

Article 6, paragraph 2 of the Paris Agreement

Completion and submission of initial reports

Virtual workshop, 17 and 18 May 2023



Initial report and updated initial report



Initial report overview

- © The **initial report** is outlined in chapter IV.A, annex, decision 2/CMA.3
- © Para 18 requires the participating Party to submit an initial report, **no later than the authorization of ITMOs** from a cooperative approach, **or** where practical (in the view of the participating Party) **in conjunction with the next BTR**

Which participating Party authorizes ITMOs from a cooperative approach has not been clarified and it is part of the CMA work-programme for 2023 (i.e. host Party only or host Party and using Party or host Party, using Party and any buying/selling Party in between). This may have implications on the trigger for submission

- © The initial report is submitted **for the period of NDC implementation**
- © The initial report is the **first report** a Party participating in Article 6.2 cooperative approach is required to submit before submitting further information, including:
 - © Annual information for each year due by 15 of April of the following year
 - © Regular information as annex 4 to the BTR



Updated initial report overview

- © The **updated initial report** is also outlined in chapter IV.A, annex, decision 2/CMA.3
- © Para 19 requires updated initial report for any **further cooperative approach(es)** authorized by the participating Party (further to those included in the initial report)
- © The updated initial report can be submitted **many times**, and it introduces information only on further cooperative approach(es)
- © The updated initial report is **included in the next BTR**

There is no mention of submission of updated initial report as a standalone report. However, this may be necessary for a participating Party to ensure that it can include ITMO data in annual information due before the next BTR

- © The **trigger** for submission of updated initial report is not explicit but it is assumed to be the same as per para 18 for initial reports – the BTR after the authorization of ITMOs, at the latest.



Updating information in the reporting cycle

© Information of the initial report and the updated initial report is updated through the regular information included in each BTR.

© Section I of the initial report → section I in the regular information

© Section IV of the initial report → section VI of the regular information



Outline of the Initial report sections

Outline of the initial report and updated initial report

- © The CMA 4 adopted that outline (as annex V to decision 6/CMA 4), including 4 sections:
 - © Sections I, II and III: submitted once for each NDC period
 - © Section IV: submitted for each cooperative approach

- I. Participation responsibilities (para. 18(a))
- II. Description of the Party's NDC, as referred to in decision 18/CMA.1, annex, paragraph 64, where a participating Party has not yet submitted a biennial transparency report (para. 18(b), to be updated by para. 21(b))
- III. Information on ITMO metrics, method for applying corresponding adjustments and method for quantification of the NDC (para. 18(c–f))
- IV. Information on each cooperative approach (para. 18(g–i), para. 19)



Outline of the Initial report sections

Initial report sections

- I. Participation responsibilities (para. 18(a))



Outline of the Initial report sections

Initial report sections

I. Participation responsibilities (para. 18(a))

Participation responsibilities involve ensuring that the participating Party is a Party to the Paris Agreement, is maintaining an NDC, has arrangements for authorizing ITMOs and for tracking ITMOs, is submitting inventory reports, and is aligning participation with its NDC, and long-term emissions development strategy (if it has one), and the Paris Agreement goals

Outline of the Initial report sections

Initial report sections

- I. Participation responsibilities (para. 18(a))
- II. Description of the Party's NDC, as referred to in decision 18/CMA.1, annex, paragraph 64, **where a participating Party has not yet submitted a biennial transparency report** (para. 18(b), to be updated by para. 21(b))

The participating Party is required to provide information on targets, timeline, reference points, implementation periods, scope and coverage, intentions for cooperative approaches, and updates or clarifications of previously reported information to comply with the Paris Agreement guidelines



Outline of the Initial report sections

Initial report sections

- I. Participation responsibilities (para. 18(a))
- II. Description of the Party's NDC, as referred to in decision 18/CMA.1, annex, paragraph 64, where a participating Party has not yet submitted a biennial transparency report (para. 18(b), to be updated by para. 21(b))
- III. Information on ITMO metrics, method for applying corresponding adjustments and method for quantification of the NDC (para. 18(c–f))



Outline of the Initial report sections

Initial report sections

- I. Participation responsibilities (para. 18(a))
- II. Description of the Party's NDC, as referred to in decision 18/CMA.1, annex, paragraph 64, where a participating Party has not yet submitted a biennial transparency report (para. 18(b), to be updated by para. 21(b))
- III. Information on ITMO metrics, method for applying corresponding adjustments and method for quantification of the NDC (para. 18(c–f))

The participating Party is required to provide information on ITMO metrics, methods for applying corresponding adjustments, quantification of mitigation information in CO₂ equivalent, quantification of NDCs in non-GHG metrics, and, if applicable, information on quantification of emission levels from policies and measures relevant to the cooperative approach



