

DRAFT TEXT

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SBI 60 agenda item 16 Arrangements for intergovernmental meetings Version 8/6/2024 23:56

1. The Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) took note of the document on arrangements for intergovernmental meetings prepared for this session.¹

I. Preparations for the twenty-ninth session of the Conference of the Parties, the nineteenth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol and the sixth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement

2. The SBI noted with appreciation the preparatory efforts being made by the Government of Azerbaijan to ensuring the success of the United Nations Climate Change Conference to be held there from 11 to 22 November 2024, which will include the twenty-ninth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP), the nineteenth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP), the sixth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA) and the sixty-first sessions of the subsidiary bodies.

3. The SBI noted that the Government of Azerbaijan will invite Heads of State and Government to attend the World Leaders Summit to be held on 12 and 13 November 2024.

4. The SBI invited the incoming Presidency of COP 29, CMP 19 and CMA 6, in consultation with the secretariat and the Bureau, to finalize the details of the arrangements for the Conference and to keep Parties informed thereof.

5. The SBI requested the secretariat to take note of the views of Parties on the possible elements of the provisional agendas for COP 29, CMP 19 and CMA 6.

6. The SBI emphasized the importance of the principles of openness, transparency, inclusiveness and adhering to established decision-making practices in making arrangements for the Conference.

7. The SBI welcomed the continued efforts of the COP 28 Presidency, the incoming COP 29 Presidency and the presiding officers of the subsidiary bodies to ensure efficiency, coordination, coherence, management and due process in the consideration of issues under discussion.

8. Reiterating the need to ensure efficient time management during sessions of the governing and subsidiary bodies, the SBI requested the presiding officers, with the support of the secretariat, to continue to enhance efforts in this regard, noting the improvements made at past sessions.

9. The SBI recalled its invitation to the secretariat to make arrangements for the delivery of concise national statements by ministers and other heads of delegation during the high-level segment of the Conference with a recommended time limit of three minutes, and statements by representatives of observer organizations with a recommended time limit of two minutes. The SBI also recalled its encouragement to Parties and observer organizations to keep within their respective time allocations.²

II. Hosts of future sessions

10. The SBI noted that, in keeping with the principle of rotation among the United Nations regional groups, the President of COP 31 (November 2026) would come from the Western

¹ FCCC/SBI/2024/8.

² FCCC/SBI/2023/10, para. 120.

European and other States. The SBI urged the Western European and other States to accelerate consultations within the group with a view to presenting an offer to host COP 31 as soon as possible and no later than at SBI 62 (June 2025) in order to facilitate timely planning.

11. The SBI noted that, in keeping with the principle of rotation among the United Nations regional groups, the President of COP 32 (November 2027) would come from the African States. The SBI encouraged the African States to finalize their consultations and submit an offer to host COP 32 as soon as possible and no later than at SBI 64 (June 2026) in order to facilitate early planning.

12. The SBI noted that, in keeping with the principle of rotation among the United Nations regional groups, the President of COP 33 (2028) would come from the Asia-Pacific States. The SBI encouraged the Asia-Pacific States to finalize their consultations and submit an offer to host COP 33 as soon as possible and no later than at SBI 66 (June 2027) in order to facilitate early planning.

13. The SBI reiterated that confirming the host country for a session of the COP as far in advance of the conference as possible minimizes logistical and financial risks and enables the secretariat to facilitate timely planning.

14. The SBI highlighted the importance of ensuring the full participation of Parties and the effective and meaningful participation of observer organizations in sessions of the governing and subsidiary bodies and mandated events. It emphasized that the secretariat and hosts of sessions and mandated events should make logistical arrangements that will facilitate the inclusive and effective participation of Parties and observer organizations, including timely issuance of visas, where required, to all participants free of charge and as promptly as possible, availability of affordable accommodation, a safe and secure conference venue for all, and ease of access to the venue.

15. The SBI affirmed the importance of adhering to the equal treatment of the six official languages of the United Nations.

16. The SBI emphasized that providing virtual participation at sessions and mandated events helps to ensure inclusivity and transparency, reduces costs and enhances participation, and calls on the secretariat subject to the availability of funding and hosts of sessions and mandated events to ensure the provision of virtual participation.

17. The SBI encouraged hosts of sessions and mandated events to reaffirm their commitment to upholding the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international human rights law before, during and after UNFCCC sessions and mandated events. The SBI emphasized the importance of ensuring that participants can exercise those human rights without fear of intimidation and repercussions.

18. The SBI noted progress by the secretariat regarding the Code of Conduct for UNFCCC events,³ relevant UNFCCC policies standard operations procedures (SOPs) and efforts to provide safe and secure conference venues for participants. The SBI highlighted the importance of participants abiding by the Code of Conduct at all UNFCCC events and respecting the national laws of the host country outside of those venues.

19. The SBI requested the secretariat in consultation with the respective host country to make available the host country agreement pertaining to each session of the Conference of the Parties on its website.

III. Calendar of future sessions

20. The SBI recommended the following dates for the sessional periods in 2028 for consideration and adoption at COP 29:

- (a) First sessional period: Monday, 5 June, to Thursday, 15 June;

³ Available at <https://unfccc.int/about-us/code-of-conduct-for-unfccc-conferences-meetings-and-events>

(b) Second sessional period: Monday, 6 November, to Friday, 17 November.

21. The SBI also recommended the following dates for the sessional periods in 2029 for consideration and adoption at COP 29:

(a) First sessional period: Monday, 4 June, to Thursday, 14 June;

(b) Second sessional period: Monday, 5 November, to Friday, 16 November.

IV. Increasing the efficiency of the UNFCCC process

22. The SBI noted the submissions⁴ from Parties on streamlining the provisional agendas of the governing and subsidiary bodies.

