26 October 2026

Preparing for the Sixty-Fifth Sessions of the Subsidiary Bodies

Joint Note by the Chairs

The SBSTA Chair, Adonia Ayebare, and the SBI Chair, Julia Gardiner, have prepared this informal note to give SB 65 participants an overview of their proposed approach to the sessions. It should be read alongside the reports on SBSTA 64 and SBI 64 and the provisional agendas and annotations for SBSTA 65 and SBI 65.

1. Dear Parties, constituencies, UN organizations, observer organizations, civil society representatives, academics, colleagues and friends, with SB 65 and COP 31 now less than two weeks away, and as Parties prepare to gather in Antalya under the leadership of the COP31 Presidency of Türkiye and Australia as President of Negotiations, we are pleased to present this final Joint Note of our terms as Chairs of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI).

2. This year's negotiations take place against an evolving global backdrop. Communities are experiencing severe climate impacts, while conflict and geopolitical instability have heightened concerns about energy security and affordability. At the same time, the global energy transition continues to gather pace, creating opportunities to strengthen energy security, support economic development and build resilience. Yet access to finance, investment and technology remains uneven, and many developing countries continue to face significant challenges in mobilising the resources needed for implementation.

3. Recent scientific assessments, including UNEP's work on overshoot, reinforce the urgent need to scale up both mitigation and adaptation action. This was strongly reflected at Pre-COP in the Pacific, where leaders, ministers and Heads of Delegation saw first-hand both the realities of climate impacts and the leadership of Small Island Developing States including through adaptation, resilience and climate action. Discussions reinforced the importance of limiting the extent and duration of overshoot.

4. Despite these challenges, there are reasons for confidence. Across regions, countries are continuing to invest in clean energy, strengthen resilience, develop adaptation strategies and build new forms of climate cooperation. Beyond governments, businesses, communities, Indigenous Peoples, civil society and other stakeholders are also driving implementation and innovation. Progress remains uneven and significant barriers persist, particularly in access to finance, investment and technology, but climate action is increasingly being integrated into broader objectives for development, energy security, resilience and long-term prosperity. COP31 will bring many of these efforts together through the Leaders' Summit and Action Agenda, reflecting a broader reality: implementation is continuing across economies and societies around the world.

Looking ahead to SB65

5. In this environment, the continued ability of Parties to come together through the UNFCCC process and negotiate consensus outcomes remains essential. A number of frameworks, work programmes and institutions are reaching key review and decision points. SB65 provides an opportunity to resolve issues wherever possible at the technical level, advance work across the agenda and prepare the ground for decisions at COP 31 that will help shape cooperation and implementation in the years ahead.

6. As SB Chairs, we look forward to working closely with Parties, the COP 31 Presidency of Türkiye, Australia as President of Negotiations and the UNFCCC secretariat to support an efficient, inclusive and Party-driven process. At a time when geopolitical tensions are affecting many areas of international cooperation, the continued ability of Parties to find consensus under the UNFCCC remains one of the strengths of this process and an important foundation for progress at SB 65 and COP 31.

7. SB 65 will be a critical stepping stone towards COP 31. Progress at SB65 will help ensure that the governing bodies can focus their time on the issues that genuinely require political guidance, rather than matters that can and should be resolved through technical negotiation. Not every matter should need to move into the second week. We encourage Parties to arrive ready to use the limited time available effectively, resolve differences and, wherever possible, conclude technical work at the subsidiary body level.

8. Efficient organisation of work will be essential. We are working closely with the secretariat, Türkiye and Australia to minimise scheduling conflicts and maximise time for substantive negotiations. Further details are set out in the **Annex.** A smooth adoption of agendas will be an important first step, and we encourage delegations to come to Antalya with the authority and flexibility needed to make decisions.

9. Work under the Convention and Paris Agreement must continue to be informed by the best available science. The SBSTA Chair draws particular attention to research and systematic observation, including growing pressures on global observing systems that provide the data needed to understand climate change, assess impacts and inform effective policy responses.

