

CMA 6 agenda item 7

Further guidance on features of nationally determined contributions, referred to in paragraph 26 of decision 1/CP.21

Compilation of in-session submissions

Version 18/11/2024 21:00

The in-session submissions on views regarding the further guidance on features of NDCs, received by the secretariat as at 18 November 2024, are compiled here in alphabetical order, as follows:

1. African Group of Negotiators
2. AOSIS
3. Arab Group
4. Australia
5. Chile
6. Colombia
7. European Union
8. Grupo SUR
9. Indonesia
10. LMDC
11. Norway
12. Panama
13. Russian Federation
14. Switzerland
15. United Kingdom
16. United States of America

Submission by the African Group of Negotiators On

Further Guidance on NDC Features

In-session submission – CMA6 Agenda Item 7

The African Group is of the view that there is no need for additional features as they are fully elaborated in the Paris Agreement and the Guidance for Information to Facilitate Clarity, Transparency and Understanding of NDCs (4/CMA.1) is very detailed to provide guidance to Parties. As a result we want no new features, and consideration of features should be concluded at this session. We discussed features before Paris, in negotiating the Paris rule-book, and agreed there were no additional features.

If other Parties wish to add features, this can NOT be limited to mitigation alone. We hear the argument that much has changed since Paris. Well, much has changed on the impacts of climate change and finance too. Impacts are increasing, and the capacity to adapt is being stretched, adaptation threatened and loss and Damage is here and now. Developing countries and particularly poor communities in our countries are paying the costs, in lost livelihoods, compromised and regrettably loss of lives and property.

We see a big push to renegotiate the form of mitigation targets, effectively rewriting Art 4.4. of the Paris Agreement. This is not acceptable to the Africa Group.

If we renegotiate, and add new features, Africa Group would like to recall that NDCs are not only mitigation and there is need for further guidance on the features on adaptation, L&D and finance. These features may include but not limited to:

- All NDCs shall include adaptation components, and report on the adaptation components of their NDCs in their biennial transparency reports, including reporting on support provided by developed countries for adaptation action in developing countries, in the contexts of paragraphs 9.5 and 9.7 of the Paris Agreement.
- Recalling para 16 of 2/CMA.5, adaptation component of the NDC shall include information related to the targets referred to in para 9–10 of 2/CMA.5; and encourages Parties to report on progress, good practices, experience and lessons learned in relation to implementing the framework on the Global Goal on Adaptation in their communication and reporting under decisions 9/CMA.1 and 18/CMA.1
- All NDCs shall include Means of Implementation -
 - Developed countries shall include finance to be provided and mobilised in their NDCs in accordance with paragraphs 9.1 and 9.3 of the Agreement, and report on delivery in their biennial reporting under Article 9.7 of the Paris Agreement;
 - Developing countries will include information on finance needed and received; and

- Developed countries shall report on technology development, transfer, and capacity-building provided to developing countries.
- All NDCs shall include components on Loss & Damage; and
 - Developed countries shall include finance to be provided to respond to L&D on addressing loss and damage to assist developing countries that are vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change in responding to economic and non-economic loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, including extreme weather events and slow onset events and other elements such as climate related emergencies, sea level rise, climate related displacements, relocation, migration, insufficient climate information and data, and the need for climate-resilient reconstruction and recovery while
 - Developing countries will include finance needed to respond to L&D

Furthermore, we insist to close this consideration, and propose text for the CMA.

Proposed Text:

1. Welcomes the exchange of views by Parties.
2. Decides to conclude the consideration of features of NDCs at its sixth session.
3. Further decides that any subsequent consideration of NDC features, will not happen before the 35th Conference of the Parties to the Convention and the 12th Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement



ALLIANCE OF SMALL ISLAND STATES

AOSIS Intervention#2

CMA 6: 7 Further guidance on features of nationally determined contributions, referred to in paragraph 26 of decision 1/CP21

Talofa Co-facilitators and colleagues. Samoa speaking on behalf of AOSIS.

1. For AOSIS it is important that nationally determined contributions remain nationally determined. NDCs are however, also contributions toward agreed global targets. **Further guidance**, can therefore be helpful to us with our national determinations and toward meeting our collective objectives.
2. We highlight again that the most important feature of our NDCs is **the collective ambition** contained within them. In line with the best available science from the IPCC, limiting warming to 1.5°C with no or limited overshoot requires peaking global GHG emissions before 2025, halving global GHG emissions by 2030, achieving net-zero CO₂ by 2050, and net zero GHG emissions in the second half of the century. Current NDCs fall collectively short of these goals, and there is an urgent need to strengthen current NDCs and see more ambitious new NDCs by early 2025 which align with 1.5°C. We would like to clarify that providing guidance on the features of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) will not impede the timely submission of new NDCs, which are due in 2025.
3. We highlight and uphold the **existing features of NDCs as laid out in Article 4 of the Paris Agreement**. However, as noted by **paragraph 165 of the GST**, **future NDCs should be informed by the outcomes of the global stocktake**. This includes the encouragement for all Parties, not just developed country Parties, to come forward in their next nationally determined contributions with ambitious, economy-wide emission reduction targets, covering all greenhouse gases, sectors and categories and aligned with limiting global warming to 1.5°C, as informed by the latest science, in the light of different national circumstances.

4. In responding to the outcomes of the GST, Parties can also detail how their nationally determined contribution supports the outcomes of paragraphs 28 and 33 of the GST, in particular tripling renewable energy capacity globally and doubling the global average annual rate of energy efficiency improvements by 2030; transitioning away from fossil fuels in energy systems; accelerating zero- and low-emission technologies; reducing methane emissions and ending deforestation. Additional clarity on these elements can support in the implementation of NDCs, as well as facilitate greater understanding on the mitigation implications of Parties' NDCs.
5. **Further guidance** could help with each of these issues and potentially others that colleagues have identified, whilst acknowledging that the ability to provide more detail on existing features or include new features will be subject to Parties' capacity to do so.
6. I thank you,



Saudi Arabia on behalf of the Arab Group Submission

Agenda Item 7: Further guidance on features of nationally determined contributions, referred to in paragraph 26 of decision 1/CP.21

Session Name: CMA 6 – Agenda Item 7: Further guidance on features of nationally determined contributions, referred to in paragraph 26 of decision 1/CP.21

Mandate:

Per decision 4/CMA.1 Para 20 “*Decides to continue consideration of further guidance on features of nationally determined contributions at its seventh session (2024)*”.

