



Concept Note

Technical expert dialogue on Article 6, paragraph 4, of the Paris Agreement and Hybrid Workshops relating to Article 6.2 of the Paris Agreement

26–28 October 2023
Bonn

I. Mandates

Decision 7/CMA.4 and the conclusions of the 58th meeting of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA 58), specify the following mandates:

Article 6, paragraph 4, of the Paris Agreement¹

Decision 7/CMA.4 paragraph 11 requests the secretariat to organize a technical expert dialogue, to be held between the fifty-eighth and fifty-ninth (November–December 2023) sessions of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice, to consider the matters referred to in paragraph 9, taking into account the submissions and the synthesis report, ensuring broad participation of Parties:

- (a) Consideration of whether Article 6, paragraph 4, activities could include emission avoidance and conservation enhancement activities;
- (b) Connection of the mechanism registry to the international registry as per paragraph 63 of the rules, modalities and procedures for the mechanism, as well as to other registries referred to in decision 2/CMA.3, annex, paragraph 29, if applicable, including the nature and extent of interoperable features;
- (c) Provision of a statement by the host Party to the Supervisory Body specifying whether it authorizes Article 6, paragraph 4, emission reductions issued for an Article 6, paragraph 4, activity for use towards achievement of nationally determined contributions and/or for other international mitigation purposes, as defined in decision 2/CMA.3, in accordance with paragraph 42 of the rules, modalities and procedures, including its timing, relevant information on the authorization and any revisions;

Further the SBSTA at its ## session concluded that regarding the matters referred to in paragraph 9 of decision 7/CMA.4 and their relation to the corresponding matters under the cooperative approaches referred to in Article 6, paragraph 2, of the Paris Agreement, the SBSTA also agreed to discuss these

¹ Decision 7/CMA.4, paragraphs 9-11.



related issues in joint sessions during the technical expert dialogue referred to in paragraph 111 above in order to prepare for consistent outcomes on these related matters at CMA 5.

Article 6, paragraph 2, of the Paris Agreement²

The SBSTA also requested the secretariat to organize a hybrid workshop to be held in conjunction with the workshop being organized under the SBSTA agenda item entitled “Rules, modalities and procedures for the mechanism established by Article 6, paragraph 4, of the Paris Agreement and referred to in decision 3/CMA.3” before SBSTA 59 to consider the technical paper on the elements referred to in paragraph 92(a–d):

- (a) The process of authorization pursuant to paragraphs 2, 18(g) and 21(c) of the annex to decision 2/CMA.3, notably the scope of changes to authorization of internationally transferred mitigation outcomes towards use(s), and the process for managing them and for authorization of entities and cooperative approaches with a view to ensuring transparency and consistency;
- (b) The draft version of the agreed electronic format, including concepts and options for the structure of the agreed electronic format and proposals for common nomenclatures for Parties to test and support capacity-building, as well as options for the tables for submitting annual information as part of the regular information, as referred to in paragraph 23(j) of the annex to decision 2/CMA.3;
- (c) The mandates in paragraph 17(g–j) of decision 6/CMA.4, taking into account any submissions from Parties on the technical specifications and estimated costs for the international registry³ referred to in paragraph 33(c) of that decision:
 - (i) 17(g) The need for additional functionalities and procedures for the international registry to allow for transfer of Article 6, paragraph 4, emission reductions to the international registry and to provide services for cooperative approaches if voluntarily requested by Parties participating in a cooperative approach, including, inter alia, additional technical functionalities and administrative arrangements, for authorizing account access, and further guidance on procedures for reporting and review for the cooperative approaches of the participating Parties requesting such services, which may be required in addition to the relevant guidance in decision 2/CMA.3 and annex I to this decision;
 - (ii) 17(h) The accounts of the international registry and the role of the international registry administrator, in accordance with the guidance contained in annex I;
 - (iii) 17(i) The submission of information by Parties using the international registry as the basis for tracking internationally transferred mitigation outcomes;
 - (iv) 17(j) The common nomenclature referred to in annex I, chapter II.B, including for cooperative approaches reported by participating Parties, first transferring Party, sectors, activity types, non-greenhouse gas metrics and their units of measurement, registries that track internationally transferred mitigation outcome from cooperative approaches and action types; first transfer specifications; and purposes towards which use of internationally transferred mitigation outcomes is authorized;
- (d) Analysis and sequencing of the steps in the Article 6, paragraph 2, reporting and review processes, including as referred to in paragraph 17(a) of decision 6/CMA.4;

² FCCC/SBSTA/2023/4, paragraph 93.

³ Referred to in decision 6/CMA.4, annex I, chap. I.C.



II. Objective and scope of the technical events⁴

The **objective** of the technical events is to bring together experts from Parties to exchange on technical issues and develop options to assist the SBSTA chair in the preparation of the informal document including textual proposals on various topics indicated in section V below.

