



Background document on the 2019 workplan of the Standing Committee on Finance

Twentieth meeting of the Standing Committee on Finance Bonn, Germany, 21–22 March 2019

Expected actions by the Standing Committee on Finance

The Standing Committee on Finance (SCF) will be invited to consider the mandates and further guidance received at COP 24 with a view to agreeing on its workplan for 2019, including:

- a) The organization of its work for 2019, identification of co-facilitators/focal points, and composition of working groups;
- b) The consideration of new mandates from the Katowice conference;
- c) Its communication and outreach activities.

I. Possible actions for consideration by the SCF

A. 2019 workplan and the distribution of work throughout 2019

1. The COP, in decision 4/CP.24, paragraph 2, endorsed the workplan of the SCF for 2019.¹ In addition, further guidance was provided to the Committee in other relevant decisions at the Katowice conference. Annex II to this document identifies these tasks and activities, the relevant reference documents, and the timelines for these various areas of work as mandated by COP 24 and CMA 1, as well as from previous COP decisions.

2. The SCF may wish to consider the information on:

(a) The timeline and proposed approach for meetings and inter-sessional work of the SCF in 2019 as contained in annex I to this document;

(b) The tasks and activities, relevant reference documents, and timelines for the various areas of work as mandated by COP 24 and CMA 1, as well as from previous COP decisions as outlined in annex II to this document, including mandated and requested activities related to:

- (i) Information relevant to Article 2.1(c) of the Paris Agreement (paragraph 32);
- (ii) First report on the determination of needs of developing country Parties related to implementing the Convention and the Paris Agreement (paragraph 39);
- (iii) Support to enhance the capacity of developing country Parties in preparing, communicating and accounting for their nationally determined contributions (paragraph 40);
- (iv) Considering ways to facilitate the mobilization of support for adaptation in developing countries, in the context of the limit to the increase in the global average temperature referred to in Article 2 of the Paris Agreement, as well as the technical work of the AC and the LEG

¹ As contained in document FCCC/CP/2018/8, annex VI.

on developing methodologies for reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support (paragraphs 41–42);

(v) Inputs to the global stocktake (paragraph 53);

(c) Any outreach and communication activities of the SCF in 2019, for example related to the Biennial Assessment and Overview of Climate Finance Flows, the 2019 Forum, and a possible side event during the fiftieth sessions of the subsidiary bodies (June 2019) in order to allow the SCF to inform Parties and other interested stakeholders of the status of the implementation of its work plan.

Annex I: Timeline and proposed approach for meetings and inter-sessional work of the SCF in 2019

20th meeting (21 to 22 March)

- Election of officers
- 2019 workplan
- 2020 Biennial Assessment and overview of climate finance flows (BA)
- First report on determination of the needs of developing countries related to the implementation of the Convention and the Paris Agreement
- Draft guidance to the operating entities (OEs)
- MRV of support beyond the BA
- 2019 Forum
- Enhancing stakeholder engagement
- Linkages with the SBI and the constituted bodies of the Convention

Outcomes

- *Agreement on 2019 workplan, considering additional mandates from COP 24*
- *Topic, scope, venue, outreach activities of the Forum, guidance for inter-sessional work and decision making*
- *Initiation of work on implementation of work plan for MRV of support / on 2020 BA, guidance for inter-sessional work*
- *Guidance for work on provision of draft guidance, including inter-sessional work*
- *Agreement on approach to issue of linkages*

Inter-sessional work:

- Forum (logistics and substantive work)
- BA/MRV of support
- Determination of the needs of developing countries related to the implementation of the Conv and PA
- Guidance to the OEs
- Linkages
- SB 50
 - Informal meeting
 - Side event
- Outreach / communications activities

21st meeting (10 to 13 September (dates TBC))

- Report on the 2019 Forum
- Topic of the next Forum
- 2020 BA
- First report on determination of the needs of developing countries related to the implementation of the Convention and the Paris Agreement
- Draft guidance to the OEs
- MRV of support beyond the BA
- SCF report to COP 25
- Linkages with the SBI and the constituted bodies of the Convention