Overview:

As we engage in this deliberation to continue our consideration of further guidance on features, we view its of crucial importance to emphasize the following principles and general guidance:

1. **Adherence to the Paris Agreement:** any further guidance shall be consistent with the Paris Agreement, as noted in **decision 4/CMA.1, para 19**. The Paris Agreement serves as the foundational and enduring guidance for NDCs, and any guidance developed shall not contradict its provisions.
2. **Respect for National Determination:** we emphasize the importance of maintaining the nationally determined nature of NDCs. This principle is fundamental to the Paris Agreement, ensuring that each Party retains the autonomy to define the content and scope of its contributions. When engaging in a discussion on further consideration of features, we view that its critical to uphold this core tenet as outlined in the Paris Agreement.
3. **Fulfilling this Session's Mandate:** Per decision **4/CMA.1 Para 20**, the current session's mandate is to “*continue consideration*” of further guidance on NDC features. Therefore, consistent with the mandate, parties must progress the work to consider guidance elements that have not already been considered. As such, we are of the view that it is now important to flesh out features as per **Article 3** of the Paris Agreement, whereby “as nationally determined contributions to the global response to climate change, all Parties are to undertake and communicate ambitious efforts as defined in Articles 4, 7, 9, 10, 11 and 13 with the view to achieving the purpose of this Agreement as set out in Article 2. The efforts of all Parties will represent a progression over time, while recognizing the need to support developing country Parties for the effective implementation of this Agreement”, given that time did not allow an adequate engagement on this matter in Katowice.
4. **Future Review and ICTU:** this mandate precedes the mandate set for review of the ICTU in 2027. This timeline allows for a discussion that does not address ICTU components in the current session. This session shall therefore address elements related to

Article 3 related to XYZ and not related to the ICTU components, which are mainly focused on mitigation.

5. **Differentiated Responsibilities:** There is differentiated guidance related to NDCs in the Paris Agreement, including as highlighted in **Article 4.4** of the Paris Agreement, where developed countries take the lead with economy-wide absolute emission reduction targets, while developing countries are encouraged to move over time towards economy-wide emission reduction or limitation targets in the light of different national circumstances. Similarly, **Article 4.5** underscores that support shall be provided to developing country Parties for the implementation of this Article, in accordance with Articles 9, 10 and 11, recognizing that enhanced support for developing country Parties will allow for higher ambition in their actions.
6. **Comprehensive Implementation of Article 3:** We view that further guidance is required on the comprehensive implementation of Article 3, particularly regarding Articles 7, 9, 10, and 11 is needed. This holistic approach ensures that all elements of the Paris Agreement are addressed, promoting a balanced focus on mitigation, adaptation, finance, technology development, and capacity-building.

In line with the Paris Agreement, we view that ‘features’ ensure each country’s NDC reflects its unique capabilities, priorities, and development needs, while contributing to the global climate effort. More-so, features can be key elements that guide countries in delivering NDCs that are responsive to national circumstances, achievable, realistic, and enable equitable participation in climate action, without being overbearing, prescriptive or top-down. Corresponding to that and taking into consideration the principles of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances.

Consistent with that, we propose the following elements to which we may provide additional guidance on components of Article 3, with insufficient guidance, particularly as they pertain to Articles 7, 9, 10, and 11:

For elements related to Adaptation features:

1. **Elements corresponding to Para 1 of Art 7 of the Paris Agreement** and its different components it indicates as follows:
 - *Elements corresponding to enhancing adaptive capacity.*
 - *Elements corresponding to strengthening resilience.*
 - *Elements corresponding to reducing vulnerability to climate change.*
 - *Elements corresponding to adaptation in the context of sustainable development.*
 - *Elements corresponding to adequately responding to climate change impacts in the context the temperature goal outlined in article 2.1 a.*

For elements to inform guidance on possible finance features, the following is for developed country Parties:

1. Finance targets, pledges, and commitments for mitigation, adaptation, and loss and damage
2. Accounting and reporting definition of climate finance
3. Finance to provide and mobilize for tech access
4. Finance to provide and mobilize for capacity building
5. Finance to provide and mobilize for strengthening institutions and institutional arrangement in developing countries
6. Finance provided and mobilized for capacity building of impact assessments
7. Assessment of cross-border financial impacts of planned domestic measures

For elements to inform the guidance on possible adaptation support features, the following is encouraged by developing countries:

1. Technology support requirements for adaptation (needs by developing countries)
2. Finance requirements for adaptation (needs by developing countries)
3. Capacity-building requirements for adaptation (needs by developing countries)

For elements to inform guidance on possible capacity building features, the following is encouraged:

1. Support for developing countries for costing of needs in preparation of NDCs (by developed countries)
2. Knowledge sharing and best practices
3. Institutional strengthening

For elements to inform guidance on possible technology features, the following is encouraged:

1. Technology transfer needs (for developing countries)
2. Endogenous technology development, deployment and dissemination
3. Research and innovation in low-emission technologies.

For elements to inform guidance on response measures features:

1. Differentiated impact assessment
2. Tracking/monitoring/reporting response measures impacts
3. Sector specific impact measure

NDC Features, Australia Intervention, 13 November 2024

- Important to have a place to discuss how we can enhance the implementation of the Paris Agreement and scale up our efforts to keep 1.5 degrees within reach through our NDCs and emissions reduction targets.
- We have the experience of developing and for many countries revising our 2030 NDCs to draw from. In the process of developing our next NDCs, with some countries having completed this already.
- We also have a lot of existing guidance on NDCs to draw from, including that:
 - Successive NDCs will represent a progression from the current NDC
 - Reflect highest possible ambition
 - NDCs should also be informed by the outcomes of the Global Stocktake, as per Article 4.9
 - NDCs are nationally determined within the bounds of the guidance we have
 - GST - all Parties are encouraged to bring forward come forward ambitious, economy-wide emission reduction targets, covering all greenhouse gases, sectors and categories and aligned with limiting global warming to 1.5 °C, as informed by the latest science, in the light of different national circumstances,
 - Parties are also encouraged to align NDCs with long-term strategies
- But there are things we can do to improve the ambition, implementability and comparability of NDCs,
 - NDCs should be quantified in terms of CO2 equivalent
 - Should be at least in part unconditional, with the unconditional part reflecting highest possible ambition and of course countries take into account their capacity as part of this
 - Should include peaking targets or expectations of peaking dates
 - Parties should strive to put forward *absolute* emission reduction targets
 - NDCs should be aligned with long-term strategies and net zero targets
- Other opportunities to provide guidance on NDCs that may not be a feature in the strict sense of the word but could be helpful, e.g.
 - Encouraging Parties to support their NDCs with strong underpinning policy planning to support implementability and investability.

Input from Chile

Dear co-facilitators, following your guidance and the compilation of views on agenda item CMA 7, I hereby submit a summary of the ideas that were presented in the previous informal consultations under this agenda item, on behalf of Chile.

Best regards,

Julio Cordano

"The Paris Agreement already defines the features of NDCs that have been the basis of the previous round of NDCs and the current undertakings for the second round of NDCs.

We understand that the concept of "features" represents the common characteristics that Parties should observe when preparing their NDCs. For example, among many others, the 5-year cycle of communication; the Enhanced Transparency Framework and particularly ICTU; the need to increase ambition progressively as expressed in Article 4 of the Paris Agreement; or the common timeframes that were adopted in CMA3 in Glasgow. These, among other features, are the basis for clarity, comparability and common understanding among Parties to advance towards the goals of the Paris Agreement.

