

Training programme for technical experts participating in the technical expert review

Informal note by the co-facilitators

Note: The draft elements contained in this informal note have been prepared by the co-facilitators of the informal consultations on this agenda sub-item under their own responsibility. The draft elements have been drawn from views submitted by Parties and further discussion among Parties prior to and during the first sessional period of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice in 2021. The elements are not exhaustive, have no formal status and should not be considered as final in any way. They are intended to assist Parties in advancing discussions on this matter and do not prejudice further work or prevent Parties from expressing their views at any time.

Elements discussed at the informal consultations

1. Parties took part in the informal consultations on agenda sub-item 14(e) of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA), “Training programme for technical experts participating in the technical expert review”, which were co-facilitated by Jae Hyuk Jung (Republic of Korea) and Harry Vreuls (Netherlands).

General points

2. The general remarks and observations contained in this informal note were expressed by Parties during the informal consultations. These remarks and observations do not represent agreed views, ideas or text or attempt to draw any conclusions on possible areas of convergence or divergence.

3. The objective of the training programme is to train technical experts for the technical expert review under the enhanced transparency framework (ETF).

4. The training programme for technical experts participating in the technical expert review (“training programme”) could:

(a) Be developed consistent with the modalities, procedures and guidelines for the enhanced transparency framework contained in decision 18/CMA.1 and its annex (“MPGs”), taking into account, to the extent possible and when relevant, existing training programmes under the Convention for review experts for the technical review of greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories, national communications and biennial reports submitted by Parties included in Annex I to the Convention and for technical experts who take part in the technical analysis of biennial update reports submitted by developing country Parties (“training programmes under the Convention”);

(b) Incorporate, to the extent possible and where relevant, experience and lessons learned in developing and implementing existing training programmes under the Convention;

(c) Incorporate the corresponding provisions of the MPGs relating to flexibility provided for those developing country Parties that need it in the light of their capacities.

5. The examination requirements for experienced reviewers could differ from those for new experts, given their expertise in and experience of the existing transparency arrangements under the Convention.

6. Experts from developing country Parties, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, may be given special consideration, including support to

participate in the training programme, with a view to increasing the number of technical experts from developing country Parties to participate in the training programme.

7. Taking into account the time required for developing and implementing the training programme, and providing sufficient time for technical experts to complete their training courses successfully, Parties recognize the urgency to advance and complete the development of the training programme before the submissions of the first biennial transparency reports, including national inventory report, if submitted as a stand-alone report, at the latest by 31 December 2024. Within this development, priority could be given to the training courses referred to in paragraph 12 below to address the needs for the information to be reviewed, specified in decision 18/CMA.1, annex, paragraph 150.

Example of a structure of the training programme

8. The following example was discussed during the informal consultations. It does not represent agreed views, ideas or text or attempt to draw any conclusions on possible areas of convergence or divergence.

9. The training programme could be described by presenting text elements in the following structure or grouping:

- (a) Training programme;
- (b) Development of the training programme;
- (c) Implementation of the training programme;
- (d) Evaluation;
- (e) Training courses.

10. The training programme should be available for experts included on the UNFCCC roster of experts. Retaking the examination for a course could be limited to XX times after the first attempt.

11. Given their rich experience and expertise, the following actors could have a role in developing and implementing the training programme, and the specific role for each of those actors will be further discussed among Parties.

- (a) Secretariat;
- (b) Consultative Group of Experts;
- (c) Lead reviewers.

12. With a view to further improving the relevance and effectiveness of the training programme, an evaluation of its effectiveness, including consideration of whether the training programme should be updated, may become necessary after a few rounds of technical expert reviews of the biennial transparency report have taken place. Notwithstanding any updates to the training programme, the training courses and examinations could be subject to continuous improvements as relevant and when necessary.

Examples of training courses

13. The following examples were discussed during the informal consultations. They do not represent agreed views, ideas or text or attempt to draw any conclusions on possible areas of convergence or divergence.

14. Training courses should incorporate the corresponding provisions of the MPGs relating to flexibility provided for those developing country Parties that need it in the light of their capacities.

15. The following thematic topics¹ have been identified as directly related to the information listed in decision 18/CMA.1, annex, paragraph 150, and could be developed and implemented as a priority, as mentioned in paragraph 6 above:

- (a) General and cross-cutting aspects for the technical expert review under the ETF;
- (b) Technical expert review of a national inventory report of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of GHGs:
 - 1. General guidance and cross-cutting issues;
 - 2. Courses following the sectors of the GHG inventory referred to in the MPGs:
 - a. Energy;
 - b. Industrial processes and product use;
 - c. Agriculture;
 - d. Land use, land-use change and forestry;
 - e. Waste;
- (c) Technical expert review of the information necessary to track progress in implementing and achieving a Party's nationally determined contribution under Article 4 of the Paris Agreement (placeholder for elements related to Article 6 of the Paris Agreement; the information necessary to track progress on the implementation and achievement of the domestic policies and measures implemented to address the social and economic consequences of response measures for nationally determined contributions that consist of adaptation actions and/or economic diversification plans resulting in mitigation co-benefits);
- (d) Technical expert review of the information on financial, technology development and transfer and capacity-building support provided to developing countries Parties under Articles 9–11 of the Paris Agreement.

16. Additional thematic topics covering other areas of information included in biennial transparency reports and may be voluntarily reviewed, including:

- (a) Information related to climate change impacts and adaptation under Article 7 of the Paris Agreement, including the information related to averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with climate change impacts;
- (b) Information on financial, technology development and transfer and capacity-building support needed and received under Articles 9–11 of the Paris Agreement;
- (c) Information on financial, technology development and transfer and capacity-building support mobilized under Articles 9–11 of the Paris Agreement;
- (d) REDD+;
- (e) Paragraph 149 of the annex to decision 18/CMA.1.

17. An example of another training course could include training for lead reviewers on the functions specified in decision 18/CMA.1, annex, paragraphs 183–185.

¹ It doesn't necessarily represent a comprehensive list.