



NOTE BY THE PRESIDENT

Organisation of work in the second week of the Conference

Thursday 4 November 2021

Continuing my commitment to openness and transparency throughout COP 26, I would like to share with Parties and observers my thinking on the conclusion of the first week of the Glasgow Conference and the transition to the second week. I would have liked to have done so in an informal joint plenary meeting of the COP, CMP and CMA. However, to convene such a meeting at this crucial time in the negotiations would have interfered with the intensive efforts being undertaken to complete negotiations in the Subsidiary Bodies. Hence, I am resorting to the vehicle of this note.

I would like to express my appreciation to all delegations for working so intensively this week, in the wake of the impetus provided by the World Leaders' Summit. I am particularly grateful to the Subsidiary Body Chairs for their leadership, and to all of the co-facilitators, who are working very hard to support Parties to finalise their work on all issues.

The time to shift the mode of work is fast approaching. Next week represents a more political, high-level phase of the Conference, with Ministers arriving to help draw proceedings to a successful conclusion.

In this context, I would like to share with Parties and observers my current thinking on how work should be concluded this week, how the Conference should transition to Week 2, and on ultimately securing a successful outcome. This thinking is based on inputs from Parties and Groups, and guidance from Bureau members.

On the conclusion of work in Week 1, I have asked the Chairs of the Subsidiary Bodies to conclude negotiations to the extent possible by 7 p.m. on Friday, 5 November so as to enable documents to be available in a timely manner on Saturday for the closing plenaries of the SBs. I consider it critically important for the SBs to have concluded their sessions on Saturday afternoon.

It is not possible for a large number of unresolved issues to continue into week 2. In this context, I urge the Chairs, Groups and all delegations to expedite discussions over the coming 24 hours, focusing efforts on the balanced set of issues which are critical to what needs to be achieved here in Glasgow. Progress on other issues can be captured here, with work continuing at the next sessions.

For clarity, transparency, and inclusivity I intend to hold a joint, informal stocktaking plenary of the COP, CMP and CMA on Saturday evening, upon conclusion of the SBs, to set out more detailed plans for how work will be organised in week 2. It is my hope that this will enable all Parties and observers to prepare accordingly, facilitating an expeditious start to work on the morning of Monday 8 November.

At that plenary I will reaffirm my commitment to ensuring we are able to adopt all decisions and conclusions on Friday 12 November, with full document availability in all UN languages. Achieving this objective implies that the finalisation of pending texts will need to advance quickly in the early part of the second week.

My expectation is that very few issues remain open by the evening of Wednesday 10 November, when near-final texts will be presented. My priority for Thursday 11 November will be to bring matters together and resolve final outstanding issues, leaving time for document preparation.

I would envisage work proceeding in three tracks:

- Ministerial consultations which would focus on outstanding political issues,
- Continued technical negotiations on a limited set of issues, into which emerging political agreements can be incorporated (drawing on the SB Chairs and already mandated co-facilitators),
- Continued presidency consultations, including on the overarching cover decisions, as well as issues I raised during the opening plenaries of the COP, CMP and CMA, as appropriate.

In accordance with longstanding UNFCCC practice, I will invite a representative group of Ministers to lead informal consultations on the small number of topics which will require political attention in Week 2. The state of the negotiations as the SBs conclude will determine which issues require consideration. I intend to announce the designated teams of ministerial co-facilitators during the informal stock-taking plenary on Saturday, 6 November.

I will be asking the designated ministerial co-facilitators to try to rapidly progress toward consensus texts. I will impress on all ministerial and other co-facilitators that full transparency is essential, as is inclusiveness, in all the consultations to be held. To this end, I will convene regular joint stocktaking plenaries during Week 2 to report back on the status of the ongoing-negotiations. Status reports will also be posted regularly on the UNFCCC website, including draft texts as they emerge.

I trust that these arrangements, grounded in precedent and founded on inclusiveness and transparency, will assure the Party-driven outcomes that all delegations cherish. I appreciate the support Parties have expressed for my efforts to date and look forward to working together in the remaining days of the Glasgow Conference to secure an ambitious, comprehensive and balanced set of outcomes that deliver for all Parties, and for all those watching around the world.