At the same time, we share the concern that the collective efforts of NDCs to date has led to a significant gap in ambition and implementation. However, in our view this is unrelated to potential new features, as ambition and implementation depend on the individual or collective initiatives and opportunities that every Party, or a group of Parties in collaborative actions, can take in order to accelerate their climate policies.

With this in mind, it is our view that this item should be closed in this session in Baku.

However, if the general sense of Parties were to keep this item, our view is that it should be deferred until the next cycle of NDCs, after the Second Global Stocktake, in the Bonn session in May/June 2029."

OPENING STATEMENT BY COLOMBIA NDC FEATURES

While recognizing the national determined nature of NDCs, Colombia shares the view that the Paris Agreement contains binding elements on how NDCs should be prepared and communicated.

Those elements are spread throughout the Paris Agreement. Colombia would like to highlight the most important ones:

- Communicated every 5 years
- Reflect the highest possible ambition
- Reflect the Principle of progression
- Informed by GST outcomes
- Represent CBDR-RC
- Include economy-wide emission reduction targets

Parties are also expected to provide the necessary Information to facilitate Clarity, Transparency and Understandability (ICTU), this includes:

- The baseline
- The timeline for implementation
- The planning process for the preparation of the NDC
- Assumptions and methodological approaches
- Fairness and ambition considerations
- Contribution to achieving the objective of the Convention

Additionally, all NDCs should include GHG mitigation targets aligned with the urgency messages indicated by science, recognizing that the 1.5°C scenario is still technically feasible (Emission Gap Report, 2024) and that, to correct the course, it is necessary to increase NDC efforts. This includes addressing all GHGs and adopting an economy-wide approach, enhancing ambition, and accelerating implementation. The targets proposed by the Parties should be expressed in terms of equivalent carbon dioxide reductions (CO₂eq), also considering the total accumulated emissions over the NDC implementation periods. These targets should align with carbon neutrality objectives and the long-term climate strategy (LTS) of the Parties.

All NDCs should indicate how their national mitigation targets contribute to achieving the goal of limiting the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, specifying, among other aspects, their connection to the remanent CO₂ carbon budget and striving for the incorporation of equity and justice criteria, based on national contexts.

Nationally determined contributions should clearly and transparently indicate their unconditional or conditional nature and to what extent, explaining how received and provided cooperation and support impact the fulfillment of NDC targets.

The energy package is essential, given this sector's significant share in global emissions. However, in line with the outcomes of the GST on synergies between conventions, it is also important that Parties consider including actions to halt and reverse deforestation and forest degradation, as well as the degradation of other ecosystems, recognizing the crucial role of biodiversity. For this reason,

it is considered important to include messages focused on the link between NDC measures and NBSAPs. For Colombia it is very important that NDCs identify synergies with NBSAPs.

Finally, Colombia believes that NDCs should be considered beyond market logic. Markets alone will not address the climate crisis they have created. Implementation of NDCs needs to be backed and supported through sufficient means that recognize the added value of ambitious climate action.



Submission on the NDC features by Hungary and the European Commission on behalf of the EU and its 27 Member States

Baku, 16/11/2024

Submission on behalf of the EU and its 27 Member States on the informal consultation: CMA 6: 7 Further guidance on features of nationally determined contributions, referred to in paragraph 26 of decision 1/CP.21 – 16th, 2024.

Content:

1. Views not expressed in previous interventions
2. Intervention November 16th
3. Intervention November 14th (previously submitted)
4. Intervention November 13th (previously submitted)

1. Views not expressed in previous interventions

Our further guidance on NDC features can be enhanced by including in our considerations:

- Consider how parties can promote, respect and protect human rights, including Indigenous Peoples rights, and strive for gender equality and the empowerment of women through a gender-responsive, inclusive and human rights-based approach, as well as enhance Action for Climate Empowerment to empower all members of society to engage in climate action in their NDCs
- Enhancing cooperation with local and regional governments and communities in preparing and implementing NDCs
- Taking forward the GST1 specific mitigation-related calls, e.g on :
 - Deployment of renewable energies, energy efficiency, electrification, etc.
 - Energy mix, calendar and plans to transition away from fossil fuels
 - Infrastructures deployment such as transmission grids or energy storage
 - Channelling fossil fuels subsidies to the energy transition or sustainable development
 - Halting and reverting deforestation
 - Road transport and infrastructure deployment
 - Circular economy, and waste reduction
- Reflecting concrete policies and measures to address the ambition and implementation of the NDCs

- Reflecting on the introduction or improvement of domestic carbon pricing mechanisms, underlining their potential to raise revenue to support their NDC implementation amongst others by aligning carbon pricing instruments with the Call to Action for Paris Aligned Carbon Markets and engaging in international initiatives such as the Coalition of Finance Ministers for Climate Action, the Bridgetown Initiative, and the Nairobi Climate Declaration.
- Ensuring facilitated assessment of expected emission reductions by providing transparency in different sectors, including contribution of absorptions and uses of Article 6.
- Guidance for Parties on how to put in place new or intensify existing domestic arrangements for preparing and implementing their successive NDC, i.e. this next round and those to follow.
- Guidance for Parties on meaningful public participation, engagement and access to information, including for civil society, young people and all stakeholders, as this is key to promoting social justice, fairness and inclusiveness in the global transition towards a climate neutral and resilient planet

Following process steps can be captured in a decision on NDC features:

- Request for a mandated event regarding public participation, inclusion, human rights, gender equality in the NDC preparation process.
- Task the Secretariat to develop a report on suggestions on NDC features, to be discussed at SB62.
- Creation of an agenda item on further guidance on features of nationally determined contributions, referred to in paragraph 26 of decision 1/CP.21, for continuous considerations of this item in the near future, i.e. starting in CMA 7 or CMA 8.
- Organisation of an annual informal workshop on further guidance for NDC features, including a presentation on the most current UNFCCC NDC Synthesis Report, held in the margins of the spring SB sessions, with a view to inform the continued discussions in above mentioned agenda item.

2. Intervention November 16th

Is there appetite of parties to go into inf infs

Yes, we see that inf infs will be beneficial at one point in our process, but It is too early as we don't have a tool such as Switzerland, Samoa and others just described.

We heard many views so it would be beneficial to have a compilation of views, provided by the co-facilitators as a basis for further engagement.

Written input to the co-facilitators can also help in this, so we would support you asking for submission from parties as a next step.

And just a practical matter- there are many overlaps especially in the next hours that will make it hard for parties to engage, given that I see many familiar faces here from another room that will convene soon.

End this item here, or defer consideration to a future session

Continue to consider this in the next week, as it was said we still have one week to go, and we should make use of the time to progress on this matter – to be clear: this is also about prioritisation and this is an important issue to us and as we can hear many other parties in the room.

