

Training programme for technical experts participating in the technical expert review

Informal note by the co-facilitators

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Note: This paper has been prepared by the co-facilitators of the negotiations on this agenda sub-item under their own responsibility. The elements have been drawn from views submitted by Parties prior to the session of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) and further discussion among Parties at the fifty-first session of the SBSTA. The elements are preliminary, are not exhaustive, have no formal status, and should not be considered as final in any way. They are intended to assist the SBSTA in advancing the discussions on this matter and do not prejudice further work or prevent Parties from expressing their views at any time.

Overview of the informal consultations on this agenda sub-item

The informal consultations on agenda item 11(e) of the fifty-first session of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA), “Training programme for technical experts participating in the technical expert review”, were co-facilitated by Jae Hyuk Jung (Republic of Korea) and Harry Vreuls (Netherlands).

Background

During SBSTA 50, co-facilitators recognized that the Parties indicated, in general, that the training programme should be based on existing training programmes, while it is foreseen that new training courses would become available in accordance with the modalities, procedures and guidelines for the transparency framework for action and support (MPGs). The Parties also recognized that the training courses need to address, where applicable, the outcomes from the consultations under agenda items on methodological issues under the Paris Agreement. The Parties also discussed three options for who would develop the training programme.

During this session Parties noted that the information session and the technical paper on the existing training programmes prepared by the secretariat were helpful in improving the understanding of the existing training programmes.

Also, during this session Parties have proposed their views on the development of the training programme and made a substantial progress on discussions about an overview on the possible structure, contents including elements to be considered, and who could be involved in the development of the training programme.

The group recognized the need to start the work on the development of the training programme as soon as possible.

Training programme

Parties in general agreed that the training programme should be in accordance with the MPGs. Parties also stressed that it is important that flexibility, and how it is operationalized in the outlines of reports and the tables, be included in the training courses. The flexibility should be handled in the general course as well as in the other relevant courses.

Parties were in general in favour of organizing training courses in line with the information to be reviewed as specified in paragraph 150 of the MPGs and the general training course.

The following provides an overview of the possible structure of the training courses, noting that sub-courses may be needed:

- General training course for the expert reviewers to take part in the technical expert reviews under the Paris Agreement;
- Training course on national inventory reports:
 - General guidance and cross-cutting issues;

- Courses following the sectors in the MPGs:
 - Energy;
 - Industrial processes and product use;
 - Agriculture;
 - Land use, land-use change and forestry;
 - Waste;
- Training course on information necessary to track progress in implementing and achieving a Party's nationally determined contribution under Article 4 of the Paris Agreement;
- Training course on information on financial, technology development and transfer and capacity-building support provided to developing countries Parties under Articles 9–11 of the Paris Agreement.

Several Parties suggested that some additional courses¹ be developed which are not specified in the MPGs, with respect to the information that would be reviewed on a voluntary basis, including for capacity-building purposes. These include:

- Information related to climate change impacts and adaptation under Article 7 of the Paris Agreement;
- Information on financial, technology development and transfer and capacity-building support needed and received;
- Information on financial support mobilized;
- REDD+;
- Response measures (as part of the course on the tracking progress).

Elements (skeleton) of the training courses

The Parties provided their views on the following elements that need to be considered in developing the training courses:

- Name;
- Content;
- Format(s);
- Target group;
- Examination.

Parties also indicated that in a later phase it could be considered whether these elements should be presented for each course, or whether some elements could be described in a single overarching part for all courses. Parties mentioned that micro-management on such details should be avoided.

A clear description of the content is considered as the most important element to be discussed in future sessions. The content should clearly include how flexibility is handled and provide enough information summarizing the main topics of a course.

For the format, several Parties noted that web-based e-learning in some developing countries might be problematic and that alternative formats (offline) should be made available for each training course. For each course, the target group should be clearly defined.

The developer(s) of the courses

Parties agreed to include in the conclusions a clear text on who will be involved in the development of the training programme. It was remarked that decision 18/CMA.1 only refers

¹ A number of Parties expressed their oppositions to develop courses on information that is not included in paragraph 150 of the MPGs.

to the Consultative Group of Experts (CGE) in the context of the implementation of the training programme.

Many Parties suggested that the expertise available from the secretariat, the CGE and the lead reviewers should be used when developing the training programme. The involvement of other organizations may be considered in developing the training programme.
