



FACILITATIVE BRANCH

Twenty-first meeting

29 – 30 August 2018
Bangkok, Thailand

Report on the meeting

1. Opening of the meeting

1. Ms. Emanuela Sardellitti, chairperson of the facilitative branch, declared the meeting open at 10:30 hrs. She welcomed the new members, Ms. Veronica Jakarasi and Mr. Abdullah Al-Ghamdi, and the new alternate member, Ms. Deciana Speckmann. The chairperson also welcomed Ms. Hafida Lahiouel, Principal Legal Adviser of the secretariat and Director of the UNFCCC Legal Affairs Programme.

2. At the request of the chairperson, the secretariat provided information on participation and quorum, as well as on the administrative, logistical, and housekeeping arrangements. The secretariat confirmed that there was a quorum for the meeting, that the meeting was recorded and broadcasted on the UNFCCC website, and that an audio recording was being made of the entire meeting.

2. Adoption of the agenda

3. The branch adopted the provisional agenda without changes (CC/FB/21/2018/1).

3. Organization of work

4. The branch agreed to organize its consideration of the items on the agenda in the order in which they had been set out in the agenda as adopted.

4. Provisions related to facilitation: Advice and facilitation

5. The facilitative branch continued its consideration of how to provide advice and facilitation to Parties in implementing the Kyoto Protocol in the context of its overall mandate and the functions referred to section VI, paragraph 4 to 6 of the “Procedures and mechanisms relating to compliance under the Kyoto Protocol” contained in the annex to decision 27/CMP.1 (hereinafter referred to as procedures and mechanisms).

6. The facilitative branch heard summaries of the analysis of review reports that had been undertaken by the four teams following the approach agreed in the twentieth meeting of the branch.¹ The branch discussed issues raised in the review reports by the expert review teams (ERTs), including adherence to the principles of transparency, accuracy, completeness, comparability and consistency of reporting (TACCC), problems in the development and/or implementation of quality assurance and quality control (QA/QC) systems, issues relating the national system and/or the national registry, as

¹ CC/FB/20/2017/3, paragraphs 11–13.



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well as issues related to the reporting on response measures. Members and alternate members noted that the aim of the branch's work was not to replace or repeat work being done already by the ERTs, but rather to add value by identifying issues that would benefit from facilitation and advice and by finding effective ways of engaging with Parties to offer such facilitation and advice, in accordance with the branch's mandate, including its early warning function. This role could also include the detection of possible systemic challenges.

7. Considering its analysis of review reports and drawing on its thirteen years of experience, the facilitative branch found that there are many lessons learned complementing the document "Experience of the facilitative branch of the Kyoto Protocol Compliance Committee in providing advice and facilitation to Parties in implementing the Kyoto Protocol" of August 2017.² Such lessons include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a. The facilitative branch noted that its overall mandate is phrased in rather broad terms.³ The branch recalled that despite advancing the development of its own practice and the understanding of its role, it often struggled with the absence of guidance from the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP) on actions the branch may take regarding its mandate.
- b. Particularly, the branch recognized the importance of having a clear understanding of what 'facilitation' means and what kind of advice the branch can offer. The branch highlighted that it lacked a concrete set of instruments and tools that would be useful in approaching a Party to offer facilitation and advice. The branch also noted the limited resources and budgetary constraints.
- c. Noting its experience over the years, the facilitative branch observed that Parties have not initiated facilitation through 'self-referral'⁴; and that Parties have used the 'Party-to-Party trigger'⁵ once only since the Committee's inception.⁶ The branch recognized the need to improve the type of services it could provide to Parties for them to engage in more substantive discussions with the branch on implementation issues that Parties may encounter.
- d. The branch noted further that, notwithstanding increased experience and improvements in Parties' reporting under the Kyoto Protocol, ERTs continue to identify frequently recurring issues, although very few questions of implementation have been raised in recent years.
- e. To address effectively issues identified in the ERT reports, the branch stressed the importance of identifying the causes of and motivations for the difficulties Parties face in implementing the Kyoto Protocol and in complying with their commitments. This will allow the branch to provide targeted facilitation and advice to Parties, and inform the CMP of any systemic issues.

