



Sixth Meeting of Lead Reviewers for the Review of Biennial Reports and National Communications of Annex I Parties

11 – 12 March 2019
AAH Upper Conference Room
UN Campus, Bonn, Germany

Draft Agenda Version of 6 March 2019

Day 1: Monday, 11 March 2019	
08:00 – 08:45	Registration
09:00 – 09:30	<p>Welcome and opening <i>Donald Cooper</i>, Director, Mitigation, Data and Analysis programme <i>Katia Simeonova</i>, Manager, Transparency Framework (TF) Sub-programme</p> <p>Design of the meeting <i>Veronica Colerio</i>, Programme officer, TF – International Assessment and Review (IAR) unit <i>The meeting design responds to the emerging needs of the lead reviewers (LRs) to facilitate more efficient and consistent reviews of biennial reports (BR) and national communications (NC) with a view to their involvement and leadership in future reviews under the Convention and the Paris Agreement. Following conclusions of the 2018 lead reviewers meeting and feedback from the reviewers, more time has been allocated during this meeting to work in small groups and discussing practical examples based on real cases and issues raised during the BR3/NC7 reviews.</i></p>
Theme 1: Getting ready for the enhanced transparency framework	
09:30 – 11:00	<p>Outcome of Katowice and evolving role of the lead reviewers in the enhanced transparency framework <i>Katia Simeonova</i>, Manager, TF Sub-programme <i>Ruta Bubniene</i>, Team lead, TF – IAR unit <i>Questions and answers</i></p> <p><i>Paris Rulebook adopted in Katowice provides clarity on the design of the common enhanced transparency framework (ETF) with embedded flexibilities for developing Parties. While the ETF will commence in 2022–2024, the supporting processes, procedures and tools should be arranged ahead of that. Sufficient resources should be secured for a smooth transition from the current MRV system to the ETF.</i></p> <p>BR3/NC7 reviews and international consultation and analysis (ICA) experience <i>Ruta Bubniene</i>, Team lead, TF – IAR unit <i>Xuehong Wang</i>, Team lead, TF – ICA unit <i>Questions and answers</i></p> <p><i>The IAR and the ICA process build the foundation for the enhanced transparency framework of the Paris Agreement.</i></p> <p><i>The BR3s and NC7 of 32 Parties were reviewed in 2018 and the review reports of the remaining 9 Parties will be completed by July 2019. Over 180 experts, including 40 per cent new experts were involved in the review cycle through expert review teams (ERTs) reasonable balanced in terms of gender and regional distribution. Following the principle of continuous improvement, the streamlined tools and fine-tuned review approaches have been tested and lessons-learned</i></p>

	<p><i>acknowledged. Eleven Parties were multilateral assessed at the SBI 49 session (December 2018). Remaining Parties will be multilaterally assessed at the SBI 50 and 51 sessions. The submission due date for the BR4 is 1 January 2020 and the centralised reviews of these reports are planned as of March 2020.</i></p> <p><i>The ICA process was launched in 2015 to facilitate the implementation of the MRV system by developing country Parties. Up till now, 45 developing country Parties have submitted biennial update reports (BUR), and more than half of them submitted BUR2, with a few recently submitted their BUR3. Most of these Parties also went through the facilitative sharing of views (FSV) process and hence completed the entire ICA cycle. Experience so far with the ICA implementation demonstrates that the process has contributed to improved reporting, enhanced implementation of climate actions as well as the shift towards a more consolidated domestic MRV system in developing countries. The ICA process also helps to identify the capacity-building needs of these countries. With the transition to the ETF under the Paris Agreement, the ICA process provides a useful “testing ground” for developing countries to participate in the ETF in the next few years.</i></p> <p>What worked well in the NC7/BR3 review process and what could be improved? <i>James Howland, Programme officer, TF – IAR unit Kirsten Macey, Programme Officer, TF – IAR Unit</i></p> <p><i>The NC7/BR3 review cycle brought the use of several new or improved tools and process approaches. Help the UNFCCC secretariat assess these tools and approaches and generate new ideas through an interactive exercise to create “idea walls.”</i></p>
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee break
Theme 2: Moving forward	
11:30 – 12:30	<p>Progressing in reporting</p> <p>Assessment of progress in completeness and transparency of reporting since BR1 <i>Davor Vesligaj, Programme officer, TF – IAR unit James Howland, Programme officer, TF – IAR unit Kirsten Macey, Programme Officer, TF – IAR Unit</i></p> <p><i>As requested by the LRs at the 5th LRs meeting, the secretariat has produced an updated background paper on “Completeness and transparency assessment of information reported in technical review reports of 3rd biennial reports”¹. The analysis demonstrates that overall completeness and transparency of information provided in BR3s have increased in comparison to BR2s, based on the total number of recommendations made by the ERTs. The assessment by ERTs of the completeness and transparency of information provided in the BR3s was largely consistent across TRR3s and the consistency has further improved in comparison with the assessment of information in the TRR2s.</i></p> <p>Progressing in review <i>Veronica Colerio, Programme officer, TF – IAR unit</i></p>

¹ Available at <https://unfccc.int/event/sixth-meeting-of-lead-reviewers-for-the-review-of-biennial-reports-and-national-communications-11-12>