Outline of the Initial report sections

Initial report sections

- I. Participation responsibilities (para. 18(a))
- II. Description of the Party's NDC, as referred to in decision 18/CMA.1, annex, paragraph 64, where a participating Party has not yet submitted a biennial transparency report (para. 18(b), to be updated by para. 21(b))
- III. Information on ITMO metrics, method for applying corresponding adjustments and method for quantification of the NDC (para. 18(c–f))
- IV. Information on each cooperative approach (para. 18(g–i), para. 19)



Outline of the Initial report sections

Initial report sections

- I. Participation responsibilities (para. 18(a))
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- III. Information on ITMO metrics, method for applying corresponding adjustments and method for quantification of the NDC (para. 18(c–f))
- IV. Information on each cooperative approach (para. 18(g–i), para. 19)

The participating Party is required to provide information on the authorization of the cooperative approach, its description, duration and expected mitigation; the participating Parties, authorized entities, and environmental integrity aspects. Additionally, it shall detail how the cooperative approach minimizes negative impacts, aligns with human rights and sustainable development objectives, applies safeguards, contributes to adaptation resources, and delivers OMGE



Outline of the Initial report sections

Initial report sections

- I. Participation responsibilities (para. 18(a))
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- III. Information on ITMO metrics, method for applying corresponding adjustments and method for quantification of the NDC (para. 18(c–f))
- IV. Information on each cooperative approach (para. 18(g–i), para. 19)