Key matters before Parties

10. Against this backdrop, we draw Parties' attention to a number of matters that will be important to advancing progress at SB65 and preparing for decisions at COP 31.

11. **Sharm el-Sheikh mitigation ambition and implementation work programme (MWP):** Parties are due to decide on the continuation of the MWP at CMA 8. Using SB 65 to build a common understanding on the MWP's future direction and how it can best support urgently scaling up mitigation ambition and implementation will be critical to enabling a decision. We encourage Parties to come to Antalya with concrete proposals and a readiness to engage constructively from the outset of the session.

12. **United Arab Emirates just transition work programme (JTWP):** Parties are expected to agree key messages from the fifth and sixth dialogues, conclude the JTWP review, and consider the form and function of the just transition mechanism. As countries continue to implement climate action across their economies, questions of equity, inclusion and opportunity are central. Growing convergence on the mechanism's potential functions and objectives provides a basis for progress, while important questions remain on form and governance. We encourage groups and Parties to arrive with concrete options and a readiness to swiftly advance work across the three mandates.

13. **Sharm el-Sheikh joint work on agriculture and food security (SJWA):** The subsidiary bodies are mandated to consider the outputs of the joint work and report to COP 31 on progress and outcomes. SB 65 provides an opportunity to take stock of achievements under the joint work, consider lessons learned from its implementation and establish a clear basis for Parties' consideration of next steps. Given the limited time available in Antalya, we encourage

Parties to arrive ready to engage on concrete proposals and advance work towards an agreed outcome.

14. The work under **Article 6, paragraph 8**, enters a decisive phase at SBSTA 65. Parties will consider both the ongoing implementation of the work programme at the 10th meeting of the Glasgow Committee on Non-market Approaches and the SBSTA's mandated review of the work programme. This provides an important opportunity to reflect on lessons learned from the implementation of the framework to date, including the operation of the Non-Market Approaches (NMA) Platform and related capacity-building efforts, and to consider how these tools can be further strengthened to support practical cooperation among Parties. Given the importance of concluding the review and providing clear direction for future work, we encourage Parties to focus on practical, forward-looking solutions that can enhance the effectiveness of the framework and maximize its contribution to the implementation of the Paris Agreement.

15. **Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE):** The midterm review marks the halfway point of the ten-year Glasgow work programme on ACE. Since COP 26, the programme has strengthened climate literacy, participation, capacity-building and knowledge-sharing, creating stronger foundations for effective climate action. The review provides an opportunity to shape a new action plan for the remainder of the programme to better support implementation of the Paris Agreement, and we encourage Parties to come prepared to complete the technical work in week one.

16. **Adaptation** will remain a central priority for Parties in Antalya. Across the adaptation agenda, Parties have an opportunity to advance implementation, strengthen support and continue building on the institutions and frameworks needed to respond to growing climate impacts. Discussions on support for adaptation, including in the context of the COP 30 Global Mutirão call for efforts to at least triple adaptation finance by 2035, will remain an important part of these efforts.

17. **Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA):** The adoption of the Belém Adaptation Indicators marked an important step in the development of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Framework for Global Climate Resilience. The focus now turns to how the framework can support implementation in practice. At SB 65, Parties will need to advance work under the Belém-Addis Vision on policy alignment and the operationalisation of the indicators. Establishing the technical taskforce will be important to support work on improving the methodologies and metadata for the indicators, complemented by Parties' experience in testing and applying them, as well as the secretariat's technical paper.[1] Parties may also consider modalities under the Baku Adaptation Road Map, building on the first two workshops held during SB64 and Climate Week in Baku. Parties are also mandated to develop the terms of reference for the review of the UAE Framework in 2026 or 2027. We encourage Parties to come to Antalya with concrete proposals that can advance these mandates and support meaningful progress on implementation of the GGA.