	<p><i>The review practice guidance (RPG) launched in 2016 is a “living” tool, which facilitates consistency among the reviews and across the review cycles and reflects the collective and cumulative NC/BR review practices and approaches to resolving critical issues raised during the reviews. The RPG2018 has been updated and fine-tuned after 35 BR3/NC7 reviews (2018 – early 2019) reflecting the issues raised by the ERTs. This draft RPG 2019 will be available before the LRs meeting² and will be discussed during the meeting with the view to endorse the agreed review approaches for the use during the upcoming reviews and next review cycles. The presentation will provide an overview of the new issues included in the 2019 RPG and explanation of organisation of work in groups and expected outcomes of the group work. The lead reviewers are invited to propose additional issues to be included in the RPG, as appropriate.</i></p>
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch
Theme 3: Hands on	
14:00 – 17:30 including coffee break 15:30 – 16:00	<p>Guiding future ERTs – RPG 2019 (parallel work in groups)</p> <p><i>Different case studies on policies and measures, projections and provision of FTC support based on BR3 submissions by Parties will be presented. Four parallel groups will work on one case-study and discuss critical issues to be fine-tuned or included in the 2019 RPG. To conclude on the case-study the experts will share their review expertise and climate change related knowledge as well as will consult on the RPG, the report template and other relevant tools. Each group report back to the plenary the outcome of the discussions and agreed guidance to be included in the 2019 RPG. The secretariat will propose the grouping of LRs.</i></p> <p>Group 1: Review issues related to policies and measures (European Union (EU)-specific issues) – Group work facilitated by <i>Amr Abdel-Aziz</i> and <i>Hans Kolshus (tbc)</i>. Supported by <i>Davor Vesligaj</i>, Programme Officer, TF – IAR Unit</p> <p>Group 2: Review issues related to policies and measures (Non-EU-specific, applicable to all Parties) – Group work facilitated by <i>Laura Dawidowski</i> and <i>Nicolo Macaluso (tbc)</i>. Supported by <i>James Howland</i>, Programme Officer, TF – IAR Unit</p> <p>Group 3: Review issues related to projections – Group work facilitated by <i>Anna Sikharulidze</i> and <i>Ioannis Sempos (tbc)</i>. Supported by <i>Kirsten Macey</i>, Programme Officer, TF – IAR Unit</p> <p>Group 4: Review issues related to FTC and cross-cutting – Group work facilitated by <i>Thelma Krug</i> and <i>Harry Vreuls (tbc)</i>. Supported by <i>Veronica Colerio</i>, Programme officer, TF – IAR unit</p>
17:30	Lead Reviewers Awards 2019
18:00	International Culinary Experience
19:00	End of Day 1

² Available at <https://unfccc.int/event/sixth-meeting-of-lead-reviewers-for-the-review-of-biennial-reports-and-national-communications-11-12>

Day 2: Tuesday 12 March 2019	
Theme 3: Hands on (cont.)	
09:00 – 09:10	Opening of Day 2 <i>Katia Simeonova</i> , Manager, TF Sub-programme
09:10 – 10:30	Giving guidance to future ERTs – RPG 2019 (parallel work in groups) - Continuation Group 1: Review issues related to policies and measures (European Union (EU)) – Group work facilitated <i>Amr Abdel-Aziz</i> and <i>Hans Kolshus (tbc)</i> . Supported by <i>Davor Vesligaj</i> , Programme Officer, TF – IAR Unit Group 2: Review issues related to policies and measures (Non-EU) – Group work facilitated by <i>Laura Dawidowski</i> and <i>Nicolo Macaluso (tbc)</i> . Supported by <i>James Howland</i> , Programme Officer, TF – IAR Unit Group 3: Review issues related to projections – Group work facilitated by <i>Anna Sikharulidze</i> and <i>Ioannis Sempas (tbc)</i> . Supported by <i>Kirsten Macey</i> , Programme Officer, TF – IAR Unit Group 4: Review issues related to FTC and cross-cutting – Group work facilitated by <i>Thelma Krug</i> and <i>Harry Vreuls (tbc)</i> . Supported by <i>Veronica Colerio</i> , Programme officer, TF – IAR unit
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee break
11:00 – 12:40	Reporting back to the plenary by the group facilitators
12:40 – 13:00	Update on training <i>Kyoko Miwa</i> , Programme Officer, Training and Certification Unit <i>James Howland</i> , Programme Officer, TF – IAR Unit <i>The pool of qualified experts for the implementation of MRV system under the Convention has increased significantly through relevant training programmes. The Secretariat will provide additional information on the results of training in 2018, as well as opportunities for training in 2019. In the light of the increasing demand for qualified and experienced reviewers for the ETF, it is critical that more experts are nominated to the reviews and take necessary training and exams as well as gain experience through the reviews.</i>
13:00 – 14:30	Lunch
Theme 4: Conclusions and recommendations of the meeting	
14:30 – 15:30	Work on the conclusions and recommendations
15:30 – 16:00	Coffee break
16:00 – 16:45	Work on the conclusions and recommendations (continued)
16:45 – 17:00	Closing remarks <i>Katia Simeonova</i> , Manager, TF Sub-programme
17:00	End of the meeting