

## Informal note by the co-facilitators

*At the second informal consultations, on 14 June 2021, Parties continued to discuss matters related to research and systematic observation and reflected on the twelfth and thirteenth meetings of the research dialogue, Earth Information Day 2020 and relevant submissions. This informal note has been prepared by the co-facilitators of the informal consultations under their own responsibility.*

*The possible elements of an outcome contained in this informal note are not exhaustive, have no formal status and should not be considered final in any way. They are offered to assist Parties in advancing discussions on this matter and do not prejudge further work or prevent Parties from expressing their views at any time.*

### Possible elements

- Welcome the activities and information reported in the statements submitted by GCOS and WMO,<sup>1</sup> including the ongoing efforts in relation to the Status Report of the Global Observing System for Climate, the GCOS Implementation Plan and WMO GBON.
- Welcome the views submitted by Parties and observers on possible topics and considerations for the twelfth, thirteenth and future meetings of the research dialogue and Earth Information Day 2020.<sup>2</sup>
- Express appreciation to the SBSTA Chair for organizing, preparing the information notes for and enabling, with the assistance of the secretariat:
  - The twelfth meeting of the research dialogue (24–25 November 2020);<sup>3</sup>
  - Earth Information Day 2020 (30 November 2020);<sup>4</sup>
  - The thirteenth meeting of the research dialogue (1–2 June 2021).<sup>5</sup>
- Welcome the themes and topics covered at these events, the summary report by the SBSTA Chair on the twelfth meeting of the research dialogue<sup>6</sup> and the informal summary report by the SBSTA Chair on Earth Information Day 2020;<sup>7</sup> and invite the Chair to prepare a summary report on the thirteenth meeting of the research dialogue.
- Express appreciation to Parties and all participating organizations and programmes and their representatives for their contributions to the events listed in bullet 3 above.
- Welcome the diverse and informative nature of the presentations, posters and discussions at the events, and note the value of the rich exchange of information and the need to continue such exchanges.
- Welcome the secretariat's innovative organization of the virtual poster session held during the thirteenth meeting of the research dialogue and the opportunity for informal exchanges and wider engagement that this provided.

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<sup>1</sup> Available at <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/submissionsstaging/Pages/Home.aspx> (selected tag: 2021; search: statement).

<sup>2</sup> Available at <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/submissionsstaging/Pages/Home.aspx> and on the relevant event web pages.

<sup>3</sup> See <https://unfccc.int/topics/science/events-meetings/research-dialogue/twelfth-meeting-of-the-research-dialogue>.

<sup>4</sup> See <https://unfccc.int/event/earth-information-day-2020>.

<sup>5</sup> See <https://unfccc.int/event/thirteenth-meeting-of-the-research-dialogue>.

<sup>6</sup> Available at <https://webcms.unfccc.int/documents/274270>.

<sup>7</sup> Available at <https://webcms.unfccc.int/documents/274271>.

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- Note the importance of increasing the participation and representation of experts from a wider range of developing countries and of knowledge holders such as youth, indigenous peoples and local community representatives in future mandated events.
  - Acknowledge the ongoing efforts of the IPCC in its sixth assessment cycle and appreciate the dedication of the IPCC experts in continuing their work during the COVID-19 pandemic.
  - Note with concern the state of the global climate system as conveyed at Earth Information Day 2020.
  - Encourage Parties and relevant organizations to support sustained observations of the climate system including by improving the density of the observations in areas of poor coverage, the development and provision of long-term data sets, and providing free and open access to data; and also encourage Parties in a position to do so to support the WMO Systematic Observations Financing Facility in order to support and sustain implementation of GBON in developing countries, including the LDCs and SIDS.
  - Note the valuable progress of the work of the scientific community on the themes and topics presented at the twelfth and thirteenth meetings of the research dialogue and Earth Information Day 2020 with a view to strengthening the global response to climate change.
  - Encourage Parties, relevant organizations and academia to address gaps and needs with regard to:
    - Promoting exchange of usable and accessible scientific information and all other relevant knowledge at the science–policy interface with a view to meeting the goals of the Paris Agreement;
    - Connecting knowledge holders, innovators and technical experts with decision makers so as to increase understanding and use of knowledge, products, tools and climate services that inform risk assessment and management in an equitable manner;
    - Furthering the contribution of traditional knowledge, the knowledge of indigenous peoples, and local knowledge systems to understanding climate change and its consequences, and weaving such knowledge into decision-making;
    - Developing scientific indicators to track the progress of adaptation and mitigation action under the Paris Agreement;
    - Understanding the benefits, risks and limitations of nature-based solutions, such as preserving blue carbon ecosystems;
    - Improving the performance of regional and subregional climate models and other downscaling methods in order to inform local decision-making in developing countries, including those with high mountain areas and particularly the LDCs and SIDS;
    - Modelling socio-economic drivers and impacts of climate change, including the consequences, costs and benefits of alternate economic recovery pathways from the COVID-19 pandemic;
    - Building capacity to foster education and climate-science research between a diverse and representative community and improving collaboration within the global research community.
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