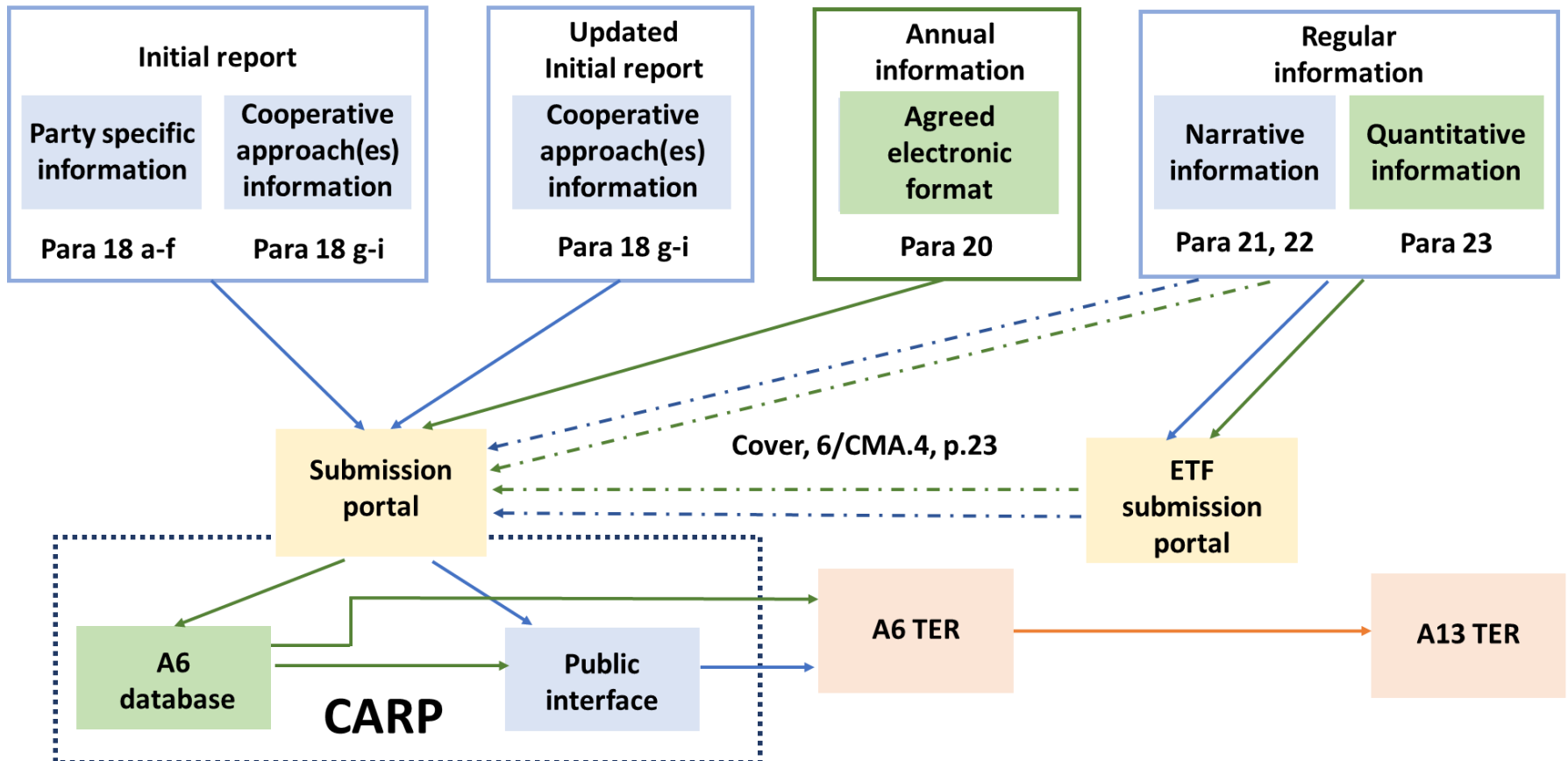
**Once for NDC period
Initial report**



**Once for cooperative approach
Initial and updated initial report**

Overview of submissions

Unless otherwise specified, references refer to 2/CMA.3



CARP (Interim solution)

← → ↻ 🏠 unfccc.int/process/the-paris-agreement/cooperative-implementation


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Process and meetings > The Paris Agreement > The Paris Agreement > Cooperative Implementation

Cooperative Implementation.



Credit: Kiara Worth, IISD

Stakeholder Interaction

Relevant Documents

Related Links

Centralized accounting and reporting platform (interim solution)

Background

Windows taskbar: Start, Search, Edge, File Explorer, Firefox, Chrome, Teams, PowerPoint, Excel, Word, Outlook, Settings



CARP (Interim solution)

← → ↻ 🏠 unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement/the-paris-agreement/cooperative-implementation/centralized-accounting-and-reporting-platform

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The Paris Agreement > The Paris Agreement > Centralized accounting and reporting platform (...)

Centralized accounting and reporting platform (interim solution).

Submissions pursuant to decision 2/CMA.3, annex, chapter IV (Reporting)

With decision 6/CMA.4, paragraph 28, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA) requested the secretariat to provide an interim solution by January 2023 for the submission of information pursuant to decision 2/CMA.3, annex, chapter IV (Reporting), until the centralized accounting and reporting platform and the Article 6 database referred to in chapter VI (Recording and tracking) of the annex to the same decision are released.

This interim solution enables Parties participating in cooperative approaches referred to in Article 6, paragraph 2 of the Paris Agreement to make submissions and the secretariat to publish non-confidential information pursuant to decision 2/CMA.3, annex, paragraph 24.

According to decision 6/CMA.4, paragraph 36, participating Parties are encouraged to prepare their initial reports and updated initial reports in accordance with the outlines contained in annex V of the same decision. For that purpose, the reporting template available in tab "Templates" below may be used.

National Focal Points of participating Parties can make submissions [here](#). Submissions are required in PDF format for publication purposes. Parties are strongly encouraged to make submissions also in word version for further processing in accordance with decision 6/CMA.4, annex I, paragraph 27.

Assistance is available through: CARP-support@unfccc.int.

Related Information

Related links ↓

Templates

Template for the initial report and updated initial report referred to in decision 2/CMA.3, annex, chapter IV.A (Initial report)

[Download template here](#) ↑

Submitted reports ↓



Template initial and updated initial report

Outline for the initial report and updated initial report referred to in decision 2/CMA.3, annex, chapter IV.A (Initial report)^{1, 2}

[English only]

Party	Party name
NDC period	2022-2030
Report number for the NDC period	1
Version	1.0
Date	05/05/2022

¹ Ascribe sequential number for updated initial reports. The number '1' is reserved for the initial report.
² Ascribe version number as follows: decimal increase for minor revisions (typos, corrections) and digit increase for content changes (where unavoidable).

Note: For updated initial reports fill in only section IV. Information on each cooperative approach (para. 18(g)-(i), para. 19 of the annex to decision 2/CMA.3).

I. Participation responsibilities (para. 18(a))

A. Information on how the Party ensures that it is a Party to the Paris Agreement (para. 18(a), para. 4(a), to be updated by para. 21(a))

B. Information on how the Party ensures that it has prepared, communicated and is maintaining an NDC in accordance with Article 4, paragraph 2 (para. 18(a), para. 4(b), to be updated by para. 21(a))

C. Information on how the Party ensures it has arrangements in place for authorizing the use of ITMOs towards achievement of NDC's pursuant to Article 6, paragraph 3 (para. 18(a), para. 4(c), to be updated by para. 21(a))

D. Information on how the Party ensures it has arrangements in place that are consistent with the Article 6, paragraph 2, guidance and relevant decisions of the CMA for tracking ITMOs (para. 18(a), para. 4(d), to be updated by para. 21(a))

