

Fifty-second session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation 9th Durban Forum on capacity-building

Concept note

Capacity-building to support the implementation of Enhanced Transparency Framework under the Paris Agreement – ensuring coherence and coordination of actions and support

Virtually: MS Teams

Friday 5 June 2020 (2–5 p.m. Central European Time.)

Background

The Durban Forum on capacity-building was established in 2011 under the SBI to further enhance the monitoring and review of the effectiveness of capacity-building under the Convention.¹ It is an in-session discussion platform for Parties, representatives of the constituted bodies under the Convention, and relevant experts and practitioners to, on an annual basis and in the context of specific thematic areas, share experience and exchange ideas, best practices and lessons learned in relation to implementing capacity-building activities.

COP 24 requested the SBI to thematically align meetings of the Durban Forum with the annual focus area of the PCCB.² Thus, the outcomes of the 9th Durban Forum are expected to be fed directly into the work of the PCCB as per its rolling workplan for 2017–2019,³ which was extended to the end of 2020 at COP 25.⁴ The 2020 focus area of the PCCB is strengthening coherence and coordination of capacity-building activities for implementing NDCs.⁵

Discussions at the 9th Durban Forum will build on discussions at previous Forums on capacity-building in developing countries in relation to NDCs. The focus of the 8th Durban Forum was on strengthening institutions at the national level to support capacity-building activities for implementing NDCs in developing countries, and the focus of the 7th Forum was on enhancing capacity for implementing NDCs in the context of the Paris Agreement. Discussions will also build on those held at the 2nd Capacity-building Hub in the context of Transparency Day.⁶ The Capacity-building Hub is the result of Parties and non-Party stakeholders recommending the establishment of an in-session space for formal and informal knowledge exchange on capacity-building related matters, sharing relevant case studies, success stories and lessons learned, and discussing how best to support capacity-building action.

¹ Decision 2/CP.17, para. 144.

² Decision 15/CP.24, para. 6.

³ FCCC/SBI/2017/11, annex IV

⁴ Decision 9/CP.25, para. 14. 7

⁵ Decision 8/CP.25, para. 5

⁶ See <https://unfccc.int/2nd-capacity-building-hub/Transparency-Day>.

Transparency is key to meeting the goals of the Paris Agreement and will be achieved through the enhanced transparency framework established under Article 13 of the Paris Agreement. The main purpose of the enhanced transparency framework is to foster a clear understanding of climate change action, including progress towards achieving NDCs under Article 4 and implementing adaptation action under Article 7 of the Paris Agreement, as well as support provided and received by Parties. The enhanced transparency framework builds on and enhances existing MRV arrangements under the Convention. Some domestic MRV systems can already serve as a foundation for implementing the enhanced transparency framework; but it is clear that the domestic MRV systems of most developing countries will require enhancement in terms of institutional, technical and systemic capacity. Increased capacity for transparency will allow developing countries to better align and integrate climate action into their national development plans and strategies, support them in identifying their technology, finance and capacity-building gaps and needs and understanding the effectiveness of action taken, and help them in mobilizing additional financial resources.

Focus and subtopics

Focus

Capacity-building to support the implementation of Enhanced Transparency Framework under the Paris Agreement – ensuring coherence and coordination of actions and support

Subtopics

1. Ready for the BTR? Implications of the relevant MPGs adopted in Katowice for developing countries in terms of building or strengthening capacity: needs and gaps
2. Lessons learned, in relation to both action taken and support received, in developing countries as regards capacity-building for MRV that could be useful in implementing the enhanced transparency framework
3. Assessing and improving the effectiveness of capacity-building action
4. Promoting and improving coherence and coordination of capacity-building action at the national and international level to enhance support for implementing the enhanced transparency framework

Objectives

The objectives of the 9th Durban Forum are to:

- Explore lessons learned from capacity-building for implementing the existing MRV arrangements under the Convention;
- Identify remaining capacity needs and gaps, and ways and means of improving the effectiveness of transparency-related capacity-building action in developing countries;
- Provide a platform for stakeholders to share experience, lessons learned and knowledge;
- Provide insights for partners with a view to better aligning the support provided for capacity-building activities for implementing the enhanced transparency framework in developing countries;
- Inform related thematic discussions under the PCCB in the context of its focus area for 2020.

Programme

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| Opening 2.00 –2.10 p.m.⁷ | |
| Opening remarks | Chair of the SBI |
| Introduction | Co-facilitators Edith Ofwona Adera and Roberta Ianna |
| Special address 2.10–2.30 p.m. | |
| Transparency in the new climate regime <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhanced transparency framework, the relevant MPGs and BTRs • Needs and gaps in relation to the enhanced transparency framework | Representative of the secretariat Representative of the Consultative Group of Experts |

⁷ All times are [Central European Time]

Panel discussion and Q&A
2.30–3.30 p.m.

Panel discussion

- What major lessons learned from MRV, including from the international consultation and analysis process, could benefit implementation of the enhanced transparency framework?
- How can we benefit from South–South cooperation in the transition period?
- What are essential elements of promoting and improving coherence and coordination of capacity-building activities, and how can these elements be incorporated into supporting the enhanced transparency framework? What could be done and by whom to assess and improve the effectiveness of capacity-building support and action?

Moderator

Seyni Nafu

Panellists

- Government Representatives
- Representative of the United Nations Development Programme
- Representative of the Partnership on Transparency in the Paris Agreement

Breakout group discussions
3.30–4.30 p.m.

Breakout group one

Ready for the BTR? Implications of the relevant MPGs adopted in Katowice for developing countries in terms of building or strengthening capacity: needs and gaps

Discussion leader

Representative of the Consultative Group of Experts

Breakout group two

Lessons learned, in relation to both action taken and support received, in developing countries as regards capacity-building for MRV that could be useful in implementing the enhanced transparency framework

Discussion leader

Representative of the Initiative for Climate Action Transparency

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| <p><u>Breakout group three</u></p> <p>Assessing and improving the effectiveness of capacity-building action</p> <p><u>Discussion leader</u></p> <p>Representative of the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies</p> | <p><u>Breakout group four</u></p> <p>Promoting and improving coherence and coordination of capacity-building action at the national and international level to enhance support for implementing the enhanced transparency framework</p> <p><u>Discussion leader</u></p> <p>Representative of the World Resources Institute</p> |
| <p>Feedback from discussion leaders of the breakout groups</p> <p>4.30–4.50 p.m.</p> | |