

APA agenda item 5

Modalities, procedures and guidelines for the transparency framework for action and support referred to in Article 13 of the Paris Agreement

Tool prepared by the co-facilitators on section G issues for discussion

Date of issue: 4 May, 2018

This document contains the views of Parties on three issues in section G of the light revision of the co-facilitator's informal note, specifically sections G.3 (scope), G.5.1 (format), and G.7 (frequency). This tool identifies "approaches" that are based on a visual illustration used during the second and third informal consultations, the light revision of the co-facilitator's informal note, views proposed by Parties during the second and third informal consultation, and written input. A few Parties provided input on other issues relevant to section G not contained in this tool. We will consider this input when we reach these sections. Of importance, the "approaches" identified in this tool are not necessarily mutually exclusive. This tool has been prepared by the co-facilitators under their own responsibility. This tool does not prejudge further work or prevent Parties from expressing their views at any time. It is recognized that the outcome of deliberations on this item will form part of the overall outcome under the Paris Agreement Work Programme.

G. Technical expert review

G.3. Scope

Approach 1: As in Paris Agreement, Article 13.11 and 13.12

- Consideration of the Party's implementation and achievement of its NDC under Article 4 ^(Each Party) [G.3.8]
- Consideration of the Party's support provided, as relevant ^(Each Party)
- Identify areas of improvement for the Party ^(Each Party)
- Review of the consistency of the information with the MPGs ^(Each Party)
- Assistance in identification of capacity building needs ^(Those developing country Parties that need it in the light of their capacities)
- Pay particular attention to the respective national capabilities and circumstances ^(Developing country Parties)

Approach 2: As in approach 1, but adding or amending the scope of technical expert review

1. Assessment of the consistency of the information with the provisions of the MPGs under Article 13., and with the accounting guidance, as referred to Article 4.13 and Article 6.2. ^(Each Party / Developed country Parties / Developing country Parties) [G.3.1]
2. Assessment of the transparency, completeness, consistency, accuracy, and timeliness of the reported information ^(Each Party / Developed country Parties) and identification of issues. ^(Developed country Parties) This assessment only relates to the GHG component of the review. ^(Each Party) [G.3.2]
3. Examination of the consistency of the reports under the Paris Agreement with information submitted under the Convention with the annual GHG inventory and NC but it will not include in-depth examination of the inventory itself. ^(Developed country Parties) [G.3.3]
4. Identification of good practice. ^(Each Party) [G.3.6]
5. Identification of barriers to implementation of NDCs and sources of support to help overcome these barriers. ^(Each Party) [G.3.7]
6. Assessment of progress made in the implementation of methodological and reporting requirements, taking into account national circumstances and capacities. ^(Each Party/ Developed country Parties) [G.3.4.c] Developing country Parties may participate voluntarily.
7. Assessment of progress made in the provision of support to developing country Parties under Articles 9, 10 and 11 of the Paris Agreement, as appropriate. ^(Each Party/Developed country Parties) [G.3.4.b]
8. A consideration of the Party's support provided and mobilized, as relevant. ^(Each Party/Developed country Parties) [G.3.8]

9. Identification of capacity-building needs *(Each Party / Developing country Parties / Those developing country Parties that need it in the light of their capacities)* supporting Parties in identifying specific activities to implement improvements and related capacity-building needs. *(Those developing country Parties that need it in the light of their capacities)* [G.3.9]
10. Assessment of the consistency of the information with the provisions of the MPGs under Article 13., and with the accounting guidance, as referred to Article 4.13 and Article 6.2. *(Each Party / Developed country Parties / Developing country Parties)* [G.3.1]
11. Identification of areas of improvement [G.3.10]:
 - a. In relation to capacity-building needs, taking into account available domestic capacities and linked with support needed. *(Developing country Parties)* [G.3.10]
 - b. Based on reporting requirements and relevant recommendations and encouragement by the review team. *(Each Party)* [G.3.10]
 - c. The implementation of the improvement identified by the review team is nationally determined. *(Each Party)* [G.3.10]
 - d. The implementation of the improvement identified by the review team are consistent with the support provided by developed country Parties for such improvement. *(Those developing country Parties that need it in the light of their capacities)* [G.3.10]
 - e. The improvement plan to be primarily used for domestic purposes in prioritizing actions and be of a facilitative nature and should not be a focus for the TER. *(Each Party)* [G.3.10]
 - f. Based on reporting requirements and relevant recommendations and encouragement by the review team focusing only on improvements related to reporting. *(Each Party)*
 - g. Recommendations depend on capacities of developing countries to implement short and long term measures to improve their reports *(Developing country Parties)*
12. Assessment of progress made in implementing and achieving its NDC under Article 4. *(Each Party/ Developed country Parties)* [G.3.4.a] Developing country Parties may participate voluntarily.
13. Review of consistency with the guidance as referred to Art 4.13 and Art 6.2. *(Each Party / Developed country Parties / Developing country Parties)* [G.3.1]
14. Review of the TACCC of the information on support provided. *(Developed country Parties)*

Approach 3: As in approach 1, while indicating what is outside of the scope of technical expert review