18. **National Adaptation Plans (NAPs):** NAPs remain central to identifying adaptation priorities, coordinating action and aligning resources with national needs. With 81 NAPs submitted from developing country Parties, attention is increasingly turning from planning to implementation.

[1] https://unfccc.int/documents/661011.

We encourage Parties to consider how the NAP process can continue to support practical adaptation action on the ground.

19. **Loss and Damage:** The institutions working on loss and damage are increasingly moving from design to delivery. The Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism, Santiago Network and Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage form an important part of the architecture supporting vulnerable countries and communities. As these institutions continue to mature, Antalya provides an opportunity to strengthen their effectiveness and support practical delivery.
20. **Technology development and transfer** remains integral to implementation. A time-sensitive decision is required on hosting arrangements for the Climate Technology Centre following the recommendation of a new host at SBI 64. Parties will also consider the report on the evaluation of the Poznan strategic programme on technology transfer and the joint annual report of the Technology Executive Committee and the Climate Technology Centre and Network and provide guidance for their future work.
21. The forum on the impact of the implementation of **response measures** provides an opportunity to advance implementation of the 2026-2030 workplan and focus discussions on practical outcomes under agreed activities.
22. **Finance** remains central to effective implementation under the Convention and Paris Agreement and to many countries' ability to translate commitments into action. The large majority of negotiations items are on the agendas of the Governing bodies, but the SBI will consider two important issues.
23. **Adaptation Fund**: Parties are due to conclude on outstanding mandates relating to the Adaptation Fund, including arrangements for the transition to exclusively serving the Paris Agreement, Board membership and the fifth review. We encourage pragmatic engagement focused on reaching an agreed way forward.
24. **Standing Committee on Finance (SCF)**: Parties are due to conclude the second review of the SCF functions, beginning with those technical elements where convergence is achievable.
25. The **Enhanced Transparency Framework** is now firmly in its implementation phase. Biennial Transparency Reports (BTRs) and their technical expert review, are central to the Paris Agreement architecture, and will provide important inputs to the second Global Stocktake. We encourage Parties to submit their second BTRs by the 31 December 2026 due date.
26. SBI 65 will also host the fourth **Facilitative Multilateral Consideration of Progress,** where 35 Parties will discuss their experiences in an interactive and constructive setting. We invite broad engagement in these exchanges and substantive progress on transparency agenda items that remained unresolved at SB 64.
27. The CMA requested the SBSTA to undertake the first review and update, as appropriate, of the **modalities, procedures and guidelines** no later than 2028 on the basis of experience in reporting, technical expert review and facilitative, multilateral consideration of progress. At SBSTA 65, the SBSTA Chair will engage informally with Parties on preparations for this review.
28. Implementation of the **Belém Gender Action Plan** enters an important new phase at this session. As the first year of implementation of the nine-year plan concludes, we encourage Parties to take stock of early progress, identify lessons learned and maintain momentum towards gender-responsive climate action and engage constructively with the reports and

activities undertaken under the enhanced Lima work programme on gender and the Belém Gender Action Plan, with a view to supporting effective and inclusive implementation.

29. Lastly, maintaining balance in our process requires making progress across all agenda items. All agenda items are important, and as SB Chairs we are committed to helping every room advance every issue. This list is therefore not exhaustive and does not suggest any prioritization of agenda items.

Conclusion

30. It has been a privilege to serve Parties and the process as Chairs of the subsidiary bodies, and we thank our Vice-Chairs and the UNFCCC secretariat for their support.

31. The past two years have reinforced our conviction that meaningful progress remains possible when Parties engage in good faith and focus on practical solutions. The climate challenge is becoming more complex, not less. Yet the continued willingness of countries to come together through this process remains one of its greatest strengths.

32. As we gather in Antalya, we encourage all participants to make the most of the time available, seek convergence wherever possible and resolve technical issues at the appropriate level. Progress at SB 65 will help create the conditions for successful outcomes at COP 31 under the leadership of Türkiye and Australia and demonstrate once again the enduring value of multilateral cooperation in addressing a shared global challenge.