Outcomes

- *Agreement on the SCF report, including SCF 2020 work plan/procedure to finalize report*
- *Finalization of the 2019 Forum report*
- *Agreement on outline for the 2020 BA, related recommendations*
- *Workplan for MRV of support, related recommendations*
- *Draft outline for the report on the determination of the needs of developing countries related to the implementation of the Convention and the Paris Agreement*
- *Draft guidance to the OEs, related recommendations*
- *Possible consideration of a theme/related recommendations for next Forum, related*
- *Agreement on linkages related activities*

25th session of the Conference of Parties, COP 25

Inter-sessional work:

- COP and CMA report
- BA
- Determination of the needs of developing countries related to the implementation of the Conv and PA
- Linkages
- Outreach / communications activities

Retreat:

- 2019 workplan
- COP 24 mandates
- Election of officers

Annex II

Workplan of the Standing Committee on Finance for 2019 – Priority areas of work

<i>Activities</i>	<i>Outcomes/results</i>	<i>Time frame</i>
1. Mandated activities of the SCF as per decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 121		
(a) Organize a forum for the communication and continued exchange of information among bodies and entities dealing with climate change finance in order to promote linkages and coherence	2019 SCF Forum on climate finance and sustainable cities	Mid-2019, pending the adoption of the date and venue by the SCF
		Ongoing activities of the virtual forum
	Continuous updating and implementation of the SCF communication strategy	Ongoing
	Established linkages and continued exchange with bodies and entities dealing with climate finance, under and outside the Convention	2019 SCF Forum Ongoing outreach activities of the virtual forum
Decision 1/CP.18, paragraph 70: Implement the work programme of the SCF, including the creation of a climate finance forum that will enable all Parties and stakeholders to, inter alia, exchange ideas on scaling up climate finance	See 1(a) above	
Decision 5/CP.18, paragraph 4: Facilitate the participation of the private sector, financial institutions and academia in the forum	See 1(a) above	
Decision 8/CP.23, paragraph 12: Ensure the value added of its forum when deciding on the topic of each forum; provide clear recommendations to the COP, as appropriate, regarding follow-up actions on the forum, and enhance the dissemination, use and ownership of the accumulated knowledge and expertise gathered at the forum	Continuous updating and implementation of the SCF communication strategy	Ongoing
	Established linkages and continued exchange with bodies and entities dealing with climate finance, under and outside the Convention	

<i>Activities</i>	<i>Outcomes/results</i>	<i>Time frame</i>
(b) Maintain linkages with the SBI and the constituted bodies under the Convention , including Decision 8/CP.23, paragraph 11: Further refine its approach to maintaining linkages with the subsidiary and constituted bodies according to resources available and in the context of its existing working modalities	Co-Chairs of the SCF inform presiding officers of the constituted bodies under the Convention about the activities of the SCF and establish working relationships	2019
	Continuous updating and implementation of the SCF communication strategy	Ongoing
	Enhanced linkages with the SBI and the constituted bodies under the Convention	Ongoing
(c) Provide to the COP draft guidance to the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism of the Convention with a view to improving the consistency and practicality of such guidance, taking into account the annual reports of the operating entities and relevant submissions from Parties	Draft guidance provided to the COP	COP 25 (December 2019)
Decision 3/CMA.1, paragraph 8: Prepare draft guidance for the entities entrusted with the operation of the Financial Mechanism, and on the LDCF and the SCCF, for consideration of CMA 2		COP 25 (December 2019)
(d) Make recommendations on how to improve the coherence, effectiveness and efficiency of the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism	Recommendations provided to the COP, as appropriate	Sessions of the COP
Functions of the SCF as per decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 112: Rationalize the Financial Mechanism, including the undertaking of analyses and information exchanges	Recommendations provided to the COP, as appropriate	Sessions of the COP
	Exchanges through the Forum, as appropriate	Ongoing
(e) Prepare a biennial assessment and overview of climate finance flows, to include information on the geographical and thematic balances of such flows	Initiate technical work for the fourth biennial assessment and overview of climate finance flows, including development of a general outline, data collection and engagement with climate finance data producers and aggregators	Ongoing
Decision 3/CP.19, paragraph 11: In the context of the preparation of its biennial assessment and overview of climate finance flows, consider ongoing technical work on operational definitions of climate finance, including private finance mobilized by public interventions, to assess how adaptation and mitigation needs can most effectively be met by climate finance, and include the results in its annual report to the COP	See 1(e) above	Ongoing
Decision 9/CP.21, paragraph 13: Take into account the enhanced information provided by Parties included in Annex II to the Convention referred to in paragraph	See 1(e) above	Ongoing