The **discussions and output** of the events will assist the SBSTA chair to prepare the informal documents, including textual proposals, for consideration by the SBSTA in recommending draft decisions related to Article 6.2 and Article 6.4.

III. Participation

Parties are invited to register participants with the relevant technical background. Broadcast links will be available for observers to follow the events.

IV. Facilitation

The technical events will be led by facilitators, invited by the SBSTA Chair to lead each event.

V. Format and timing

The technical events will be run as hybrid meetings, as agreed at SBSTA 58⁵.

Each session will commence with an introduction or presentation followed by presentations by Parties identified, including based on requests and submissions made, as appropriate. The presentations will be followed by discussions among Parties using guiding questions to support focused interventions on the following topics:

⁴ “Technical Events” refers to the A6.2 Workshops and the A6.4 Technical Expert Dialogue.

⁵ FCCC/SBSTA/2023/4, paragraph 114.



Day 1 – Thursday – 26 October 2023

Time	Topic	Guiding Questions	Activity / Resource / Format
08:30-09:00	Registration and Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none">Arrival and registration		Opening by SBSTA Chair (virtual)
09:00-10:30	Session 1: Common nomenclatures (A6.2) <ul style="list-style-type: none">Proposals for common nomenclatures	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1.1 How should common nomenclatures accommodate sector(s) and activity type(s)?1.2 How should common nomenclatures accommodate metrics and its units of measurement?1.3 Which common nomenclatures should depend on the cooperative approaches?	PPT by secretariat followed by discussion
10:30-10:45	<i>Coffee break</i>		
10:45-12:15	Session 2: Agreed Electronic Format (I) (A6.2) <ul style="list-style-type: none">Options for the structure of the agreed electronic format⁶	<ol style="list-style-type: none">2.1 Should the agreed electronic format follow an approach that includes a table for actions, authorization details, and holdings? Or should it use a normalized approach, where each action type and holdings are presented in a separate table?2.2 When the metric of an ITMO is non-GHG, should the AEF report the amount equivalent in t CO₂ eq? If yes, how?2.3 Should aggregated tables and synthesis reports of submitted annual information on ITMOs, excluding confidential details, be made public in the CARP?	[PPT by secretariat] [PPT by Parties] followed by discussion

⁶ FCCC/SBSTA/2023/4, paragraph 92 (b)



Time	Topic	Guiding Questions	Activity / Resource / Format
		2.4 Which elements of information to be reported in the AEF, that are not present in the draft versions, would you add?	
12:15-13:30	Lunch		
13:30-15:00	Session 3: Agreed Electronic Format (II) (A6.2) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Options for the structure of the agreed electronic format 	<i>See above</i>	Continuation of discussion among Parties
15:00-15:15	Coffee break		
15:15-16:45	Session 4: Para 23(j) Tables (A6.2) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed tables 	4.1 Shall Parties submit tables for 23(j), or should the CARP generate them automatically based on the information provided in the AEF? 4.2 Shall the table “Annual quantity of ITMOs first transferred” break down the ITMOs according to its “first transfer definition”?	[PPT by secretariat] PPT by Parties followed by discussion
16:45–17:15	Wrap-up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remarks by Facilitators 		

Day 2 – Friday – 27 October 2023

Time	Topic	Guiding Questions	Activity / Resource / Format
08:30-09:00	Registration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arrival and registration 		
09:00-10:30	Session 5: Sequencing (A6.2)	5.1 At what point should a Party start including information on actions in respect of ITMOs from a cooperative approach in which it participates taking into account the(updated) initial report and the review cycle?	PPT by Parties followed by discussion



Time	Topic	Guiding Questions	Activity / Resource / Format
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sequencing of the steps in reporting and review processes⁷ 		
10:30-10:45	<i>Coffee break</i>		
10:45-12:15	Session 6: International Registry (A6.2) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The accounts of the international registry and the role of the international registry administrator⁸ The submission of information by Parties using the international registry⁹ 	6.1 What are the types of accounts that all registries should have? Which types need to be supported by the international registry? 6.2 Can mitigation outcomes be recorded in national registries or the international registry prior to authorization? 6.3 What should be the role of the international registry administrator in the identification of authorized entities?	[PPT by secretariat] PPT by Parties followed by discussion
12:15-13:30	<i>Lunch</i>		
13:30-15:00	Session 7: Authorization (I) <i>(Joint session with A6.2 and A6.4 experts)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scope, content, timing and scope of authorization of ITMOs and A6.4 ERs (AERs) Process for managing changes to authorization of ITMOs towards use(s) and authorization of entities and cooperative approaches¹⁰ 	7.1 How can the authorization process be designed to ensure flexibility, accommodate different types of credits under Article 6, establish well-structured timing for authorization, and maintain user-friendly and transparent procedures? 7.2 Authorization of cooperative approaches: 7.2.1 When should the authorization of a cooperative approach be provided? What is the minimum set of data elements that is required for a Party to provide in order to authorize a cooperative approach? 7.2.2 In which situations an authorization of a cooperative approach would need to change? How would the change in the authorization of a cooperative approach and its basic characteristics by one Party affect the participation of other Parties in the same cooperative approach?	PPT by Parties followed by discussion