Rational for this

Many interesting things that were said in the room, need more detail and discussion:

- Last consultation, we heard from some that new findings of science should be taken into consideration – would be very interesting to see this further detailed and how this might guide our discussion on features
 - o Very much support the detail of the intervention of Samoa in this, which was very useful and which we can see fitting well in this discussion on NDC features

Or other features that additionally could be reflected, for instance how to enhance the inclusiveness and the participation in the NDC process to improve the efficiency and gender-responsiveness of climate action.

So in short – we don't hear parties dictating something but we are discussing the matter – of course with our different views, which is very welcomed. The next step from our perspective would be a compilation of views, provided by the co-facilitators, also based on written submissions, and then continuation in the next week.

3. Intervention November 14th (previously submitted)

Yesterday, we listened closely to the statements of colleagues in the room, and heard both intend to provide further guidance as well as concerns about doing so. The EU wants to be clear that from our perspective, NDC features can not impact the nationally determined manner of nationally determined contributions in any way. However, based on our analysis of progress within this process, notably in last year's GST, and seeing the natural progression that NDCs undertook since their inception, we are convinced that there is space in which we, together as parties, can provide further guidance on features without impacting the bottom-up nature of NDCs.

This is of course not only an exercise to respond to our mandate, but an exercise that can have impact in the world outside of this process, the world of practitioners and implementers. Guidance on features that we are providing here can help to enhance NDCs to provide a clear indication of action to stakeholders in our nationally determined response to implement the Paris Agreement. This can also promote the unlocking of investments, and the creation of conditions for efficient and impactful implementation. Enhancing the inclusiveness and the participation in the NDC process can also improve the efficiency and gender-responsiveness of climate action.

To be clear, and reiterating from our intervention yesterday, we see the features

- provided by the GST in paragraph 39 and 40, as well as
- Including an absolute GHG emission reduction target, as well as
- Referring to the benefits of coherence between NDCs and domestic policy instruments and institutional arrangements, as well as
- an unconditional target, and
- other mitigation related elements of the GST

as useful guidance that this process should capture.

Additionally, we find additional value in deciding on a continuous review and follow-up process, also considering input provided through the NDC Synthesis Report, allowing us in time to consider further guidance on features based on NDCs submitted towards CMA7. We also heard views on coming back to this item only in the middle term – but as we are considering the key instrument of the Paris Agreement, the NDCs and their features, we need to make space for continuous considerations of this item in the near future, i.e. starting in CMA 7 or CMA 8.

Lastly – and responding to your initial question on text, the EU welcomes the development of text, reflecting the views heard in the room yesterday and today, and we are happy to provide our input of today in writing to the co-facilitators.

4. Intervention November 13th (previously submitted)

Thanks to the co-facilitators on guiding us in this item and thanks to the secretariat for their support and work

The EU welcomes the opportunity to consider NDC features at CMA 6 with a view to further strengthening and enhancing one of our key instruments in the Paris Agreement ambition cycle, the NDCs, and we are looking forward to a successful engagement on this matter over the next days

As we know, current NDCs are collectively insufficient to meet the temperature goal of the Paris Agreement to limit global warming to 1.5. As the UNFCCC NDC Synthesis Report this year states: “The best estimate of peak temperature in the twenty-first century is in the range of 2.1–2.8 °C.” The UNEP Emissions Gap Report shows similar findings.

We see progress on NDC features as another tool that we have at hand to shrink collective gaps in climate action. Specifically, NDC features can address this in 3 ways:

- Increase ambition: Allow for NDCs to function effectively within the Paris Agreement Framework, for instance in regard to displaying the highest possible ambition and showing progression over time
- Increase implementation: Provide structure and help to foster the understanding of NDCs – for stakeholders within and beyond the process, speaking to the implementation aspect of NDCs
- Increase understanding: bridge the collective ambition on global level with nationally determined action
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But what does that mean in terms of our discussions here? We see several elements that can display progress of parties on this matter, building upon Decision 4/CMA.1. Let me provide more detail on this:

- First: Use existing analysis to understand the progression of NDCs since we last discussed features. The NDC synthesis report 2024 for instance states that:
 - 94 per cent of Parties provided quantified mitigation targets
 - 81 per cent of Parties communicated economy-wide targets;
 - 82 per cent of NDCs are, at least in part, unconditional
 - 96 per cent of Parties provided quantified information on their mitigation targets and reference points.
- Second: Consider progress under last year’s GST, specifically features under paragraph 39, 1/CMA.5

Reflecting on these considerations, the EU sees value in using this space to address that parties in their NDCs should

- Include economy-wide, absolute emission reduction targets, covering all greenhouse gases, sectors and categories, etc.
- Align NDCs with long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies for 2050 to keep limit global warming to 1.5 degrees.

- Ensure coherence between the NDC and domestic policy instruments and institutional arrangements. - We know from our own experience: the better the planning, the better the implementation
- Have an unconditional target
- And take forward other GST1 specific mitigation-related calls

Over the course of the next days, we are looking forward to discussing these elements as well as a follow up and review process to this item, for instance in the form of another consideration of features in the light of NDCs submit before COP30, in following sessions

Grupo SUR's countries Brazil, Ecuador, Paraguay and Uruguay views expressed at the third informal consultation on further guidance on NDC features - November 16th, 2024.

Grupo SUR considers it is still too early to have inf inf, due to the complexity of the subject of further guidance on features of NDCs.

As nationally determined contributions to the global response to climate change, all Parties are to undertake and communicate ambitious efforts as defined in Articles 4, 7, 9, 10, 11 and 13 with the view to achieving the purpose of this Agreement as set out in Article 2. The efforts of all Parties will represent a progression over time, while recognizing the need to support developing country Parties for the effective implementation of this Agreement.

If Parties are willing to discuss further guidance on the features of NDCs, the alignment of NDCs to the long-term objective of the Paris Agreement of keeping 1.5o C within reach is crucial. As a potential component of further guidance Grupo SUR recalls Article 4, paragraph 4, of the Paris Agreement, which provides that developed country Parties should continue taking the lead by undertaking economy-wide absolute emission reduction targets, and that developing country Parties should continue enhancing their mitigation efforts and are encouraged to move over time towards economy-wide emission reduction or limitation targets in the light of different national circumstances.

Developed countries have the moral, scientific and legal obligation to take the lead by establishing more ambitious emission reduction targets.

Moreover, we see that there is a gap in existing guidance on features of NDCs in relation to the other pillars of the Paris Agreement besides mitigation: adaptation, finance, technology transfer and capacity-building. From our point of view, the negotiation context of COP29 could provide an opportunity to discuss incorporating

the provision of finance by developed countries to developing countries as a key feature of NDCs.

Grupo SUR recalls, according to article 9.1 of the Paris Agreement, that developed country Parties shall provide financial resources to assist developing country Parties with respect to both mitigation and adaptation in continuation of their existing obligations under the Convention.

Grupo SUR, in accordance with article 9.3 of the Paris Agreements, also recalls that part of a global effort, developed country Parties should continue to take the lead in mobilizing climate finance from a wide variety of sources, instruments and channels, noting the significant role of public funds, through a variety of actions, including supporting country-driven strategies, and taking into account the needs and priorities of developing country Parties. Such mobilization of climate finance should represent a progression beyond previous efforts.