23. The SBI noted with appreciation the technical paper by the secretariat on options for reducing overlapping items on the provisional agendas of the governing and subsidiary bodies⁵ and noted the options outlined therein.

24. The SBI took note of the rich exchange of views among Parties on additional opportunities for increasing the efficiency of the UNFCCC process.

25. The SBI noted the increase in the number of agenda items and mandated events for sessions of the governing and subsidiary bodies and took note of the associated effects thereof.

26. The SBI welcomed the increased interest in the UNFCCC process indicated by the increased number of agenda items and mandated events and highlighted the need to maintain an open, transparent and inclusive process when considering necessary measures to manage this increase.

27. The SBI highlighted the following approaches that the secretariat may consider when preparing the provisional agendas of the governing and subsidiary bodies:

(a) Applying broad titles to agenda items with explanatory information provided in the annotations while taking into consideration the unique aspects of specific items;

(b) Biennial and triennial planning of the agendas.

28. The SBI agreed to continue consideration of the matters referred to in paragraphs 22 to 27 at SBI 62.

29. The SBI noted with appreciation the note by the secretariat on the implications of changing the frequency of sessions of the governing bodies,⁶ and the related submissions from Parties.

V. Observer engagement

30. The SBI took note of the information on enhancing engagement of observer organizations in the UNFCCC process prepared for this session, including on the implementation by the secretariat in 2022–2023 of the SBI conclusions on this matter.⁷

31. The SBI reaffirmed the value of substantive contributions from observer organizations for achieving ambitious outcomes in the UNFCCC process, as well as the value of their contributions to implementing the Convention, the Kyoto Protocol, and the Paris Agreement.

32. The SBI took note of the significant increase in the number of observer organizations admitted to the UNFCCC process at recent sessions of the COP and the associated challenges

⁴ Available at <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/submissionsstaging/Pages/Home.aspx> (in the search field, type “arrangements for intergovernmental meetings”).

⁵ FCCC/TP/2024/5.

⁶ FCCC/SBI/2024/INF.4.

⁷ FCCC/SBI/2024/8, chap. V.

in ensuring their meaningful participation therein, especially considering the record number of observer organization participants at COP 28.

33. Reiterating the urgent need for solutions to improve the representation of observer organizations from developing countries in the UNFCCC process, the SBI took note of the technical paper prepared by the secretariat on options for increasing their participation therein.⁸

34. To ensure open, inclusive and meaningful observer engagement in the face of an increasing number of admitted observer organizations, while fully preserving and respecting the Party-driven nature of the UNFCCC process, the SBI took note of the views provided by Parties and observer organizations, and highlighted the following existing and additional practices and steps for engaging observers that could be considered, subject to the availability of resources and while increasing the participation of observer organizations from developing countries:

- (a) Recommending that current and incoming Presidencies:
 - (i) Ensure open, inclusive and meaningful engagement of observer organizations in the lead-up to, during and after sessions of the COP in terms of both logistical and accessibility arrangements and engagement opportunities;
 - (ii) Continue to increase the engagement of observer organizations, particularly organizations from developing countries and organizations for children and youth, Indigenous Peoples and women and gender, in Presidency initiatives and events;
 - (iii) Increase intervention opportunities for observers at meetings and make the best use of their inputs, including submissions;
- (b) Recommending that the presiding officers, co-chairs and co-facilitators, as applicable, of the governing bodies, the subsidiary bodies, UNFCCC constituted bodies and work programmes:
 - (i) Encourage Parties at UNFCCC meetings to ensure adequate time is available for interventions from observer organizations, particularly for agenda items related to observer engagement;
 - (ii) Encourage the meaningful participation of observer organizations from developing countries in their engagement activities, including through the provision of speaking slots at UNFCCC meetings and events;
- (c) Encouraging all Parties to:
 - (i) Enhance the engagement of observer organizations from developing countries in UNFCCC meetings and events to enable exchange of more varied views on substantive issues, while maintaining gender balance among participants;
 - (ii) Consider developing capacity-building initiatives for observer organizations, in particular for representatives of women and gender, Indigenous Peoples and local communities, children and youth organizations, and observer organizations from developing countries;
 - (iii) Consider establishing a trust fund to support the participation at UNFCCC sessions of observer organizations from developing countries that meet specific criteria determined by Parties;
 - (iv) Consider giving priority to interventions from observer organizations wishing to deliver statements, particularly for agenda items related to observer engagement;
- (d) Requesting the secretariat to:
 - (i) Implement and report back on the options presented in the technical paper referred to in paragraph 33 above, including the proposals presented therein derived from the process of strengthening the engagement of observer organizations in the

⁸ FCCC/TP/2024/1.

UNFCCC process,⁹ with a view to facilitating the engagement of a broad range of observer organizations in sessions in the face of the increasing number of admitted observer organizations, based on the availability of financial resources;

(ii) Consider making available detailed information on criteria for quota allocation, including disaggregated data of quota allocations across regions and organizations and regional distribution of participants at sessions of the COP.

(iii) Continue taking administrative measures to ensure a more diverse representation of observer organizations and to prioritize quota allocations for observer organizations from developing countries.

35. The SBI raised concerns about the lack of resources to support impactful engagement of observer organizations, in particular those from developing countries.

36. The SBI took note of the estimated budgetary implications of the activities to be undertaken by the secretariat referred to in paragraphs 16 and 34(c)(iii) 34(d)(i), 34(d)(ii) and 34(d)(iii) above.

37. The SBI requested that the actions of the secretariat called for in these conclusions be undertaken subject to the availability of financial resources.

⁹ See <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/parties-non-party-stakeholders/non-party-stakeholders/overview/process-to-strengthen-observer-engagement-in-the-unfccc-0>