January 28-29 Consultations - 'The Way Forward'

Introduction

The UK (incoming COP26 Presidency) and Chile (COP25 Presidency) are pleased to invite you to the first of a regular series of multilateral meetings convened by the presidencies throughout 2021, as stepping stones towards reaching an ambitious, comprehensive and balanced negotiated outcome in Glasgow.

Focused on 'the way forward', this session will be used to seek guidance from Parties on how best to collectively advance our work in 2021, despite the continued challenging circumstances, building on collective efforts last year.

These consultations form part of broader planning developed together with the Subsidiary Body Chairs and the UNFCCC Secretariat; all of which is guided by the priorities of transparency and inclusivity. See the accompanying note from Archie Young and Julio Cordano for more information.

Discussion Question

How might we collectively advance our work this year, despite the continued challenging circumstances, to ensure maximum progress is made ahead of COP26?

Timing

The consultations will be a single conversation involving all Parties, split across two days, in an effort to enhance inclusivity. Timings are as follows:

- 2100 2300 (GMT) on Thursday 28th January
- 0600 0800 (GMT) on Friday 29th January

Attendees

Heads of Delegation from all Parties are invited and able to participate. UNFCCC Executive Secretary Patricia Espinosa, SBI Chair Marianne Karlsen and SBSTA Chair Tosi Mpanu Mpanu will also attend and address Parties.

Meeting Structure

The consultations will be co-chaired by the UK and Chile. All Parties are eligible to intervene, subject to time constraints.

The meeting will follow similar etiquette to a UNFCCC plenary, with group chairs given priority over individual Parties. Emphasis will be placed on engaging in a constructive manner, working towards shared solutions.

Next steps will be discussed at the meeting, and the presidencies will share a note with Parties afterwards for transparency.