

### **Informal note by the co-facilitators**

*On Saturday, 5 June 2021, Parties engaged in informal consultations on this matter, co-facilitated by Sin Liang Cheah (Singapore) and Gertraud Wollansky (Austria).*

*The following text has been prepared by the co-facilitators on this matter under their own responsibility as input to the SBI Chair's informal note for the sessional period. The text is not exhaustive and has no formal status. The contents of this note represent neither agreed views, ideas or text nor an attempt to draw any conclusions on possible areas of convergence or divergence. The note is offered as a way to capture the progress of discussion on this matter and does not prejudge further work or prevent Parties from expressing their views at any time.*

1. Parties took note of the oral report given by the GEF, which included an update on the support provided to developing country Parties for preparing national communications and biennial update reports (BURs), including the operationalization of the Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT), and the funding arrangements for preparing first and subsequent biennial transparency reports under the Paris Agreement. Parties acknowledged that the update from the GEF was helpful.
2. Parties engaged constructively in the discussions.
3. A number of views and ideas were expressed on how to address the provision of support going forward to help Parties make further progress on this agenda sub-item at the next session.
4. Parties and groups of Parties expressed several views and ideas, including the following:
  - Financial and technical support is critical for continued reporting of national communications and BURs, and for new reporting obligations under the enhanced transparency framework of the Paris Agreement. The GEF has an important role in providing this support to developing country Parties;
  - Financial and technical support for reporting should be adequate, credible and predictable to build the capacities of developing country Parties to report and for the actual reporting itself;
  - The GEF has improved its procedures to support developing country Parties to meet their reporting needs under the Convention;
  - The GEF can further improve its application and disbursement procedures by streamlining its application processes, engaging in dialogues with developing countries to identify actual capacity-building needs (including in-country institutional requirements), establishing a Party-driven process to develop a long-term strategy to provide support for reporting, strengthening the role of operational focal points and the Country Support Program, and further improving and consolidating the CBIT.
5. A number of Parties underscored the importance of financial and technical support from the GEF, as an operating entity of the financial mechanism to the Convention, for developing country Parties to meet their reporting needs under the Convention and the Paris Agreement. Some Parties also underscored that such support should be provided to all developing country Parties on a timely basis without any conditionalities.
6. Some Parties were of the opinion that the mandate of this agenda sub-item is limited to providing support for reporting by non-Annex I Parties under the Convention and does not include providing support for reporting by Parties under the enhanced transparency framework, whereas some Parties stressed that they consider all items pertaining to reporting and providing support for reporting to developing country Parties as a package.

7. The co-facilitators encouraged Parties to engage in further informal dialogue with each other, building on previous discussions under this agenda sub-item, towards facilitating a common understanding of the views and ideas expressed above.

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