1. The appropriateness of a Party's NDC is not within the scope of the review. *(Each Party)* [G.3.12]
2. The appropriateness of the use of specific flexibility provisions by the Parties and advising the Parties on the use of these provisions is not within the scope of the review. *(Developing country Parties)* [G.3.13]
3. Review teams to refrain from making any political judgement. *(Each Party)* [G.3.14]
4. Consideration of the adequacy of domestic measures and support provided is not within the scope of the review. *(Each Party)*
5. Implemented in a facilitative, non-intrusive, non-punitive manner, respectful of national sovereignty, and avoid placing undue burden on Parties. *(Each Party)*
6. Improvement plan is not within the scope of the review. *(Each Party)*

Approach 4: Similar to current reviews and technical analysis under IAR and ICA

Approach 5. As in approach 3, using the current arrangements under the Convention as a starting point

G.5. Format and steps, including those related to specific types of information reported under Article 13, and the role of Parties, and the roles and responsibilities of the TER and the secretariat

G.5.1. Format

Approach 1: Desk

1. A desk review. *(Each Party / Developed country Parties / Developing country Parties)* [G.5.1.3.a]

Approach 2: Centralized

1. Centralized review.
2. A centralized review in line with current procedures. *(Each Party / Developed country Parties / Developing country Parties)* [G.5.1.3.b]

Approach 3: In-country

1. An in-country review. *(Each Party/Developed country Parties)* [G.5.1.3.c]
 - a. In-country review could be made available as a priority to those Parties who need flexibility in light of their capacities. *(Those developing country Parties that need it in the light of their capacities)*
 - b. In-country reviews optional for developing countries that need it in light of capacities. *(Those developing country Parties that need it in the light of their capacities)*

Approach 4: Simplified [G.5.1.3.d]

1. Simplified review.
 - a. Simplified review for reports of Parties with national emissions below an agreed threshold, that do not contain either initial or final information on an NDC. *(Each Party)* [G.5.1.3]
 - b. The simplified review consists of the initial check of timeliness and completeness of GHG inventories submissions by the Secretariat.

Approach 5: Peer review in regional groups

1. Peer reviews in regional groups of Parties. *(Each Party / Those developing country Parties that need it in the light of their capacities)* [G.5.1.3.e]
 - a. The TER team composed from experts from Parties in a region and outside the region.
 - b. Provides for more regional exchange and capacity building through the regional experts participating in the TER, for the reduction of travel costs and for the participation of sufficient experts with relevant language skills. *(Each Party)*

Approach 6. Similar to current arrangements, and reflecting PA 13.11, 13.12, 13.2, 13.3, 13.4, para 89 of Decision 1/CP.21

G.7. Frequency and timing

Approach 1: TER linked to submission of Article 13 transparency report

1. Each transparency report submitted under the Article 13 of the Paris Agreement to undergo review. *(Each Party)* [G.7.1]
2. Each transparency report for developed country parties submitted under Art 13 of Paris Agreement will undergo review. *(Each Party)* [G.7.2]
3. For the reports that are due in that year (national GHG inventory and the TR). *(Each Party)* [G.7.10.d.]
4. The first transparency report submitted to be reviewed. *(Each Party)* [G.7.11]
5. The frequency and timing will be a direct consequence of the frequency and timing of the submission of the transparency report. *(Developing country Parties)* [G.7.4]
6. Annual for national GHG inventory report. *(Each Party/ Developed country Parties)* [G.7.10.a]
7. Annual initial check of national GHG inventory report. *(Each Party)* [G.7.10.b]
8. Every 2 years. *(Each Party / Developed country Parties)* [G.7.10.c]
9. No less than once in 5 years. *(Developing country Parties)* [G.7.10.e]
10. Biennially for GHG inventories.
11. GHG inventory report should be reviewed separately. *(Each Party)* [G.5.1.6]
12. GHG inventory report should not be reviewed separately. *(Each Party)*
13. Similar to the current arrangements. *(Developed country Parties / Developing country Parties)*

Approach 2: TER linked with NDC time period

1. The first transparency report submitted after the communication of a NDC and the first report submitted after the time period of the NDC to be reviewed. *(Each Party)* [G.7.12]

Approach 3: TER frequency based on criteria

1. The frequency depends on different criteria and approaches, including the thresholds for the national GHG emissions levels, quality of transparency report and the use of cooperative approaches under Article 6. *(Each Party)* [G.7.5]
2. The frequency depends on support to prepare the transparency report, including agreed full costs. *(Each Party / Developing country Parties)* [G.7.6]
3. Additional requirements may apply for Parties cooperating under Article 6. *(Each Party)* [G.7.7]
4. The frequency to allow Parties adequate time between reviews to implement recommended improvements. *(Each Party)* [G.7.8]
5. Flexibility for frequency and timing to be applied to developing countries, particularly for the LDCs and SIDS. *(Each Party / Those developing country parties that need it in the light of their capacities)* [G.7.3]

Approach 4: Self-determined

1. Frequency of the review to be determined by Parties themselves. *(Each Party / Developing country Parties)* [G.7.9]

Approach 5: Similar to current arrangements