

Consultations on matters related to the Fourth review of the Adaptation Fund

Concept Note

The Bureau at its meeting on 25 February requested the presiding officers to make available a plan of upcoming activities in preparation for a successful COP 26 in November 2021 (taking into account the opinions and concerns expressed by Parties in their consultations, and with the support of the secretariat). Following this guidance, the Chair of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation, Ms. Marianne Karlsen, is convening a series of activities, including informal consultations, technical expert meetings and other events.

This concept note presents the informal consultations in support of the fourth review of the Adaptation Fund.

I. Context

CMP 13 requested SBI (June 2020) to initiate the fourth review of the Adaptation Fund, in accordance with the terms of reference contained in the annex to decision 1/CMP.12, or as amended, and to report back to the governing body to be convened in conjunction with COP 27 (November 2021).¹

With the postponement of in-person sessions in 2020, the review could not be formally launched. However, activities in support of the review could be initiated in 2021 by the SBI Chair under the overarching principle of maximizing progress and minimizing delay as reconfirmed by the Bureau at its meeting on 25 February.

Previous reviews have been conducted along agreed timelines, and this is the first review being conducted where the Adaptation Fund serves both the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement.

In 2021, given the continued uncertainty about how the pandemic will evolve, the SBI Chair continues to be guided by the principle as agreed by the Bureau, and as such is proposing informal consultations in support of the fourth review of the Adaptation Fund. The proposed consultations by the SBI Chair could assist in advancing progress and minimizing delays within the climate change intergovernmental process, with the overall goal of ensuring success at COP 26.

II. Objective

The objective of these consultations is to provide an informal space for Parties under the guidance of the SBI Chair to exchange views on general expectations for the fourth review, possible terms of reference, timing and any other matters Parties may wish to raise.

¹ Decision 2/CMP.13, para 10.

III. Description

Virtual informal consultations in a large group format with key Groups/Parties will be utilised. The consultations will include the following areas of discussion, and may focus in particular on views related to possibly advancing terms of reference for the review:

- General expectations, including views on the overall approach and possible outcomes of the fourth review;
- Possible terms of reference, building on [the agreed terms of reference](#) from the third review, or as amended;
- Possible timing for the review, including when to agree/decide upon terms of reference, possible requests for submissions as well as a technical paper.
- Any other matters related to the review.

IV. Proposed Time

The consultations will be held virtually on Wednesday, 31 March, 2021 from 22:00 to 23:30 CET.

V. Contact/Additional Information

For any assistance please contact the Climate Finance team (climatefinance@unfccc.int)

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