

Informal note by the Chair of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice

1. The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) met for the first sessional period of 2021, from 31 May to 17 June, in a virtual format. During this period, informal work, as well as mandated and other events, has been conducted under the overall guidance of the Chair of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation and myself. I have prepared this informal note, under my own responsibility, to provide an overview of the progress on various matters taken up during this sessional period.

2. Following the approach and modalities presented in my scenario note issued on 7 May 2021,¹ I convened, with the assistance of co-facilitators,² informal consultations on several items on the draft provisional agenda for the 2021 session of the SBSTA.³ Due to the limited time that could be allocated to informal work, it was not possible during this sessional period to consider all items on the draft provisional agenda. The list of items considered during this sessional period, which follows the criteria outlined in my scenario note and presented at the opening of the session, is presented in the annex. I would like to emphasize that no issue will be left behind, and I am committed to engaging with Parties to work on all issues on the draft provisional agenda by the end of the 2021 SBSTA session when the SBSTA meets in conjunction with COP 26.

3. I welcome the constructive engagement of Parties, exchanging views and discussing possible elements and options, where applicable, to advance their work. Based on the views of Parties and the discussions in the informal consultations, I prepared, with the assistance of the co-facilitators, informal notes to capture progress of the informal work conducted during the sessional period. The elements outlined in the informal notes are not exhaustive, have no formal status and should not be considered final in any way. They are offered to assist Parties in advancing the discussion and do not prejudge further work or prevent Parties from expressing their views at any time. The latest versions of the informal notes are available on the SBSTA session web page and the links to these notes are provided in the annex.

4. On a number of topics, Parties noted the substantial amount of work remaining between now and COP 26 in Glasgow, and considered opportunities for further informal engagements in an inclusive manner. It is my initial assessment that future discussion on a number of topics could be facilitated by further informal work, which may include informal technical expert dialogues, informal consultations and submissions throughout the coming months and up to COP 26.

5. After hearing reflections and suggestions by Parties, I will further reflect on progress and identify additional informal work for the second half of the year in my SBSTA plan for 2021,⁴ and make the updated SBSTA plan available on the SBSTA Chair lobby page.⁵

¹ <https://unfccc.int/documents/274042>.

² The names of co-facilitators are available on the web page for this session, under each relevant item of the draft provisional agenda, at <https://unfccc.int/event/SBSTA-may-june-2021>.

³ <https://unfccc.int/documents/273744>.

⁴ https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/sbsta_chair_activities_june2021.pdf.

⁵ <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/bodies/subsidiary-bodies/sbsta-chair-lobby>.

Annex

Overview on progress captured on informal work at the 2021 session of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (May–June)

1. This annex provides references to the informal notes capturing progress on informal work of Parties at the first sessional period of the 2021 sessions of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (May–June), convened remotely from 31 May to 17 June 2021.
2. Information on the mandated and other events convened during the session can be found at https://unfccc.int/event/SBSTA-may-june-2021#mandated_events and <https://unfccc.int/SB2021/schedule>.

Item of the draft provisional agenda ⁺	Link to informal note
Item 3: Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change	https://unfccc.int/documents/279107 , 16/06/2021
Item 8: Koronivia joint work on agriculture*	https://unfccc.int/documents/278837 , 15/06/2021
Item 9: Sources of input for the global stocktake under the Paris Agreement	https://unfccc.int/documents/279052 , 16/06/21
Sub-item 10(a): Research and systematic observation	https://unfccc.int/documents/279102 , 14/06/21
Sub-item 10(b): Second periodic review of the long-term global goal under the Convention and of overall progress towards achieving it*	https://unfccc.int/documents/279102 , 16/06/21
Item 11: Matters relating to the forum on the impact of the implementation of response measures serving the Convention, the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement*	https://unfccc.int/documents/279078 , 16/6/2021
Item 14: Methodological issues under the Paris Agreement: Sub-item 14(a): Common reporting tables for the electronic reporting of the information in the national inventory reports of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of greenhouse gases	https://unfccc.int/documents/279025 , 15/06/21
Sub-item 14(b): Common tabular formats for the electronic reporting of the information necessary to track progress made in implementing and achieving nationally determined contributions under Article 4 of the Paris Agreement	https://unfccc.int/documents/279026 , 15/06/21
Sub-items 14(c): Common tabular formats for the electronic reporting of the information on financial, technology development and transfer and capacity-building support provided and mobilized, as well as support needed and received, under Articles 9–11 of the Paris Agreement	https://unfccc.int/documents/279099 , 16/06/21
Sub-item 14(d): Outlines of the biennial transparency report, national inventory document and technical expert review report pursuant to the modalities, procedures and guidelines for the transparency framework for action and support	https://unfccc.int/documents/279027 , 15/06/21
Sub-item 14(e): Training programme for technical experts participating in the technical expert review	https://unfccc.int/documents/279028 , 15/06/21

Item 15: Matters relating to Article 6 of the Paris Agreement: Sub-item 15(a): Guidance on cooperative approaches referred to in Article 6, paragraph 2, of the Paris Agreement	https://unfccc.int/documents/278932 , 16/06/2021
Sub-item 15(b): Rules, modalities and procedures for the mechanism established by Article 6, paragraph 4, of the Paris Agreement	https://unfccc.int/documents/278932 , 16/06/2021
Sub-item 15(c): Work programme under the framework for non-market approaches referred to in Article 6, paragraph 8, of the Paris Agreement	https://unfccc.int/documents/278932 , 16/06/2021
Item 17: Cooperation with other international organizations	https://unfccc.int/documents/278490 , 15/06/21

Note: Joint agenda items of the subsidiary bodies are marked with an asterisk.

⁺ Items of the draft provisional agenda that have been considered at the 2021 session of the SBSTA (May-June 2021). Other items on the agenda will be considered during the next sessional period, in conjunction with COP 26.