<i>Activities</i>	<i>Outcomes/results</i>	<i>Time frame</i>
6 of decision 9/CP.21 in its biennial assessment and overview of climate finance flows		
Decision 4/CP.24, paragraph 5: Use the established terminology in the provisions of the Convention and the Paris Agreement in relation to climate finance, where applicable		Outcome at COP 25
Decision 4/CP.24, paragraph 10: Map, every four years, as part of the BA, the available information relevant to Article 2, paragraph 1(c) of the Paris Agreement, including its reference to Article 9 thereof		Ongoing
Decision 19/CMA.1, paragraph 24: prepare synthesis reports for the technical assessment of the global stocktake		Ongoing
2. Additional mandates: determination of the needs of developing country Parties related to implementing the Convention and the Paris Agreement		
Decision 4/CP.24, paragraph 13: SCF to prepare, every four years, a report on the determination of the needs of developing country Parties related to implementing the Convention and the Paris Agreement, for consideration by the COP, starting at its twenty-sixth session (Nov 2020), and the CMA, starting at its third session (Nov 2020)		Ongoing
Decision 4/CP.24, paragraph 14: To collaborate, as appropriate, with the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism, the subsidiary and constituted bodies, multilateral and bilateral channels, and observer organizations		Ongoing
3. Additional mandates: measurement, reporting and verification		
As per decision 6/CP.20, paragraph 11: In the context of its ongoing work, including the preparation of the biennial assessment and overview of climate finance flows, further explore how it can enhance its work on the measurement, reporting and verification of support, based on the best available information on the mobilization of various resources, through public interventions	Implementation of the extended workplan on the measurement, reporting and verification of support beyond the biennial assessment and overview of climate finance flows	Ongoing
Decision 6/CP.21, paragraph 4: In implementing its workplan on the measurement, reporting and verification of support beyond the biennial assessment and overview of climate finance flows, continue to engage with relevant bodies under the Convention, multilateral and bilateral agencies, and international institutions	Implementation of the extended workplan on the measurement, reporting and verification of support beyond the biennial assessment and overview of climate finance flows	Ongoing
Decision 9/CP.21, paragraph 14: Take into account the work on the methodologies for the reporting of financial information by Parties included in Annex I to the	Implementation of the extended workplan on the measurement, reporting and verification of support beyond the biennial	Ongoing

<i>Activities</i>	<i>Outcomes/results</i>	<i>Time frame</i>
Convention in the context of its workplan on the measurement, reporting and verification of support	assessment and overview of climate finance flows	
Decision 8/CP.22, paragraph 5: In fulfilling its function on the measurement, reporting and verification of support, and in the context of its existing workplan, cooperate with relevant stakeholders and experts and consider ongoing work under the Convention and further action envisaged under the Paris Agreement	Implementation of the extended workplan on the measurement, reporting and verification of support beyond the biennial assessment and overview of climate finance flows	Ongoing
Decision 7/CP.23, paragraph 7: Enhance work on the measurement, reporting and verification of support beyond the biennial assessment, acknowledging the progress made by the SCF and noting the need to avoid duplication of ongoing work under the SBSTA and the APA	Implementation of the extended workplan on the measurement, reporting and verification of support beyond the biennial assessment and overview of climate finance flows	Ongoing
Decision 7/CP.23, paragraph 8: Continue cooperation with relevant stakeholders and experts in fulfilling its function with regard to the measurement, reporting and verification of support, and in the context of the extended workplan	Implementation of the extended workplan on the measurement, reporting and verification of support beyond the biennial assessment and overview of climate finance flows	Ongoing
Functions of the SCF as per decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 112: Measurement, reporting and verification of the support provided to developing country Parties, including the undertaking of analyses and information exchanges	Recommendations provided to the COP, as appropriate	Sessions of the COP
	Exchanges through the Forum, as appropriate	Ongoing

Notes: Workplan listed by core mandates followed by mandates according to key areas of work. All activities of the SCF as outlined in this table are subject to the availability of financial resources; when providing additional mandated activities to the SCF, the COP may wish to take this into consideration, as well as the need for further streamlining and rationalization of the work to be conducted by the SCF in the light of capacity constraints induced by the large array of mandates provided to the SCF.