² CC/FB/20/2017/2.

³ On the overall mandate and functions see procedures and mechanisms, section IV, paragraph 4 and paragraphs 5–6; see also CC/FB/20/2017/2, paragraphs 4–16.

⁴ Section VI paragraph 1(a) of the procedures and mechanisms.

⁵ Section VI paragraph 1(b) of the procedures and mechanisms.

⁶ CC/FB/20/2017/2, paragraphs 20–21.



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8. Furthermore, the branch recognized the importance of engaging in further dialogue with the lead reviewers to improve the branch's understanding of how the expert review teams work and to facilitate, in a collaborative manner, the submission of high quality information and reports by Parties.

9. The facilitative branch requested its Chair and Vice-Chair, with the support of the members and alternate members of the branch, to prepare a list of questions for the consideration of the lead reviewers at their annual meeting. These may include questions that relate to common issues encountered by several Parties as well as questions pertaining to specific issues found in individual review reports. The branch had an initial discussion on possible questions in this regard.

10. The branch requested its Chair and Vice-Chair to share the list of questions with the lead reviewers well in advance of their meetings in March 2019 and to explore, with the assistance of the secretariat, the practical modalities for the engagement with the lead reviewers. To this end, members and alternate members of the facilitative branch should send any suggested questions to the secretariat as soon as possible and no later than 31 December 2018.

11. The facilitative branch proposed that the bureau of the Committee explore, with the assistance of the secretariat, the feasibility of organizing the participation of members of the bureau, as well as members and alternate members of the facilitative branch, including those who were coordinating the four teams of the branch this year,⁷ subject to the availability of financial resources, in the lead reviewers' meetings to be held in March 2019. The purpose would be to have a focused interaction with lead reviewers; such interaction may include the questions identified by the facilitative branch as referred to in paragraph 9 above. The bureau members are invited to report back to the Committee and/or its branches, as appropriate. The outcomes from any such discussions could inform any future consideration by the facilitative branch of possible concrete instruments and tools that it could use, as referred to in paragraph 7(b) above.

12. Furthermore, members and alternate members of the facilitative branch will continue to analyze the review reports that are being forwarded to the Committee in accordance with section VI, paragraph 3 of the procedures and mechanisms and may bring any issue to the attention of the branch for consideration at its next meeting.

5. Other matters

13. The branch authorized the chairperson and vice-chairperson to set the date for its twenty-second meeting, considering the dates of the meeting of the plenary, which will be considered by the plenary at its twentieth meeting.

6. Closure of the meeting

14. The chairperson of the branch declared the meeting closed on 30 August 2018, at 12:30 hrs.

⁷ CC/FB/20/2017/3, paragraph 13(a).



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7. Attendance

15. The names of members and alternate members present at the meeting are marked in **bold** below.

Members (in alphabetical order)	Alternate Members
1. AL-GHAMDI , Abdullah Mr.	GAO , Xiang Mr.
2. BART , Delano F. Mr.	PAZ CASTRO , Luis Mr.
3. GUEYE , Mamadou Diobé Mr.	<i>Vacant</i>
4. JAKARASI , Veronica Ms.	JALLOW , Bubu Pateh Mr.
5. NIKITSIN , Siarhei Mr.	SEDYAKIN , Valeriy Mr.
6. SARDELLITTI , Emanuela Ms.	KÄRNSTRÖM , Ida Ms.
7. SHIMADA , Kunihiko Mr.	SPECKMANN , Deciana Ms.
8. VERWEY , Delano Ruben Mr.	GROBICKI , Grzegorz Mr.
9. YENGA-YENGA , Albert K. Mr.	RAMIREZ , Ramiro Mr.
10. <i>Vacant</i>	<i>Vacant</i>