The first Global Stocktake Outcome recommends that Parties should cooperate on promoting a supportive and open international economic system aimed at achieving sustainable economic growth and development in all countries and thus enabling them to better to address the problems of climate change, noting that measures taken to combat climate change, including unilateral ones, should not constitute a means of arbitrary or unjustifiable discrimination or a disguised restriction on international trade.

Therefore, we could also discuss further guidance on features of NDCs regarding how response measures adopted by Annex I Parties, particularly those with a trade component, can have negative, cross-border effects on the capacity of developing country Parties to design and implement their NDCs.

Submission by the Republic of Indonesia

agenda item on “Further guidance on features of nationally determined contributions, referred to in paragraph 26 of decision 1/CP.21”

Recalling the mandate of Dec4/CMA1 para 20 is to consider further guidance on features of nationally determined contributions at its seventh session (2024).

In line with some delegates, Indonesia views that the challenges currently faced are not related to features or additional guidance of features, instead it lies in the NDC implementation.

Indonesia views that the features contained in the Dec.4/CM1 (Annexes) are deemed sufficient, and taking into consideration the nature of NDCs which will be determined by Party considering their capacity, needs, priorities.

Since the Paris Agreement in developing the First NDC, developing country parties have exercised on how to develop the NDC target scenarios as well as the accounting element as a part to measure the NDC achievement.

→ Currently, we have already other challenges related to features and accounting, such as the mandates related to 2019 reference year, the use of global warming potential of AR5, etc, which will also have to applied for NDCs and its tracking progress report under the BTR and be used as a reference by the Parties.

→ Those current mandates are not easy for developing country parties to be applied, even though it is already stated on the Annexes of the Dec.4/CMA1.

Taking into consideration the full- and packed schedule during this session, Indonesia proposes not to discuss this matter in this session as it is too premature to be discussed now. Additionally, it is also too soon to discuss it before we see the report of tracking progress under BTR which can be one of the feed-back for NDCs' implementation.

Nevertheless, Indonesia looks forward to a compilation of views from the co-facilitators regarding this agenda item as it can play as a tool to understand other parties' views on this agenda item.

Thank you.

LMDC's submission for CMA item7, 2024

Further Guidance on Features of NDCs

The word “features” does not occur in PA. It is a term from para 26 of 1/CP.21 and subsequently there is no definition of features.

Para 26 says “Requests the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement to develop further guidance on features of the nationally determined contributions for consideration and adoption by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement at its first session;”

Para Decision 4/CMA.1 on considering this request simply said in para 19: “Notes that features of nationally determined contributions are outlined in the relevant provisions of the Paris Agreement”.

It is evident from our discussions that any discussions on “features” of NDCs should not infringe on the voluntary, nationally determined character of the Paris Agreement.

1. The Paris Agreement already provides guidance on NDCs and therefore, the features should be rooted in the Agreement itself. The mandate of the CMA on this item is NOT to renegotiate the Paris Agreement, but rather to reflect features enshrined in the Paris Agreement in a clearer and more well-structured manner, including as exhibited in Article 3 of the Paris Agreement.

2. NDC feature guidance is not the place to introduce policy-prescriptive elements, including elements from the GST which mention NDCs. NDCs feature are not the tools to prejudge and force Parties in an intrusive manner on NDC's content, especially not to require all Parties NDC in a common target type and to a specific ambition.

In the following we elaborate our understanding of what was meant by the statement in 4/CMA.1, that the features of nationally determined contributions are outlined in the relevant provisions of the Paris Agreement. These are in accordance with Article 4 of the Convention and the provisions of the Paris Agreement, in particular Article 3, 4.4, 4.5, 7, 9, 10 and 11:

a) Nationally determined – “Nationally determined” is the most crucial feature of Parties' contributions. It is up to Parties to determine what should be the content and magnitude of their NDCs. The further guidance for the features of the NDCs should not alter the nationally determined nature of the NDCs or dictating Parties' preparation, communication and implementation of NDCs.

b) Full Scope – The scope of NDCs defined by Article 3 of the Paris Agreement covers various elements including mitigation, adaptation and finance, technology development and transfer and capacity-building support, with a view to achieving the purpose of the Paris Agreement under Article 2. The NDCs should not be mitigation-centric or mitigation-focused. It should focus on addressing Article 3 in a holistic balanced way, one that addresses the remainder of articles referenced in article 3, including article 7, 9, 10, 11.

c) Progression and ambition – Progression and ambition should be reflected and operationalized not only in mitigation but also in provision of finance, technology and capacity-building support, taking into account Parties' common but differentiated responsibilities and recognizing the fundamental and significant role of enhanced support from developed country Parties in the ambitious mitigation and adaptation actions by developing country Parties.

d) Co-benefits – Mitigation co-benefits resulting from Parties' adaptation actions and/or economic diversification plans can contribute to mitigation outcomes.

e) Response Measures – According to Article 4.15 of the Paris Agreement, NDCs have to take into consideration the concerns of Parties with economies most affected by the impacts of response measures, particularly developing country Parties.

f) Differentiation – The features of the NDCs should reflect differentiated responsibilities and different national circumstances and capacities of developed and developing country Parties.

g) With conditions- According to Article 4.5 of the Paris Agreement, Support shall be provided to developing country Parties for the implementation of this Article, in accordance with Articles 9, 10 and 11, recognizing that enhanced support for developing country Parties will allow for higher ambition in their actions.

Further, as Article 3 notes “As nationally determined contributions to the global response to climate change, all Parties are to undertake and communicate ambitious efforts as defined in Articles 4, 7, 9, 10, 11 and 13 with the view to achieving the purpose of this Agreement as set out in Article 2.” Further, Article 2.2 says clearly: “This Agreement will be implemented to reflect equity and the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances.” Hence, as NDCs are the means through which the Agreement is to be implemented, adherence to equity and CBDR&RC are key features of the Paris Agreement.

(i) For developed country Parties:

Differentiation is one of the key features of the NDCs. In their NDCs, developed country Parties shall continue taking the lead by undertaking ambitious economy-wide absolute emission reduction targets under Article 4.4 and providing enhanced finance, technology and

capacity-building support to developing country Parties in accordance with Article 4.5, 9, 10 and 11 of the Paris Agreement;

Regarding the mitigation component of their NDCs, it shall be quantified and comparable, without conditions and implemented mainly through domestic actions. It shall include not only the quantified emission reduction targets, but also laws, policies and measures with the aim of achieving such quantified targets in their NDCs. Those laws, policies and measures should also demonstrate their leadership on achieving sustainable life styles and sustainable patterns of consumption and production;

Regarding the finance component of their NDCs, it shall include both quantitative goals and roadmaps and qualitative policies and measures, representing a progression beyond their previous efforts on providing support to developing country Parties. In this regard, a new collective quantified goal from a floor of USD 100 billion per year shall be set by the CMA as early as possible no later than 2025;

Regarding the technology and capacity-building component of their NDCs, it shall include quantifiable plans, policies and relevant projects to promote the development, application, diffusion and transfer of climate related technologies to developing country Parties and increase their capacities in all areas of addressing climate change;

Their NDCs should not include any form of unilateral measures against goods and services from developing country Parties on any grounds related to climate change.