E. Information on whether the most recent national inventory report required in accordance with decision 18/CMA.1 has been provided (para. 18(a), para. 4(e), to be updated by para. 21(a))

F. Information on how the Party ensures participation contributes to the implementation of its NDC and long-term low-emission development strategy, if it has submitted one, and the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement (para. 18(a), para. 4(f), to be updated by para. 21(a))

II. Description of the Party's nationally determined contribution, as referred to in decision 18/CMA.1, annex, paragraph 64, where a participating Party has not yet submitted a biennial transparency report (para. 18(b), to be updated by para. 21(b))

A. Target(s) and description, including target type(s) (decision 18/CMA.1, annex, para. 64(a))

B. Target year(s) or period(s), and whether they are single-year or multi-year target(s) (decision 18/CMA.1, annex, para. 64(b))

C. Reference point(s), level(s), baseline(s), base year(s) or starting point(s), and their respective value(s) (decision 18/CMA.1, annex, para. 64(c))

D. Time frame(s) and/or periods for implementation (decision 18/CMA.1, annex, para. 64(d))

E. Scope and coverage, including, as relevant, sectors, categories, activities, sources and sinks, pools and gases (decision 18/CMA.1, annex, para. 64(e))

F. Intention to use cooperative approaches that involve the use of internationally transferred mitigation outcomes under Article 6 towards NDC's under Article 4 of the Paris Agreement (decision 18/CMA.1, annex, para. 64(f))

¹ This template is for voluntary use to facilitate the preparation and submission of the initial reports and updated initial reports referred to in decision 2/CMA.3, annex, chapter IV.A (initial report).

² The list of the acronyms and abbreviations used in this template are available in decision 6/CMA.4: <https://unfccc.int/documents/624474>.

³ References to chapters and paragraphs in the outline are to chapters and paragraphs in the annex to decision 2/CMA.3, unless stated otherwise. "Article" refers to an Article of the Paris Agreement.

1

2

- **Sections I-III** Party-level information
- **Section IV** Cooperative Approach-level information (repeated)



Suggested illustrative elements of information



Background

- © The initial draft of the suggested illustrative elements of information was **drawn from submissions** prior to CMA 4.
- © During the Sharm El-Sheik conference, Parties deliberated on and **acknowledged the usefulness** of the illustrative elements of information in the preparatory phase of qualitative reports
- © Parties agreed to have a **manual** by the secretariat containing illustrative elements of information and captured their progress on those illustrative elements in a document footnoted to para 22 of the decision 6/CMA.4

22. *Requests* the secretariat to develop and regularly update a manual containing illustrative elements of information³ for the initial report, updated initial report and annex 4 to the biennial transparency report (Regular information) to facilitate Parties' understanding of how to report information pertaining to decision 2/CMA.3, annex, paragraphs 18–22, taking into account the outcomes of the workshop referred to in paragraph 21 above and noting that the illustrative elements of information to be included in the manual have no formal status, are for voluntary use and shall not be used or referred to in the Article 6 technical expert review;

³ A suggested list of illustrative elements of information can be found at <https://unfccc.int/documents/624401>.



Suggested Illustrative elements of information

Objective

- © The suggested list of illustrative elements of information is designed to aid Parties in preparing harmonized and consistent qualitative reports

Usage

- © The illustrative elements have no formal status, are for voluntary use and shall not be used or referred to in the Article 6 technical expert review

Vehicle

- © The secretariat will develop and regularly update the manual containing the illustrative elements of information



- © Illustrative elements of information Party may wish to provide: ...
- © This section offers guidance on how the information could be organized in a complete and understandable way.
- © Please note that placeholders are denoted with the symbol "#".

B. Information in relation to the Party's fulfilment of its responsibility to ensure that it has prepared, communicated and is maintaining an NDC in accordance with Article 4, paragraph 2 (para. 18(a), para. 4(b), to be updated by para. 21(a))

[Illustrative elements of information Party may wish to provide:

- *An extract of and a link to its most recent NDC in the NDC Registry or attaches the NDC to its report. The Party also declares that it is continuing to implement its NDC.]*

[Illustrative elements of information Party may wish to provide:

- *Link to the latest NDC in the NDC Registry.]*

Summary

Suggested list of illustrative elements

- © Decision 6/CMA.4 houses a list of suggested illustrative elements of information
- © The illustrative elements will be included in a manual
- © SBSTA can provide recommendations on the manual
- © The usage of the illustrative elements will be optional
- © This resource is intended to provide possible, but not exclusive, approaches to meeting the initial report and updated initial report requirements

The suggested list of illustrative elements of information aims to facilitate a harmonized approach for the preparation of qualitative reports without imposing any constraints