Abbreviations: APA = Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement, COP = Conference of the Parties, SBI = Subsidiary Body for Implementation, SBSTA = Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice, SCF = Standing Committee on Finance.

Workplan of the Standing Committee on Finance for 2019 – Additional mandates

<i>Activities</i>	<i>Outcomes/results</i>	<i>Time frame</i>
1. Additional SCF mandates: general		
Decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 63: Serve the Paris Agreement in line with its functions and responsibilities established under the COP		Ongoing
Decision 6/CP.21, paragraph 2: Continue to strengthen its engagement with all relevant stakeholders and bodies under the Convention	Continuous updating and implementation of the SCF communication strategy	Ongoing
	Enhanced linkages with the SBI and the constituted bodies under the Convention	Ongoing
Decision 8/CP.23, paragraph 14: Further strengthen its stakeholder engagement	Enhanced stakeholder engagement	Ongoing
2. Additional mandates: adaptation		
Decision 11/CMA.1, paragraph 21: In line with the SCF mandate, and in collaboration with the TEC and the PCCB, consider, taking into account the recommendations of the AC and the LEG, as well as relevant submissions from Parties and observer organizations, ways to facilitate the mobilization of support for adaptation in developing countries, in the context of the limit to the increase in the global average temperature referred to in Article 2 of the Paris Agreement, and to include recommendations in its annual report		2019
Decision 11/CMA.1, paragraphs 34 and 35: To contribute to the technical work of the AC and the LEG on developing methodologies for reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support		Ongoing
3. Additional SCF mandates: loss and damage		
Decision 4/CP.24, paragraph 11: Encourages the SCF to provide input to the technical paper of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts on the sources of financial support	Input to the technical paper	2019
4. Additional SCF mandates: gender		
Decision 21/CP.22, paragraph 14: All constituted bodies under the UNFCCC process to include in their regular reports information on progress made towards integrating a gender perspective into their processes according to the entry points identified in the technical paper referred to in paragraph 13 of decision 21/CP.22	Integration of a gender perspective into its processes according to the entry points identified in the technical paper	Ongoing

<i>Activities</i>	<i>Outcomes/results</i>	<i>Time frame</i>
Decision 3/CP.23, annex, table 3, activity C.2: The secretariat to provide capacity-building to chairs and members of the UNFCCC constituted bodies and technical teams of the secretariat on how to integrate gender considerations into their respective areas of work and on meeting the goal of gender balance	Organization of a session by the secretariat (e.g. in a format such as a technical segment, possible strategy meeting or webinar)	Ongoing
Decision 3/CP.23, annex, table 4, activity D.1: Host a dialogue on the implementation of its commitment to integrate gender considerations into its work, emphasizing the relevance of gender-responsive access to finance in the implementation of climate action	Integration of gender as a cross-cutting sub-theme in the 2019 SCF Forum as well as the further discussions related to the integration of gender considerations into the work of the SCF, emphasizing the relevance of gender-responsive access to finance	Ongoing
5. Additional SCF mandates: forests		
Decision 7/CP.19, paragraph 11: Consider, in its work on coherence and coordination, inter alia, the issue of financing for forests, taking into account different policy approaches	Financing for forest-related considerations integrated into existing workplan, where appropriate, and work on this matter continued in the context of the overall issue of improving coherence and coordination in the delivery of climate change financing	Ongoing
Decision 8/CP.22, paragraph 10: Integrate financing for forest-related considerations into its 2017 workplan, where appropriate, and continue work on this matter in the context of the overall issue of improving coherence and coordination in the delivery of climate change financing, taking into account all relevant decisions on forests	Financing for forest-related considerations integrated into existing workplan, where appropriate, and work on this matter continued in the context of the overall issue of improving coherence and coordination in the delivery of climate change financing	Ongoing

Notes: Workplan listed by core mandates followed by mandates according to key areas of work. All activities of the SCF as outlined in this table are subject to the availability of financial resources; when providing additional mandated activities to the SCF, the COP may wish to take this into consideration, as well as the need for further streamlining and rationalization of the work to be conducted by the SCF in the light of capacity constraints induced by the large array of mandates provided to the SCF.

Abbreviations: AC = Adaptation Committee, COP = Conference of the Parties, LEG = Least Developed Countries Expert Group, SBI = Subsidiary Body for Implementation, SCF = Standing Committee on Finance.