

Oral report by the CGE Chair at the opening plenary of SBI 50

Agenda item: 4b

Monday, 17 June 2019

CGE Chair to speak from the Congo's flag

- Thank you, Mr. Chair.
- On behalf of the **Consultative Group of Experts (CGE)**, I have the honor to report to the SBI on the work of the CGE under its current mandate and terms of reference.
- Parties would recall that COP24 in Katowice extended the mandate of the Consultant Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention for eight years, from 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2026 and renamed it the Consultative Group of Experts (CGE).
- Further, CMA 1 decided that the CGE shall also serve the Paris Agreement, starting from 1 January 2019, to support the implementation of the enhanced transparency framework under Article 13 of the Paris Agreement by, inter alia:
 - Facilitating the provision of technical advice and support to developing country Parties, as applicable, including for the preparation and submission of their biennial transparency reports and facilitating improved reporting over time;
 - Providing technical advice to the secretariat on the implementation of the training of the technical expert review teams.
- And COP24 requested the SBI review and revise the terms of reference for the CGE with a view towards recommending a draft decision for consideration and adoption at COP25.
- Recognizing this, the CGE agreed to develop a one-year work plan.

- The group set its priority for the year to be increasing the number of submissions of national communications and biennial update reports, and helping developing countries prepare for reporting under the enhanced transparency framework.
- As a result, the group agreed to:

1. Conduct a capacity needs survey of developing countries to understand the technical gaps and needs to participate in the MRV arrangements and implement the enhanced transparency framework. This survey was launched on 24 May. We encourage developing country Parties to participate in the survey;
 2. Conduct 3 regional-hands on training workshops on institutionalization of data management for GHG;
 3. Organize a pilot informal CGE forum on support for MRV/transparency on the margins of the SBs in June and the COP in December;
 4. Enhance its e-Network platform under a rebranded “Online MRV/Transparency Helpdesk” for developing countries;
 5. Develop and disseminate a technical guide for developing country Parties to indicate opportunities to enhance reporting in national communications and biennial update reports to prepare for the reporting under the enhanced transparency framework under the Paris Agreement;
 6. Develop and disseminate toolbox on institutional arrangements to facilitate and support MRV/transparency reporting;
- These activities build on those that were implemented till 31 December 2018. The progress report of the SBI contained in document FCCC/SBI/2018/20 provides the details of activities implemented in the period from 2014 to 2018.
 - In closing, the CGE looks forward to successful review and revision of the terms of reference. This will allow the CGE to approach its work in a comprehensive manner that responds to the existing and emerging needs of developing country Parties.
 - Let me conclude the oral report by extending invitation to all present here to the Pilot CGE informal forum on Saturday 22 June from 1 pm to 4 pm in the lower conference room of the AHH building and the CGE side-event on 18 June from 13:15 to 15:00 in room Berlin.
 - Thank you.