(ii) For developing country Parties:

Their NDCs should be prepared, communicated and implemented in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and supported by finance, technology development and transfer and capacity-building;

The mitigation co-benefits resulting from Parties' adaptation actions and/or economic diversification plans can contribute to mitigation outcomes, as stated in Article 4.7 of the Paris Agreement. This means that developing countries may prioritize adaptation and economic diversification measures more than mitigation measures in the knowledge that such measures result in mitigation co-benefits;

The diversity of their NDCs on the types and content should be respected, recognizing their different national circumstances. Their NDCs could be qualitative plans, policies and programmes as appropriate if they are lack of the relevant capacities and support to put forward quantifiable targets.

What are not the features of the NDCs under the Paris Agreement?

It is clear that the only goals to which the NDCs should be subservient are those in the Paris Agreement itself. There is no scope for any other goal to which NDCs can be subservient since this would imply undermining the voluntary and nationally determined character of the Paris Agreement. Hence adherence to such external goals cannot be key features of the NDCs.

In particular, there is no room for any global target or goal to be translated into national goals of Parties.

Finally, we conclude the importance of the continued discussion on on the implementation of equity and CBDR&RC in the NDCs of developed country Parties, who have to take the lead in climate action according to the Paris Agreement.

Submission by Norway

Features 1st intervention

Thank you,

We see features as something long-term and long-standing, something goes beyond each five-year cycle of the NDCs. NDCs have features, they are reflected in the Paris Agreement. And the Katowice Rulebook helps us in providing clarity and transparency in communicating these NDCs. We believe many of the issues raised so far in the room so far, on features, are covered already in article 4 of the PA.

Norway sees encouraging trends in NDCs submitted so far, which reflect what we consider to be NDC features already embedded in the PA article 4, and further elaborated in 4 CMA 1.

For this session, we would like to see conclusions recalling article 4 of the PA, and the decision 4 CMA 1. It is also pertinent to acknowledge the improvement of NDCs over time.

We believe the features we have in article 4 of the PA provide a strong framework for communicating ambitious, 1,5 aligned NDCs. Thus, we do not see the need for further guidance at this point in time.

Submission by Panama: Further Guidance on Features of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)

INFORMAL CONSULTATION: CMA 7

Panama welcomes the opportunity to provide its views on further guidance for Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), as requested in Paragraph 26 of Decision 1/CP.21 and reaffirmed in Decision 4/CMA.1. This discussion is timely as Parties consider the first Global Stocktake (GST) outcomes and prepare for the February 2025 NDC submissions. Panama stresses that this consultation's results should not mandate changes for upcoming submissions, given Parties' differing preparation stages. Reaffirming support for revisiting NDC guidance at CMA 7, Panama emphasizes this process aims to refine guidance based on shared experiences and GST outcomes without renegotiating the Paris Agreement or compromising NDCs' nationally determined nature.

NDCs are at the heart of the Paris Agreement and the primary mechanism for limiting global temperature rise to 1.5°C. Strengthening their clarity, transparency, and effectiveness is essential for accelerating progress toward the Agreement's objectives and ensuring a sustainable future. To ensure focused and effective discussions, Panama proposes that further deliberations continue in a dedicated workshop, working group, or meeting in 2025. Delaying this dialogue until 2029 risks losing momentum and missing critical opportunities to improve global efforts.

Panama's rationale is rooted in two key priorities:

1. **Reflecting on Implementation:** Assessing lessons learned from previous NDCs to address gaps in ambition, clarity, and feasibility.
2. **Strengthening Outcomes:** Providing actionable, consensus-driven guidance to enhance NDC effectiveness, while aligning with the latest climate science and collective global goals.

Panama has consistently demonstrated climate leadership, being among the first to submit its NDCs and transparency reports. In 2025, Panama will further this leadership by presenting the world's first Nature Pledge—a groundbreaking initiative that integrates climate, biodiversity, and desertification commitments into a single, streamlined document. This pledge seeks to cut through national and international bureaucracy, offering a blueprint for cohesive and efficient action. Reflecting Panama's commitment to enhanced ambition and equity, this submission underscores the importance of fostering meaningful progress toward global climate goals and calls on all nations to unify efforts and follow suit.

Recommendations for Further Guidance

1. Clarify and Enhance Features of NDCs

Panama supports the development of clear, standardized definitions and guidelines for NDC features, as outlined in Paragraph 26 of Decision 1/CP.21 and reaffirmed in Decision 4/CMA.1. Strengthening the clarity, transparency, and understanding (CTU) of NDCs is essential to bridging information gaps and enabling stakeholders to fully comprehend and assess the progress of climate action plans, we propose:

- Standardized templates and methodologies for NDC development, similar to those provided by the IPCC for greenhouse gas inventories.
- Guidance on aligning NDCs with long-term low-emission development strategies (LT-LEDS) to ensure consistency across planning frameworks.
- Strengthened CTU Requirements: Encourage Parties to provide detailed, consistent, and transparent information on NDCs, including emissions levels, sectoral coverage, timeframes, assumptions, and methodologies. This ensures that NDCs are clear, comparable, and aligned with the Paris Agreement's transparency goals, while also facilitating global aggregation and progress tracking.

2. Align Climate Action with Broader National Development Goals

Panama emphasizes the importance of aligning climate action with broader national development goals, such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), to deliver co-benefits like ecosystem protection, job creation, and enhanced resilience. The **Nature Pledge**, unifying climate, biodiversity, and desertification commitments, exemplifies this integrative approach.

We propose that guidance encourage Parties to:

- Integrate NDCs with national development plans to ensure alignment with SDGs, including sustainable resource management and poverty eradication.
- Promote cross-sectoral collaboration to embed climate action within development priorities.
- Include metrics in NDCs that capture contributions to SDGs, such as renewable energy access and socio-economic improvements.

3. Responding to Global Stocktake (GST) Signals

Panama emphasizes the importance of integrating the GST outcomes into NDC updates, as mandated by Article 4.9 of the Paris Agreement. We propose that guidance encourage Parties to:

- Develop specific plans addressing GST signals, such as economy-wide emission reduction targets covering all gases and sectors.
- Utilize good practices identified in the GST technical dialogue to enhance action and support.

4. Transparency and Comparability

To improve the clarity, transparency, and understanding (ICTU) of NDCs, Panama recommends:

- Expanding the use of common IPCC metrics and methodologies to standardize data presentation.
- Including quantifiable indicators, such as CO₂-equivalent reductions, in all NDC targets.

