs and A6.4ERs.
- On a familiar system could retain existing vendors, leverage a long-standing customer base, and attract new participants through the features and safeguards of the PACM.

For the voluntary cancellation functionality for Article 6.4 via API

- The level of industry interest remains uncertain, and it cannot be excluded that no independent voluntary cancellation platforms will emerge.



Subsequent work and timelines

To deliver on the voluntary cancellation options under Article 6.4

- a) As the interim mechanism registry is fully operational, the Supervisory Body may request the secretariat to survey potential demand for voluntary cancellation of A6.4ERs before making an investment decision.
- b) In light of the CMP 20 decision to close the CDM registry and platform for transactions by end-2026, any decision to repurpose the platform for Article 6.4 should be taken prior to its closure.
- c) As an alternative to repurposing the existing platform, the Supervisory Body may request the secretariat to assess the costs of operationalizing the option to make the API available.



Budget and costs for development and maintenance of the platform

Cost estimates for repurposing the existing CDM platform:

- a) Development and **software upgrade**: circa *USD 210,000*.
- b) **Annual maintenance**: *USD 120,000* per year.

Costs for developing and deploying the voluntary cancellation API for the Article 6.4 mechanism registry will need to be determined with the registry vendor.



Recommendations to the Supervisory Body

The secretariat recommends that the Supervisory Body takes note of the information contained in the document and provide guidance on the way forward.