Annex: Organisation of Work at SB 65

1. The sixty-fifth sessions of the Subsidiary Bodies (SB 65) will take place from Monday 9 to Saturday 14 November 2026.
2. The provisional agendas for SB 65 contain 46 agenda items, of which 9 are joint SBSTA-SBI items and 2 are new agenda item proposals submitted for consideration at this session. Several mandated events are also scheduled. Parties are urged to start work promptly. We urge Parties to utilize the limited time available with the utmost efficiency and focus.
3. The Chairs are overseeing the secretariat's careful preparations of the schedule for SB 65. With only one week for the subsidiary bodies, and the Leaders' Summit taking place simultaneously, scheduling will be particularly challenging. Every effort is being made to organize work in a manner that minimizes disruption to negotiations, makes the best use of available time and enables the subsidiary bodies to conclude their work in an orderly manner. Where clashes are unavoidable, we request flexibility and understanding from Parties. It may be necessary to extend working hours at SB 65 to manage the workload and competing demands across the first week in Antalya. Any extension will be subject to consultations with Parties, via the UNFCCC Bureau.
4. For efficiency, the SBSTA and SBI opening plenaries will be convened following the opening plenaries of the Governing Bodies on 9 November. A smooth adoption of the agendas and an efficient launch of work for the sessions is crucial and we call on all Parties' support to achieve this.
5. Following the opening of the sessions of the two bodies and the launch of work, statements by groups of Parties will be heard, followed by statements from Parties and observers, in a joint plenary. Strict time limits will be applied – five minutes for groups, three minutes for individual Parties and two minutes for observer organizations. Microphones will be cut off once time limits have been reached. Full statements can be uploaded to the UNFCCC submission portal.
6. We propose adhering to the standard approach for the consideration of agenda items, namely:
    a. For most agenda items, establishing a contact group or informal consultations and assigning co-chairs and co-facilitators respectively to facilitate negotiations;
    b. For agenda items that do not require negotiation, inviting the relevant subsidiary body to take note of the relevant available information;
    c. For some agenda items, to minimize consultation time, and with Parties' agreement, deferring consideration to a future session and taking note of reports rather than establishing a negotiation group to consider them.
7. We invite Parties to share their views during our pre-sessional consultations on those agenda items that may be noted or deferred.
8. We will hold daily coordination meetings with co-chairs and co-facilitators to address emerging issues and ensure that work progresses smoothly.
9. Our guidance to co-chairs and co-facilitators includes the following:
    a. Start and end meetings punctually;
    b. Support Parties in maximizing the time available for developing textual proposals at early stages of the negotiations, building, where possible, on work from the intersessional period or previous sessions;

c. Identify outstanding issues early, provide regular updates to the SB Chairs and flag matters requiring intervention promptly;

d. Finalize the work of the negotiation groups by 6 p.m. on 13 November at the latest to allow sufficient time for conclusions to be made available as L documents in the six official United Nations languages before the closing plenary of the subsidiary bodies which is scheduled to take place in the afternoon of 14 November;

e. Continue the practice of publishing negotiation outcomes of a procedural nature on the SBSTA 65 or SBI 65 web page(s) under the respective agenda item, reporting orally at the closing plenary and including them in the report on the session(s), in place of producing an L document;

f. Be clear to Parties that technical work not concluded at SB 65 may impact the likelihood of strong outcomes at COP 31.

10. We attach great importance to openness and transparency in the work of the subsidiary bodies and recognize the valuable contributions of observer organizations to the UNFCCC process. We encourage Parties to make informal consultations and invitations for submission open to observers. We are committed to meaningful engagement with observers and will maintain open communication with them throughout SB 65, including holding a joint briefing session to provide an update on the negotiations.

11. We intend to convene the closing plenaries of SBSTA 65 and SBI 65 together on 14 November 2026.