⁷ FCCC/SBSTA/2023/4, paragraph 92 (d)

⁸ FCCC/SBSTA/2023/4, paragraph 92 (c)

⁹ FCCC/SBSTA/2023/4, paragraph 92 (c)

¹⁰ FCCC/SBSTA/2023/4, paragraph 92 (a)



Time	Topic	Guiding Questions	Activity / Resource / Format
		<p>7.2.3 What are the consequences of revocation of authorization of a cooperative approach by a Party, in particular with respect to the ITMOs authorized or held by such Party?</p> <p>7.3 Authorization of ITMOs:</p> <p>7.3.1 When should the authorization of ITMOs be provided? Is the authorization of an ITMO limited to an action in the respective registry or can a document or documents be involved?</p> <p>7.3.2 What is the minimum set of data elements that is required for a Party to provide at the point of authorizing an ITMO?</p> <p>7.3.3 At which points in the ITMO life cycle and under which circumstances would it be possible to change the authorization of an ITMO? In particular, should it be possible to change authorization for an ITMO that is not located in the authorizing Party's registry? Should it be possible to change authorization of an ITMO that is in one of the "end-of-life" accounts?</p> <p>7.3.4 At which points in the ITMO life cycle and under which circumstances should it be possible to revoke the authorization of an ITMO? What are the consequences of revocation of authorization, including revocation of authorization of ITMOs in "end-of-life" accounts?</p> <p>7.4 Authorization of entities:</p> <p>7.4.1 Which Party or Parties should authorize entities? Should entity authorization be specific to a cooperative approach?</p> <p>7.4.2 What are the consequences of revocation of authorization, in particular for the ITMOs in the entity's account(s)? What should happen if the same entity is authorized by multiple Parties and one of the Parties revokes authorizations?</p>	
15:00-15:15	<i>Coffee break</i>		



Time	Topic	Guiding Questions	Activity / Resource / Format
15:15-16:45	Session 8: Authorization (II) <i>(Joint session with A6.2 and A6.4 experts)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scope, content, timing and scope of authorization of ITMOs and A6.4 ERs (AERs) • Process for managing changes to authorization of ITMOs towards use(s) and authorization of entities and cooperative approaches¹¹ • Authorization statements by the host Party to the Supervisory Body¹² 	8.1 What are relevant elements of information that need to be included in the authorization statement by the host Parties? 8.2 When should authorization be provided? Should revision and/or revocations to authorization statement be allowed and if yes, under what conditions? 8.3 What are the mandatory factors that could trigger the revision/revocation of authorization statement? How can the authorization process under Article 6.4 be aligned with the requirements/timeline of Article 6.2? 8.4 What measures can be implemented to maintain a user friendly and adaptable authorization process, including user friendly formats and templates, and transparent procedures?	PPT by Parties followed by discussion
16:45–17:15	Wrap-up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remarks by Facilitators 		

Day 3 – Saturday – 28 October 2023

Time	Topic	Guiding Questions	Activity / Resource / Format
08:30-09:00	Registration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrival and registration 		
09:00-10:30	Session 9: Registry connections <i>(Joint session with A6.2 and A6.4 experts)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Functionalities and procedures for the international registry to allow for transfer of 	9.1 What should be the nature of the connection of the mechanism registry to the international registry and to other registries? 9.2 Should A6.4ERs (AERs) be able to move from the mechanism registry to the international registry and to national A6.2 registries?	[PPT by secretariat] PPT by Parties followed by discussion

¹¹ FCCC/SBSTA/2023/4, paragraph 92 (a)

¹² Decision 7/CMA.4, paragraph 9 (c)



Time	Topic	Guiding Questions	Activity / Resource / Format
	Article 6, paragraph 4, emission reductions to the international registry ¹³		
10:30-10:45	<i>Coffee break</i>		
10:45-12:15	Session 10: Emissions Avoidance (A6.4) <ul style="list-style-type: none">Emission avoidance and conservation enhancement activities¹⁴	10.1 What further guidance could be given from CMA 5 on this matter?	PPT by Parties followed by discussion
12:15-13:30	<i>Lunch</i>		
13:30-15:00	Session 11: Other Issues and COP Expectations		Discussion
15:00-15:30	<i>Wrap-up and Close of Workshop</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Remarks by Facilitators		

VI. Other information

Links for accessing the virtual room and the broadcast will be provided before the workshop. For any other information Article 6 Paris Agreement:

Paris-Agreement-Article-6@unfccc.int

¹³ FCCC/SBSTA/2023/4, paragraph 92 (c)

¹⁴ Decision 7/CMA.4, paragraph 9 (a)