5. Conditional Commitments and Financing

Panama calls for greater guidance on designing and implementing conditional NDC components, including:

- Clear differentiation between conditional and unconditional targets, supported by detailed scenarios and financing requirements.
- Mechanisms to ensure timely delivery of financial support for NDC implementation, reducing delays caused by resource gaps.

6. Differentiating Emission Reduction and Removal Targets

Guidance should encourage Parties to:

- Clearly distinguish between emission reduction and removal targets in their NDCs.
- Develop robust MRV (Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification) systems for both categories.

7. Encouraging Absolute Emission Reduction Targets

Panama supports transitioning towards absolute emission reduction targets where feasible, recognizing the role of capacity-building and financial assistance in enabling this shift for developing countries.

8. Incorporating Article 6 Engagement

For Parties intending to engage in voluntary cooperative approaches under Article 6, Panama recommends:

- Requiring NDCs to outline planned engagements, including volumes of intended transfers and contributions to mitigation outcomes.

Addressing Key Challenges

1. **Capacity Gaps:** Many developing countries struggle with estimating mitigation potentials and linking policies to outcomes. Panama proposes institutionalizing capacity-building efforts to develop in-house expertise in projections and scenario development.
2. **Timelines and Financing:** NDC updates are time-intensive, and financing delays often hinder progress. Panama calls for realistic timelines and expedited funding mechanisms to address these challenges.
3. **Complex Targets:** Comprehensive targets are difficult to monitor and evaluate. Sector-specific guidelines and aligned timelines can help balance ambition with feasibility.
4. **Evaluation and Ambition:** Before committing to new ambitious targets, Parties should evaluate progress on existing commitments to ensure credibility and avoid overextension.

Input from Russia

The Russian Federation stresses that NDC features are fixed in the Paris Agreement. The Agreement is the frame we are operating within and the nationally determined nature of the NDC is the the core of it.

NDCs represent the Parties' contributions to the collective goals of the Paris Agreement reflecting its common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances. The guidance on features of NDCs is also set out in the Paris Agreement. The features of NDCs under the Paris Agreement are reflected in the Article 4, paragraph 3 of the Agreement:

"Each Party's successive nationally determined contribution will represent a progression beyond the Party's then current nationally determined contribution and reflect its highest possible ambition, reflecting its common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances."

We'd like to note that many of the features mentioned by some Parties today are already inherent in the PA. We'd like to note as well that the outcome of the GST, in all its aspects, sufficiently elaborates a comprehensive message to the Parties, while the PA provides for the Parties to be informed by the GST outcomes on their elaboration of their NDCs.

According to Article 14, paragraph 3 Parties' actions and support in accordance with the relevant provisions of this Agreement, as well as in enhancing international cooperation for climate action shall be informed by the outcome of the global stocktake:

"The outcome of the global stocktake shall inform Parties in updating and enhancing, in a nationally determined manner, their actions and support in accordance with the relevant provisions of this Agreement, as well as in enhancing international cooperation for climate action".

Furthermore, Decision 4/CMA.1 established guidance for the information to be provided by Parties in order to facilitate clarity, transparency and understanding of nationally determined contributions, and decision 6/CMA.3 established common time frames for communication of NDCs.

Therefore, the Paris Agreement, along with decisions 4/CMA.1 and 6/CMA.3, delivers all the necessary requirements and features for Parties' NDCs, enabling them to determine it in a nationally determined manner.

Existing framework allows Parties to independently determine most effective approaches to their own contribution to achieving the collective objectives of the Paris Agreement, in the light of different national circumstances.

Keeping in mind that the deadline for NDC submission approaching and an extremely pressed agenda of this Conference, we question whether the elaboration of a text for this item is a wise use of time and resources at this point in time when critical for the implementation issues, such as NCQG and Article 6 need sufficient space for discussion in order to reach agreement.

We support the suggestion by Chile to defer the consideration of the item till 2029.

Submission by Switzerland
Submission on Features of NDCs

Context

As Parties prepare for their next round of NDCs, we are reminded of the importance of delivering high-quality NDCs, that can create a coherence and transparent picture of climate action in 2025.

We understand Features are the **boundary conditions within which Parties exercise their national determination**.

According to our views, features act as a **general description** of NDCs.

The national determination of contributions has been repeatedly denoted the most important feature of a NDC and that is clear. At the same time, we have seen since the introduction of the term NDC at COP19 that **pure national determination does not deliver a coherent international regime** and that national determination should be complemented by guiding elements.

As we prepare our upcoming rounds of NDCs, we are reminded how useful is the guidance that was adopted in Katowice.

Such guidance is not only crucial for the exercise of assessing the collective progress towards the long-term goals, but also for the broader public: a similar way of framing contributions helps to provide up-front clarity on what to expect from NDCs communications.

The mandate of 1/CP.21 para 26 is to “develop further guidance on features”. Therefore, rather than listing existing features, we suggest focusing discussions on possible new features.

First, let us start by acknowledging the improvements we’ve seen over time since the adoption of the Paris agreement and the first intended nationally determined contributions. We have seen NDCs communications that are increasingly more comprehensive and transparent. Many of the proposed features are already well applied, or on an improving trend. Anchoring features of NDCs would help anchor this positive development. In other cases, it would help improve the overall quality of contributions, and support the NDC preparation process.

Deliberations on Features of NDCs could consider different levels of legally bindingness.

- **All NDCs to be quantified in CO2 equivalent**, with a view to improving their comparability and aggregation.

Existing guidance: no binding requirement to submit quantified targets:

Decision 4/CMA.1: ICTU includes: (b) Quantifiable information on the reference indicators, their values in the reference year(s), base year(s), reference period(s) or other starting point(s), and, as applicable, in the target year;

No guidance exists regarding CO2eq.

- **Parties to strive to put forward absolute emission reduction targets**

Existing guidance: Article 4.4 of the Paris Agreement: “Developed country Parties should continue taking the lead by undertaking economy-wide absolute emission reduction targets. Developing country Parties should continue enhancing their mitigation efforts, and are encouraged to move over time

towards economy-wide emission reduction or limitation targets in the light of different national circumstances.”

- **All on Parties to submit 1.5°C-aligned NDCs**

Existing guidance: Global Stocktake, Decision 1/CMA.5, para 37: “Requests Parties that have not yet done so to revisit and strengthen the 2030 targets in their nationally determined contributions as necessary to align with the Paris Agreement temperature goal by the end of 2024, taking into account different national circumstances;”

- **NDCs to be aligned to a Parties’ long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies, if available**

Existing guidance: Global Stocktake, Decision 1/CMA, 40. “Notes the importance of aligning nationally determined contributions with long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies and encourages Parties to align their next nationally determined contributions with long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies;”

- **NDCs to be implementable**, including through clear implementation pathways, which could include, for example, sectoral pathways, clear measures or policies, contributions to collective calls and commitments

Existing guidance: Article 4.2 of the Paris Agreement

- **NDC communication shall include information on year of peaking of emissions**

Existing guidance: No existing guidance. Parties do not have to provide information regarding peaking date.

General recognition in Global Stocktake that countries will have different time frames for peaking: Decision 1/CMA, 26: “Recognizes the finding in the Synthesis Report of the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, based on global modelled pathways and assumptions, that global greenhouse gas emissions are projected to peak between 2020 and at the latest before 2025 in global modelled pathways that limit warming to 1.5 °C with no or limited overshoot and in those that limit warming to 2 °C and assume immediate action, notes that this does not imply peaking in all countries within this time frame, and that time frames for peaking may be shaped by sustainable development, poverty eradication needs and equity and be in line with different national circumstances and recognizes that technology development and transfer on voluntary and mutually agreed terms, as well as capacity-building and financing, can support countries in this regard;”

- **NDC shall also include a net zero target**

Existing guidance: No existing guidance

- **NDC should follow the latest IPCC guidance**

Existing guidance: no existing guidance

- All Parties to **present clearly the share of the national GHG emission reduction capacity without support** in their nationally determined contributions, with exceptions for SIDS and LDCs

Existing guidance: no existing guidance

- All NDCs shall have a **timeframe of 5 year**

Existing guidance: Decision 6/CMA.3 (COP26 in Glasgow, 2021) on Common Time Frames: “2. Encourages Parties to communicate in 2025 a nationally determined contribution with an end date of 2035, in 2030 a nationally determined contribution with an end date of 2040, and so forth every five years thereafter.”

- NDCs to cover **all significant emission sectors and gases**

Existing guidance: Article 4.13 of the Paris Agreement: “Parties shall account for their nationally determined contributions. In accounting for anthropogenic emissions and removals corresponding to their nationally determined contributions, Parties shall promote environmental integrity, transparency, accuracy, completeness, comparability and consistency, and ensure the avoidance of double counting” Article 4.4: “Developed country Parties should continue taking the lead by undertaking economy-wide absolute emission reduction targets. Developing country Parties should continue enhancing their mitigation efforts, and are encouraged to move over time towards economy-wide emission reduction or limitation targets in the light of different national circumstances.

- **All NDCs to have a clear reference point**

Existing guidance: According to Decision 4/CMA.1, Parties already have to provide clear information on reference points, and to ensure consistency on baselines

Procedural components

- This guidance shall be applied for the NDCs relevant from 2036 (i.e. the NDCs communicated/updated 9-12 months prior to COP35 in 2030) and for NDCs communications pursuant to PA Art 4.11 (NDC adjustments at any time) or 1/CP.21 para. 22 (communication upon ratification).
- LDCs and SIDS, in the light of their special circumstances, are encouraged to apply the guidance to the extent possible.
- We would welcome including a review process for the guidance. Future revisions shall be undertaken every 5 years thereafter.

Suggestions for further work

CMA6 should mandate a call for submissions from Parties on possible further guidance on Features of NDCs.

CMA6 should further mandate one intersessional workshop to consider further guidance on Features of NDCs.

Considerations of Features of NDCs should resume in June 2025, for consideration and adoption of a decision at CMA7 in 2025.

In addition to defining features, CMA could mandate the development of best practices for NDCs.

UK submission for inclusion in compilation of views on the topic of further guidance on features of nationally determined contributions

- Reaffirm our commitment to the Paris Agreement, and to the temperature goals;
- Recalls 1/CP.21 which noted that features of nationally determined contributions are outlined in the relevant provisions of the Paris Agreement and decided to continue consideration of further guidance on features of nationally determined contributions at its seventh session (2024);
- Notes with alarm that 2023 is the warmest calendar year on record;
- Notes with alarm the assessment from the 2024 UNEP report that even full implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions submitted to date limits peak warming to 2.6°C;
- Recalls decision 1/CMA.5 which encouraged Parties to come forward in their next nationally determined contributions with ambitious, economy-wide emissions reduction targets, covering all greenhouse gases, sectors and categories and aligned with limiting global warming to 1.5°C, as informed by the latest science, in line with national circumstances.
- Encourages Parties to consider the following as further guidance for features of nationally determined contributions:
 - NDCs to be quantified in CO₂ equivalent, with a view to improving their comparability and aggregability
 - NDCs to include clearly defined baselines and peaking years (or anticipated peaking years)
 - NDCs to be 1.5°C-aligned, economy-wide, covering all sectors and gases, sectors and categories.
 - NDCs to be unconditional, at least in part
 - NDCs to be aligned with long-term strategies including how NDCs can ensure we are all on the right path to reach our nationally determined net zero targets.
- Parties to be invited to include information in their NDC communications on how their NDCs have been informed by the outcomes of the global stocktake, particularly paragraphs 28 and 33.

U.S. Views on NDC Features

- Features of nationally determined contributions (NDCs) referred to in Article 4 of the Paris Agreement are outlined in the relevant provisions of the Agreement and in decision 1/CP.21 and decision 1/CMA.5, paragraphs 39 and 40, including, *inter alia*, that an NDC:
 - Is nationally determined;
 - Will represent a progression beyond the Party's then current nationally determined contribution and reflect its highest possible ambition;
 - Will be communicated by each Party every 5 years;
 - Should include an ambitious, economy-wide emission reduction targets covering all greenhouse gases, sectors and categories and be aligned with limiting global warming to 1.5°C, as informed by the latest science, in the light of different national circumstances;
 - Should be aligned with a Party's long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategy that is consistent with a just transition to net zero emissions by or around mid-century, taking into account different national circumstances;
- NDCs referred to in Article 4 of the Agreement also should:
 - Be quantified or quantifiable;
 - Be unconditional, at least in part;
 - Be denominated in terms of greenhouse gases in the common metric adopted for use in accounting and in reporting national greenhouse gas inventories;
 - Include a clearly-defined base year and target year;
 - For those countries that are most consequential to keeping 1.5°C within reach, be absolute emission reduction targets;
- As noted in the 2024 NDC Synthesis Report, for the most recent NDCs¹:
 - 94 per cent of Parties provided quantified mitigation targets, expressed as clear numerical targets;
 - 81 per cent of Parties communicated economy-wide targets, covering all or almost all sectors defined in the 2006 IPCC Guidelines, with an increasing number of Parties moving to absolute emission reduction targets in their new or updated NDCs;
 - 100 per cent of Parties covered CO₂ emissions, 91 per cent covered CH₄, 89 per cent covered N₂O, 54 per cent covered HFCs, 35 per cent covered PFCs and SF₆ and 26 per cent covered NF₃;
 - 93 per cent of Parties communicated an NDC implementation period of until 2030;
 - 96 per cent of Parties provided quantified information on their mitigation targets and reference point;

- Full implementation of all latest NDCs is estimated to lead to a 5.9 (3.2–8.6) per cent emission reduction by 2030 relative to the 2019 level; while implementation of all latest NDCs excluding any conditional elements is estimated to result in 0.8 per cent higher emissions in 2030 than in 2019 (ranging from 1.8 per cent lower to 3.4 per cent higher);